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Superintendent:

Elliot Smalley

Board of Directors:

John Payne, Chairman

Cyndi Mosteller, Vice Chairlady

Kathleen Bounds, Secretary

Keith Callicutt, PhD

Cyndi Mosteller

Teresa Pope, PhD

**Job Description: SCPCSD Interim Superintendent**

**The Opportunity**

The South Carolina Public Charter School District (SCPCSD) seeks an exceptional educational leader with a commitment to providing a dynamic learning environment in which all students can achieve their maximum potential to be our Interim Superintendent. The District serves approximately 22,000 students in 35 schools. The Board seeks a results-oriented, proven leader with demonstrated administrative and decision-making skills, along with extensive school financial acumen and understanding of the budgetary process. The successful candidate will be a highly visible individual with exceptional interpersonal communication skills who will work collaboratively with the Board, staff, and stakeholders to ensure a solid foundation in curriculum and instruction and foster a positive collaborative climate in which all children can succeed.

**What We Do**

Charter schools are performance-based public schools that receive significant operational autonomy in exchange for accountability for student achievement. If these schools do not meet the goals set forth in their charters - performance contracts with public authorizing agencies - they may be closed. Charter schools have won strong support from a wide variety of communities, educators and public officials in South Carolina. They present special opportunities as well as challenges to their authorizing agencies, which must evaluate charter proposals wisely and hold schools accountable for educational results.The SCPCSD has authority to approve, oversee and evaluate charter schools throughout the state under its sponsorship. The SCPCSD is an independent agency in the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) and, as such, holds independent rule making authority.

The SCPCSD is responsible for guiding, supporting, and monitoring the schools it oversees, while holding them accountable for academic achievement, financial stewardship, legal compliance and overall organizational effectiveness. For purposes of federal law, the SCPCSD operates as a Local Educational Agency (LEA). The sponsor of a charter school is the charter school's LEA and a charter school is a school within that LEA. The sponsor retains responsibility for special education and ensures that the students enrolled in its charter schools are served in a manner consistent with LEA obligations under applicable federal, state, and local law.

The SCPCSD is governed by a board of trustees consisting of not more than nine members: two appointed by the Governor; one appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; one appointed by the President of the Senate; and five to be appointed by the Governor upon the recommendation of the: South Carolina Association of School Administrators; South Carolina Chamber of Commerce; South Carolina Education Oversight Committee; South Carolina School Boards Association; and the South Carolina Alliance of Black Educators. The SCPCSD Board of Trustees has the same powers, rights and responsibilities with respect to charter schools as other school district boards of trustees, including, but not limited to, sponsoring charter schools and applying for federal charter school grants, except that the SCPCSD Board of Trustees may not issue bonds, or levy taxes. The SCPCSD’s ongoing operating revenue derives from withholding up to 2% of the per-pupil funding from the schools it oversees.

The SCPCSD Interim Superintendent will work with the SCPCSD governing Board, legislative sponsors, the Governor's Office, the SCDE, and other interested local, state and national entities. Pursuant to South Carolina law, the SCPCSD Interim Superintendent is an at-will employee.

**Responsibilities:**

The SCPCSD Interim Superintendent is responsible for leading the SCPCSD's development, day-to­ day management and operations, and fulfillment of the SCPCSD's mission. Key responsibilities include:

* Managing the SCPCSD office and operating policies, practices and procedures.
* Coordinating with the SCPCSD Board on the evaluation of applications for both start-up charter schools, transfers, renewal and replications of charter schools.
* Monitoring the academic performance, management and legal compliance of all schools authorized by the SCPCSD.
* Advising the SCPCSD governing Board on all matters related to reviewing, negotiating, approving, renewing, suspending and/or revoking charter school contracts.
* Overseeing the SCPCSD budget.
* Assisting in fundraising.
* Hiring, managing and developing staff, contractors and consultants.
* Leading the institutional development and strategic planning of the District with the goal of positioning the SCPCSD as an effective public chartering authority respected in South Carolina and nationally.
* Representing the SCPCSD to the state and national education community, policymakers, community leaders, the media and the public
* Ensuring that the SCPCSD's practices advance the purposes of the South Carolina charter school law.
* Serving as liaison between various state and local governing institutions, community organizations and other stakeholders.
* Knowledge of the South Carolina Charter Schools Act and South Carolina education law.

**Desired Qualifications**

* Management and leadership experience with a charter school authorizing entity or other public body, plus experience with a start-up and growing organization.
* Strong belief in the principles, goals and value of the charter school movement.
* Superior writing, public speaking, analytical, interpersonal and policy advocacy skills.
* Strong leadership and management ability.
* Ability to work effectively with a state-appointed governing board, state policymakers and the public, and to lead a state institution that interacts closely with local communities and diverse organizations and individuals across the state.
* Entrepreneurial spirit, initiative and a drive to excel.
* Excellent skills in organizational, financial and administrative oversight and staff management.
* Willingness and ability to travel regularly around the state and occasionally to other states.
* Experience in developing and executing successful organizational, strategic and financial plan.
* Strong understanding of public schools and education policy, public education systems and governance, and school assessment and accountability.
* Experience with charter schools and familiarity with the full range of challenges they face.
* Familiarity with the obligations of a public institution.
* Comfortable and resourceful in a fast-paced, start-up and performance-focused work environment.
* Advanced degree (especially management, education, public administration, public policy or law).
* South Carolina School District Superintendent certification strongly preferred.