

## Director of Student Services

The team at the Verona Area School District is looking for a student services leader who is focused on instructional equity, meeting the needs of our exceptional learners, leading our behavioral team and professional collaboration. We want a person who will be unequivocal in putting the needs of children in first place; empathic to our student services staff in attending to their professional and personal well-being needs and a role model for working with parents, staff and administration in problem solving and communicating. If selected, you will replace our retiring and beloved Director of Student Services who has established a great base in all of those areas. The Verona Area School District is a PreK – 12 school district of approximately 5,500 pK-12 students located near Madison, WI. The student population demographics are: 30% free or reduced lunch, 30% students of color, 13% ELLs, and 7% students with disabilities.

If you are chosen to be our next Director of Student Services, what can you expect? The student services department is the largest in our school district with over 200 FTE between certified and support staff. This includes all special education staff, speech and language therapists, nurses, social workers, psychologists, as well as related service providers. There is significant expertise and help for the Director with special education coordinators at each school, district diagnosticians, as well as a full time admin assistant. Even with that, however, this position is multifaceted and very busy!

While the duties are many and the work intense at times, there are many positive aspects of this role too. These include collaborative work with all central office administrators, building principals and many building level staff. It includes work designing and implementing staff development around all aspects of student services. You will serve as the District's Homeless Coordinator. It also includes very important work with our behavioral / emotional support team in designing a framework and systems to support student social/emotional/behavioral well-being. Also, the Director is key in ensuring equity of opportunity and instructional quality for our learners. Instructional equity is a Board and District focus codified in our Equity Framework.

Our Director is in the position to have significant impact on all aspects of our student services program AND more broadly, equitable access to opportunity and high quality instruction for all of our learners. It is highly engaging, technical, at times legalistic, and tiring work. It is also highly creative, rewarding and gratifying.

If you want to be considered for this position, you must be able to show you have provided leadership that resulted in action and deliverables in the following areas:

- Equitable learning experiences for students, staff and parents;
- Special education evaluation and program development;
- Supporting principles of Universal Design for Learning through Assistive Technology, co-planning, and co-teaching within personalized learning environments;
- Effective communication, listening, collaboration and relationship building skills;
- Designing and providing professional staff development;
- Strategic thinking and planning;
- Policy development;
- Use of data to drive decision / practice / policy making;
- Problem finding and solving; and
- Budgeting

Bilingual skills are highly valued but not a requirement for this position.

Salary, Benefits, Length of Contract: This position works a 260-day (12 month) contract with starting compensation that is negotiable but will be no less than \$124,000. We also offer an exceptional benefits package and the opportunity to make a difference for our scholars. How to Apply: Apply online at [www.verona.k12.wi.us](http://www.verona.k12.wi.us) by completing the WECAN application; attaching a resume, cover letter and three (3) letters of recommendation that are **no more** than two years old **and** a personal equity statement. Contact Administrator: Dean Gorrell, Superintendent, 608-845-4310 or at [gorrelld@verona.k12.wi.us](mailto:gorrelld@verona.k12.wi.us) Deadline: 4pm, Monday, March 13, 2017 An Equal Opportunity Educator/Employer. Candidates of color are strongly encouraged to apply.