

Vernonia School Board Names Finalists for District's Next Superintendent

The Vernonia School Board is pleased to announce four finalists for further consideration to be the next superintendent for the Vernonia school district. The selected finalists are:

Lloyd Hartley

Dr. Hartley has 16 years of superintendent and principal experience in the school districts of Clatskanie, Glendale, and Long Creek from the state of Oregon. He is currently a special education teacher in the Alsea charter school. Dr. Hartley received his Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership from Lewis and Clark College and has adjunct professor status with the same college.

Jim Helmen

Dr. Helmen currently serves as the Director of Student Services and Innovation for the Clatskanie (OR) school district since July 2020. Prior to his current position, he held the positions of middle/high school principal and assistant principal from 2015 to 2020. Dr. Helmen received his Educational Specialist (EdS) degree from Lewis and Clark college in Educational Leadership.

Bill Schildbach

Mr Schildbach is the principal of the Tikigaq School in Point Hope (AK). He has held this position since 2019. Previously Mr. Schildbach has served as the superintendent of the Nome (AK) Public School as well as the principal of the Mt. Spurr and Tudor elementary schools (AK). He received his Master of Science in Education Administration from Portland (OR) State University.

Vincent Swagerty

Since 2018, Mr. Swagerty has held the position of superintendent for the Mitchell (OR) School District. Prior to coming to Mitchell, he was the principal of the Reedsport (OR) Community Charter School. Mr. Swagerty also has administrative experiences in Culver, Camas Valley, North Bend and Yoncalla. He received his master's degree from Portland State in Policy, Foundations and Administration.

The school board will begin background and reference checks for each of the finalists. Each prospective candidate will be invited for a "day in the district" on Monday, March 14th. At that time, staff and members of the community will have an opportunity to meet the candidates. The staff/community "meet and greet" will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Vernonia Schools Commons. Comment cards will be provided for participants to share thoughts with the school board.