

Dr. Kristin Bellamy
Responses from Bend-La Pine Schools Application Packet

1. Please share why you are interested in this position and your unique qualifications for it.

Bend La Pine, is doing amazing work. I desire to be apart of that work, as the next Superintendent. I am a product of the public education system, and the the mother of a son just starting his public education journey. Education and learning have been paramount in my upbringing. From teaching and leading in diverse schools across the country, to designing and founding one of Washington state’s first charter schools, I have continually sought opportunities that provide me the access to work in partnership with communities. I am proud to have redefined, at the local, district and state level, what effective community and business partnerships can contribute to the education of our students; raised expectations for professional growth and performance, as well as cultivate and nurture teacher and community shared leadership and participation.

My leadership background is in P-12 education systems leadership. As a former principal, public charter school CEO, and school district administrator, I hold valuable expertise in leveraging the power of cross-sector partnerships, authentic and effective stakeholder engagement, political advocacy for public education, and the successful oversight, innovation and accountability of district budgets, collaborations and project management. I excel in leading diverse groups through the strategic planning, and implementation of plans, rooted in data through cycles of continuous improvement, focused on improving equitable outcomes for student learning.

As the next Superintendent, I look forward to continuing to grow and lead for positive change, and the reimaging of what is possible. If 2020, has taught us anything this year, it is that we are more innovative than we think, and have what it takes to crate amazing systems for ALL students.

2. Please list the five accomplishments in your professional career of which you take the greatest satisfaction and why you do so.

The accomplishments that I take the most pride in, are:

1. Consistently closing achievement gaps for students in my care, as a classroom teacher.
2. Strategically communicating and establishing community trust, through strategic engagement, partnerships and outreach for both schools and systems in my care.
3. Shepherding the use of equity as a framework, and continuous cycles of improvement and continued learning at the systems level to reorganize, and better align system functions and processes in service to schools.
4. Founding one of Washington State’s first public, homegrown charter schools.
5. Designing and innovating renewed systems to ensure equitable resource allocation and outcomes for students; through challenging the status quo, expanding intellectual stretch of adults, and identifying and dismantling barriers to students opportunity at the systems level.

In each point of pride above, I was able to build capacity of those in my care, to establish and deliver on a shared vision of equitable, just and rigorous educational opportunities for students. Whether I was building a classroom culture, turning around an under-resourced and underperforming neighborhood school in the country's most diverse zip code (98118); founding an educational institution of excellence from the ground up; or reimagining, refocusing and/or innovating public education, I was able to take my passion and advocacy for students and their learning from an individual vision, to one shared by all stakeholders. Seeing students succeed, the community actively engaged in the education of its young people, is the most rewarding part of my work. I look forward to continuing on this legacy, and my personal growth as an innovative, equity focused systems leader, in Bend -La Pine.