

**Grand County School District**  
**264 South 400 East**  
**Moab, UT 84532**  
**[www.grandschools.org](http://www.grandschools.org)**



**All Students Can Learn**

# ANNOUNCEMENT OF POSITION

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## Superintendent of Schools

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*Grand County  
School District  
Moab, Utah*

# **ANNOUNCEMENT OF POSITION**

The Grand County School District Board of Education, Moab, Utah is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Superintendent of Schools. The person selected for the position will fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Margaret L. Hopkin, who has served 33 years with Grand County School District, the last five years as superintendent.

## **TIMELINE**

April 11, 2012 Deadline for receiving applications & credentials

May 2012 Board appoints new Superintendent

July 1, 2012 New Superintendent assumes post

## **SALARY AND BENEFITS**

### **Compensation**

The salary will be negotiated based on qualifications and experience and will be competitive with salaries of other school superintendents in districts of comparable enrollment within the state of Utah.

### **Benefits**

Benefits for employees with Grand County School District include but are not limited to:

- Group Health Insurance
- Long-term disability
- Life and accidental death insurance
- Membership in the Utah Retirement System
- Additional tax-sheltered annuity contributions
- Travel expenses as determined by the Board of Education

# **BASIC REQUIREMENTS**

Applicants must:

1. Have a successful record of demonstrable administrative, management and leadership in a sizable organization with preference given to leadership in a K-12 school system.
2. Have a master's degree or higher.
3. Hold or be qualified to obtain a Utah Administrative Supervisory License.

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

Candidates should submit a formal application package that includes at a minimum:

- A 1-2 page Letter of Interest that includes one's
  - personal philosophy of education
  - personal philosophy of administration and management
  - special competencies which qualify you for the superintendency
  - reasons for interest in this position
  - knowledge of the Moab, Utah area
- A current curriculum vitae / complete resume that speaks directly to this job, which details one's professional experience, education and accomplishments.
- Three Letters of Recommendation
- A minimum of four current references, including names, titles, addresses and telephone numbers.
- 1-2 page narrative or bulleted response to each of the following three categories of Superintendent Qualifications (no more than 6 pages total, please):

### **1. Leadership and Management**

- Has successful record of administrative experience and accomplishments, including implementation of policy, effective delegation of authority, fiscal management,

organizational development, and facilities maintenance/construction.

- Demonstrates strong communication skills (listening, writing, speaking) including public relations expertise using various media.
- Has experience in development and implementation of effective staff development and personal evaluation systems.
- Is an innovative team-builder who shows capacity for developing consensus among all stakeholders.
- Is a creative problem solver who is able to make tough and controversial decisions when necessary to protect student achievement and maintain a safe school environment.

## **2. School Finances, Law and Policy**

- Understands rural school finance, local tax levies and the allocation of scarce resources, with previous experience with rural, at-risk, low-income and minority populations.
- Demonstrates understanding of the legislative process at state and federal levels. Has shown the ability to develop strong working relationships with local, state and federal elected officials.
- Has knowledge of education law and policy and finance, including special education.

## **3. Public Education Background**

- Possesses a strong curriculum background and commitment to instructional excellence and student achievement.
- Has successfully led school reforms leading to student achievement, based on research-based best practices.
- Demonstrates effective leadership in public schools.

Please note: all application materials and credentials will be reviewed by the Grand County Board of Education and the Superintendent Search Education and Community Subcommittees. Finalists will be interviewed by the Board and selected members of the Education and Community Subcommittees.

Please forward all application materials and information to:

Richard C. Stowell, Executive Director  
Utah School Boards Association  
860 East 9085 South  
Sandy, Utah 84094  
801-878-0680 office  
801-878-0681 fax  
rstowell@usba.cc

**Application Deadline: April 11, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.**

## **THE SCHOOL DISTRICT – 2011-12 SCHOOL YEAR**

Grand County School District staff members are diligently preparing this year for implementation of the new Common Core. All schools, including the District, passed AYP this year in all but one subgroup area (Middle School, Students with Disabilities, Math). Though district reading/language arts scores for students are at or above the state average, district math scores will be a future focus for improvement. In this rural and isolated district, the creativity and dedication of staff members and parents are a definitive strength. As a community, we work together to provide numerous growth opportunities for students, unavailable to students in many rural districts. Our power is in our people, and in the innovative use of scarce resources. For more information, refer to the district website

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

## **Enrollment**

- Stable enrollment of approximately 1500 students.
- Class size:
  - Elementary – range 20-28
  - Secondary – range 17-30, average 21-22

## **Staff**

- 90 Licensed Teachers
- 5.5 Administrators
- 93 Classified Employees

## **Facilities**

- CR Sundwall Preschool (students with disabilities – enrollment 30)
- Helen M. Knight Elementary (grades K-6, built 2010, enrollment 769)
- Grand County Middle School (grades 7-8, built 1962, enrollment 228)
- Grand County High School (grades 9-12, built 1996; Technical Sciences and Arts Center, built 2010, enrollment 466)
- Arches Education Center (adult learners and alternative education students, enrollment 157).  
Co-located with Utah State University-Moab.

## **Budget and Finance**

- Total FY11 Budget \$21,905,081
- Major Fund Expenditures FY11
  - General Fund \$10,577,979
  - Capital Outlay \$6,565,546
  - Debt Service \$2,848,413
  - Other Government Funds \$1,913,325
- Overall Tax Rate FY11 0.006231
- Per Pupil Expenditures FY11 \$7,629
- District assessed valuation CY11 \$1,185,761,594

# THE COMMUNITY

Grand County and Moab, Utah, are located in one of the most beautiful – and remote – corners of the lower 48 states. 230 miles from Salt Lake City and 110 miles from Grand Junction, Colorado, residents find they need to be self-sufficient in many ways while enjoying the small-town lifestyle the area has to offer. Moab (pop. 5,046) is the only incorporated city in Grand County (pop. 9,225).

Moab, often referred to as “the Heart of Canyonlands,” is the only city in Utah located on the Colorado River. Visitors to the area are offered an incredible display of natural beauty from its adjacent National and State Parks, Forests and public lands. Abundant outdoor recreational opportunities include hiking, biking, four-wheeling, rafting and hunting.

The former ranching, mining and milling economy of the early and mid-1900’s has transitioned to a tourism, service and government sector economy. As a result, Grand County experiences higher unemployment rates and attendant social issues than most of Utah. Not coincidentally, many in the community are also very engaged in seeking solutions to these problems. Moab is reputed to have more non-profit organizations per capita than any other community in America.

Recent public investments with strong public support has brought the following to the community – two new public schools (HMK Elementary and Technical Arts and Science Center and on the High School campus, 2010), the Moab Regional Hospital and Extended Care Center (2011), and the Moab City Recreation and Aquatic Center (2011). Public highway and major bridge improvements and a vigorous bicycle lane construction program have been ongoing for several years. Utah State University has a growing presence in Moab ([www.moab.usu.edu](http://www.moab.usu.edu)) and has plans to develop a destination-type campus in the next 3-5 years.



**With its world-famous setting, abundant outdoor adventure and promising educational future, Moab and Grand County will provide the next superintendent of schools a unique and challenging opportunity to lead the school district and community to the “next level”. Thank you for applying.**



