

NEWS RELEASE

(ROUND 1 SEMI-FINALISTS)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Six semi-finalists selected for Beacon Academy Executive Director position

Crystal, MN— The Beacon Academy School Board unanimously selected six semi-finalists to interview for the school’s executive director position. The semi-finalists are:

- Inna Collier Paske, Principal, St. Pascal Regional Catholic School, MN
- Dr. Charles Hanson II, Superintendent, Tomah Area School District, WI
- Joann Karetov, Principal, St. Croix Preparatory Academy, MN
- Tara Lere, Superintendent, Plummer-Worley Joint School District, ID
- Sam Wakefield, Executive Director / High School Principal, The Academy for Sciences & Agriculture, MN
- Dr. Curtis Windham, Executive Director, Marine Village School Charter School, MN

The semi-finalists were selected from a pool of 19 applicants based on criteria established by the school board, as well as survey input provided by Beacon Academy staff and members of the public.

The school board has scheduled interviews for the semi-finalists beginning at 4:30 pm on both Monday, April 27 and Tuesday, April 28, 2026.

All interviews will be held in the Cafeteria at Beacon Academy located at 3415 Louisiana Ave N in Crystal, MN, and are open to the public. To ensure a level playing field for all candidates the interviews will not be livestreamed or recorded.