

AN INVITATION TO APPLY FOR THE POSITION OF  
**SUPERINTENDENT  
OF SCHOOLS**



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**CATO-MERIDIAN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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 [www.catomeridian.org](http://www.catomeridian.org)

 @CatoMeridianSchools

 @catomeridiancsd

## ABOUT THE DISTRICT

The Cato-Meridian Central School District, nestled in the heart of picturesque Central New York, is a vibrant and thriving educational community dedicated to empowering students for a lifetime of success. With a rich history of academic excellence and a commitment to fostering personal growth and community engagement, our district is more than just a place of learning; it's a place where dreams take shape, and futures are forged.

Our district serves a diverse and dynamic student body, encompassing a wide range of talents, interests, and backgrounds. From the bustling halls of our elementary school to the innovative classrooms of our Jr.-Sr. High School, our students enjoy a variety of opportunities to grow as individuals.

## MISSION STATEMENT

We prepare all students for success through a variety of opportunities that help them learn and grow toward their potential.

## SCHOOL BUILDINGS & CONFIGURATION

Cato-Meridian Elementary School..... 441 students

Cato-Meridian Jr.-Sr. High School..... 374 students



## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Board of Education of the Cato-Meridian Central School District is currently in search of an exceptional educational leader to fulfill the position of Superintendent of Schools. We are actively seeking a highly capable individual with a strong track record in evaluating and enhancing student achievement, while also spearheading the development and execution of inventive educational initiatives for all students. Furthermore, the ideal candidate should possess the ability to inspire confidence among various stakeholders, thereby fostering a sense of community pride and forging valuable partnerships.

Effective interpersonal skills and proficient communication abilities are essential attributes for this role. The successful applicant will be tasked with building meaningful relationships and engaging with diverse individuals and groups within the community.

Overseeing the search process is Dr. Brian Hartwell, District Superintendent of the Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES. His expertise and guidance will ensure a thorough and efficient selection procedure.

## COMPENSATION

A three-year contract will be offered with a minimum contract salary starting at \$160,000 accompanied by an attractive benefits package.

## RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT

Residency in the district is preferred, but visibility and accessibility are the qualities we are most looking for in the successful candidate.





## FACTS & FIGURES

Number of Teachers: **77**

Four-Year Graduation Rate: **85%**

Student-Teacher Ratio: **16**

Total K-12 Students: **815**

Expenditures Per Pupil: **\$21,759**

(\*NYS Average: \$23,468)

\*According to 2020-21 NYS Fiscal Transparency Report

## CHARACTERISTICS OF THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

**LEADERSHIP:** A fierce advocate for children. Dynamic leader with a visible and approachable presence, inspiring excellence and continuous growth, fostering a positive culture, and maintaining high standards, expectations, and accountability. Provides high-quality supervision over all aspects of district operations and empowers and develops people by identifying and nurturing their strengths, fostering leadership capacity at all levels, and promoting a culture of professional growth and continuous improvement.

**INGENUITY:** Exhibits resourcefulness and creativity in solving complex problems and finding innovative solutions that maximize resources and enhance opportunities for students and staff. Demonstrates a forward-thinking approach to challenges, embraces new ideas, and fosters a culture of adaptability and growth.

### EXCELLENT COMMUNICATOR AND COLLABORATOR:

Demonstrates exceptional communication skills, actively seeks input, listens attentively, effectively conveys information, connects with individuals and groups, fosters idea exchange, and works collaboratively with the Board, staff, and community. Builds partnerships, includes diverse stakeholders in decision-making, facilitates consensus-building, honors commitments, and appreciates and understands the district’s community and culture.

**INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP:** A keen understanding of educational excellence, pedagogy, and current research, with the experience and foresight to understand how decisions affect students, teachers, and learning. Possesses the capacity for innovation and positive change, a passion for learning, and knowledge of the NYS learning standards and curriculum and instruction.

**FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL ACUMEN:** Knowledge and experience in school district budgeting and finance, business operations, management and internal controls, educational technology, internal and external communication, the use of data to support sound decision-making, and overall district management.

**INTEGRITY:** Demonstrates honesty, good judgment, high moral standards, and a respectful and caring demeanor, so that others know their efforts, ideas, work, and perspectives are valued and essential to the healthy functioning of the district.

## RECRUITMENT TIMELINE

Application Deadline..... January 20, 2025

Anticipated Appointment..... April 2025

New superintendent takes office..... July 2025

## FINANCIAL DATA

2023-2024 Budget ..... \$23,805,174

State Aid ..... \$16,501,201

Local Tax Levy.....\$6,529,201



## ABOUT THE COMMUNITY

Nestled between the sparkling shores of Lake Ontario and the enchanting Finger Lakes, the Cato-Meridian community is a hidden gem characterized by its serene beauty and rich history. The district encompasses the villages of Cato and Meridian, along with the surrounding communities, which all offer breathtaking views year-round. With a deep-rooted sense of pride in its school district and an unwavering spirit of “Blue Devil” camaraderie, the community fosters a close-knit atmosphere where residents celebrate their shared experiences. Whether you’re exploring scenic trails, enjoying local events, or soaking in the natural beauty, Cato-Meridian is a place where charm and community thrive.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

The Board has asked the Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES District Superintendent to assist and advise the Board in the selection process. All applications and communications should be directed to:

**Dr. Brian Hartwell, District Superintendent**

**Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES**

1879 West Genesee Street Road, Auburn, NY 13021

Phone: (315) 253-0361

Confidential applications must be emailed or postmarked by January 20, 2025. Application forms can be obtained from the Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES website at [www.caybores.org/cmsearch](http://www.caybores.org/cmsearch). Applicants are not to contact members of the Board of Education regarding the search or search process.

The final choice of a superintendent will be the responsibility of the Board of Education. The anticipated appointment date, with a successful contract, will be in early April 2025 with a start date of July 2025.

### Qualified and interested candidates must submit the following:

- Letter of interest
- Current resume or CV
- Completed application
- Transcripts
- Copy of School District Administrator (SDA) or School District Leader (SDL) certificate

**Applications must be emailed or postmarked by January 20, 2025.**

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Kathleen Bratt, President**

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Scan to Access Application



Cato-Meridian Central School District, 2851 State Route 370, Cato, NY 13033