

For Community

March 5, 2025

Edina Public Schools Community,

The Edina School Board is pleased to let you know that it extended an offer to Dr. Daniel Bittman to become the interim superintendent of the Edina Public School District. Dr. Bittman accepted, and pending contract negotiations, will begin his new role with Edina Public Schools April 21st.

Bittman brings with him over 30 years of experience in public education with 15 years of experience as a Superintendent at both the Elk River and Sauk Rapids school districts. At the Elk River School District, Bittman was responsible for leading the 8th largest school district in the state, with 12,000 students, 2,000 employees and over a \$200 million dollar budget. Prior to that, he was the Superintendent at the Sauk Rapids Public School District. Among others, Dr. Bittman also has held roles as an Assistant Superintendent and Assistant Commissioner of Education for the State of Minnesota. Dr. Bittman began his career as a high school English and Spanish teacher and varsity football, basketball and baseball coach.

Dr. Bittman brings with him many accolades and other professional experiences, including:

- 2025 Minnesota Distinguished Service Superintendent of the Year, Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA)
- 2016 Minnesota Superintendent of the Year (MASA)
- 2016 Magna Award, National School Board Association
- President of the Minnesota Association of School Administrators, 2021-2022
- Representative for Minnesota on governing board for national school administrators (AASA)

Dr. Bittman was selected after a rigorous vetting process that brought many qualified candidates. He was chosen for his ability to build on our existing strategic plan and for the breadth and depth of his experience that will allow us to expand on the excellence our students, staff and stakeholders expect and deserve.

The board is targeting contract approval at our March 18th work session. After his start date, one of our many priorities will be introducing him to and engaging with our community.

Sincerely,

The Edina School Board

Erica Allenburg
Dan Arom
Michael Birdman
Cheryl Barry
Karen Gabler
Jen Huwe
Elliot Mann

For staff

Edina Public Schools Staff,

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Dr. Bittman was selected after a rigorous vetting process that brought many qualified candidates and we are confident he will be able to build on our existing strategic plan, harness the existing talent in our district and bring a needed depth of experience to guide our district during this interim phase. Beyond Dr. Bittman's experience and accolades, the board was particularly impressed with his leadership style, spirit of collaboration and his commitment to live out the mission, vision and values of Edina Public Schools.

The board also wants to acknowledge with all the uncertainty surrounding public education right now that a leadership transition is likely unwelcome, however, both the board and Dr. Bittman are committed to providing stability, collaborative problem solving and support for you as educators and staff.

The board is targeting contract approval at our March 18th work session. We will ensure you are apprised of any updates as quickly and transparently as possible and please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us with your questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

The Edina School Board

Erica Allenburg
Dan Arom
Michael Birdman
Cheryl Barry
Karen Gabler
Jen Huwe
Elliot Mann