

**FINANCIAL DATA**

EAV .....	\$ 148,733,545
Bonds Outstanding.....	\$ 7,010,958
Total Budget Revenue .....	\$ 12,313,429
<b>TAX RATE —</b>	
Education .....	3.45000
Operations & Maintenance.....	0.50000
Transportation.....	0.20000
Working Cash.....	0.05000
I.M.R.F.....	0.10721
Tort Immunity.....	0.27808
Bond & Interest .....	0.24067
Fire Prevention/Life Safety .....	0.05000
Social Security .....	0.12061
Special Education.....	0.04000
Lease-Ed Facilities .....	0.05000
TOTAL .....	5.08657

**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

The West Prairie CUSD 103 Board of Education is comprised of citizens dedicated to providing the best education possible for every student it serves. Board members establish sound written policies and expect the superintendent to function as the chief executive officer in implementing those policies.

<b>Name .....</b>	<b>*Years</b>
Scott Vogler, President.....	29
Steve Kitch, Vice President .....	4
Jennifer Cerven, Secretary .....	4
David Taulbee, Board Member .....	4
Honey Zimmerman, Board Member.....	2
Jake Kreps, Board Member .....	2
Mitchell Reed, Board Member .....	2

\*Years served on the West Prairie CUSD 103 Board of Education.

**IDEAL CANDIDATE**

Candidates will be evaluated on their professional merits and successful experience that demonstrates a good match for the district, with emphasis on the following, specified by the Board of Education. The Superintendent of our district should be an educational leader who:

- Has excellent written and verbal COMMUNICATION SKILLS/is genuinely COLLABORATIVE.
- Has FINANCE/BUDGET expertise.
- Facilitates meaningful, authentic, and ongoing FAMILY/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
- Develops and works cooperatively/effectively with BOARD OF EDUCATION.
- Ensures an INCLUSIVE, SAFE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT.
- Develops and enacts a shared MISSION, VISION, and CORE VALUES to advance a high-quality education.

**Successful experience as a teacher and a principal are preferred.**

**APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO CONTACT BOARD MEMBERS.**

**DISTRICT WEBSITE — [www.wp103.org](http://www.wp103.org)**

**West Prairie CUSD 103 is an equal opportunity employer and the Illinois Association of School Boards is an equal opportunity employment search agency.**

**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

IASB has an online application process and does not accept mailed, emailed, hand-delivered or faxed application packets.

Please begin your application process at: <https://www.applitrack.com/IASB/onlineapp>

Applicants will need to establish a username and password. Applicants will be asked to give consent to a limited background inquiry. Completed responses to statements identified in this announcement will be required.

All applicants must apply online by 12:00 p.m. (CST) January 21, 2025 and upload the following documents to receive consideration:

1. A **formal letter of application** indicating your desire to be a candidate for this position.
2. A **formal resume** that includes a summary of achievements in all education positions, educational vision, and goals, personal leadership philosophy and reasons for your interest in this position.
3. At least **three recent letters of reference dated within the last three years.**
4. **Copies of transcripts** from each college/university attended. **(Please redact/remove your social security number and birthdate before uploading any of these items).**
5. **Proof of qualification and licensure to be a superintendent in the state of Illinois** (copy of the administrative licensure with all related endorsements\*) or other evidence showing qualification to be a superintendent in another state. **(Please redact/remove your birthdate before you upload this document).**

\*Information on certification and licensure can be obtained by contacting the Illinois State Board of Education, Department of Educator Effectiveness, 100 North First Street, Springfield, Illinois 62777 or by visiting the ISBE website at [www.isbe.net](http://www.isbe.net). 1102.

**Announcement of Vacancy**

**Superintendent**

**West Prairie CUSD 103**

*Home of the Cyclones*



**MISSION STATEMENT**

*To provide a quality education allowing all students to develop their fullest capabilities and contribute to the betterment of society.*

**December 2024**

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANCY

The Board of Education of West Prairie CUSD 103, Colchester, Illinois is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Superintendent. The Board wishes to select a superintendent who will begin work on July 1, 2025.

A multi-year employment contract is expected to be negotiated with the final candidate. Salary and benefits will be based on experience and expertise with a salary range expected to be \$120,000-\$140,000 and benefits expected to include health insurance, life insurance, sick days, personal days, vacation days, bereavement days, professional dues, TRS pension, and travel expense reimbursement.

## GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE DISTRICT AND THE AREA

**LOCATION** — West Prairie is primarily located in the western part of McDonough County in West Central Illinois and extends into Hancock and Henderson counties. The district is comprised of several communities, including Blandinsville, Colchester, Good Hope, Sciota and Tennessee, covering 240 square miles.

**TYPE** — PreK-12; 575 Students.

**OFFICE** — 204 S. Hun Street, Colchester, IL 62326.

**STAFF** — 3 Principals, 1 Assistant Principal, 62 Teachers, 59 Support Personnel.

**CENTRAL OFFICE PERSONNEL** — Superintendent, District Business Manager, CSBO, District Bookkeeper, Administrative Assistant, Director of Maintenance, Director of Food Service, Director of Transportation, Director of Technology, District Psychologist/ Director of Special Education, Instructional Coach, Nurse, School Resource Officer.

**CURRICULUM** — The West Prairie Community Unit School District is a 1:1 initiative district using iPads and Chromebooks for students K-12. STEM curriculum is offered at all levels. West Prairie is known for its award-winning Agriculture and FFA programs. MTSS, a multi-tiered system of support

is used to address academic, social, emotional and behavioral deficits. Music and art are provided at all levels. The ARC Core Curriculum is used to teach the ELA standards in K-6. The Engage NY Curriculum is used to teach the math standards in K-6. STEMscopes is used to teach science and STEM curriculum in K-6. Social Studies Alive! Is used to teach social studies curriculum in grades 4-6.

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS** — Title I services are school-wide for both the North and South Elementary. Preschool for All programming provides four classrooms for 3 and 4-year-olds. The high school offers a variety of dual credit classes in conjunction with Carl Sandburg College, and participates in the McDonough County CEO program.

**SPECIAL SERVICES** — The district makes use of the wide variety of programs and services offered by the special education cooperative. Local programs are established in each school.

**FACILITIES** — West Prairie Jr/Sr High School (7-12); West Prairie North Elementary (PreK- 6); West Prairie South Elementary (PreK-6).

**TRANSPORTATION** — The district owns and operates its own buses and other vehicles.

**FOOD SERVICES** — The district operates its food service program under the Community Eligibility Provision. All students are eligible to receive a free breakfast and lunch provided by the in-house food service department. Meals are served at all three schools.

**MEMBER OF** — Illinois Association of School Boards, West Central Illinois Special Education Cooperative, Western Area Career Systems (vocational education cooperative), Western Area Schools Health Benefit Plan, Western Illinois Purchasing Cooperative, The Prairieland Conference (high school), Sand Valley Conference (junior high school).

**MEDICAL** — The region is served by McDonough District Hospital, Memorial Hospital in Carthage with a medical clinic in Colchester, and Blessing Medical Center in Quincy.

**CULTURAL** — Residents of McDonough County have access to a wide variety of community and cultural experiences. Western Illinois University offers nearly year-round programs in music, drama, and the arts. Amtrak services to Quincy, Galesburg and Chicago.

**RECREATION** — Argyle Lake State Park is located within the school district with Spring Lake close by. Both parks offer ready access to boating, hiking, fishing and camping. A number of golf courses, parks, and ballfields are within the district or nearby.

**PLACES OF WORSHIP** — There are many faith-based organizations within the school district and nearby. Local congregations are very supportive of the work of our schools.

**RETAIL** — McDonough County has a large base of retail stores including local merchants or service businesses, regionally-based markets, and national chains.

**FRATERNAL AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS** — There are several professional organizations within the district, including International Lions Club and the Colchester Area Business Association. Fraternal and Civic organizations in the surrounding area include the Masonic Lodge, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, United Way and others.

**COLLEGES** — Western Illinois University is adjacent to the school district and offers access to a wide variety of graduate and undergraduate programs. The school district lies within the boundaries of Carl Sandburg College [associate degree or certificate programs], and Spoon River College also has a nearby facility.

**INDUSTRY** — Yetter Manufacturing, Cardinal Point Wind Farm, and McDonough Solar 1, LLC CSG are located within the school district. Nearby large industrial employers include NTN Bower and Pella Windows. The region is home to a variety of small industries, many of which center on agribusiness.

## A PROJECTED TIMELINE

**Application Deadline:**  
January 21, 2025 by Noon (CST)

**Candidates Presented to Board:**  
February, 2025

**Board Interviews Candidates:**  
February, 2025

**New Superintendent Appointed:**  
March, 2025

**New Superintendent Begins:**  
July 1, 2025

Applicants will be required to provide responses to the following online application statements:

1. Describe your experience in curriculum development and instructional implementation.
2. Describe your experience in school finance and budgeting.
3. Describe your experience in developing and monitoring goals for school improvement.
4. Describe your experience in building and sustaining productive relationships with stakeholders (board, staff, students, parents and community members).
5. Describe your experiences in working with a diverse population (socio-economic, cultural, ethnic, etc.).
6. Having read the ideal candidate section of the announcement of vacancy, why do you feel you are a match for this district?

This Professional Superintendent Search is being conducted by the Illinois Association of School Boards, James W. Helton, Associate Executive Director Executive Searches, (217) 528-9688, ext. 1102

