



Sharon Williams, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

To: RIMSD 41 Board of Education
From: Sharon Williams, Ed.D.
Cabinet Champion: Dr. Dominique Moore, Assistant Superintendent of HR
Date: June 23, 2026
Re: Director of Information Technology

The applicant pool for the Director of Information Technology position included six (6) applicants. The selection process yielded a pool of two (2) candidates who met the minimum qualifications. These two (2) candidates were invited to interview. The selection process included screening, a performance task presentation, an in-person panel interview, and a writing task. One candidate was invited to second round interviews with the Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent. Following this process, Mr. Brandon Sears emerged as the strongest candidate and is recommended for the Director of Information Technology position.

Mr. Brendan Sears holds a Master of Science in Leadership and Executive Coaching and a Bachelor of Arts in Speech Communications. He has served Rock Island-Milan School District #41 since 2015, beginning as a substitute and serving as Technology Support Specialist at Rock Island High School since 2021. He has demonstrated exceptional leadership and innovation by designing and operating the ChromeDepot program, significantly reducing Chromebook damage, loss, and loaner usage through improved inventory systems, PBIS integration, and the RoomBooks initiative. Brendan secured a \$3,000 grant for classroom charging stations, implemented digital attendance and tardy kiosks, and developed a student technology worker program. In addition to providing comprehensive technology support for staff, students, and district events, he has delivered professional development, supported student wellness through connections to school resources, and streamlined technology support processes, resulting in substantial time savings and increased efficiency.

Mr. Sears was described by his references as a highly effective communicator who builds strong relationships with staff, administrators, vendors, and stakeholders. They noted that he is detail-oriented, dependable, and consistently follows through on responsibilities with accuracy and professionalism. References also characterized Mr. Sears as a natural leader whose collaborative approach fosters positive working relationships and teamwork. Overall, his references consistently highlighted his strong communication skills, attention to detail, and professionalism.

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the appointment of Mr. Brendan Sears to the position of Director of Information Technology for the 2026-27 school year at the salary of \$128,418.

Investment Period: One year contract
Total Investment: \$128,418
Funding Source: District Funds

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