

MSBA Executive Search Service



Academy of Sciences and Agriculture
is seeking an exceptional leader
to serve as
Executive Director

AFSA is a K-12 charter school with schools in Vadnais Heights and Little Canada, which serves students from the northeast metro area of the Twin Cities. With a purpose to provide agriculture literacy to an urban and suburban population, the school has expanded to include career opportunities in five areas of science, including: Engineering, Animal Science, Plant Science, Environmental Science, and Food Science. Points of Pride include:

- ◆ Tuition free public charter school
- ◆ Small class sizes
- ◆ Safe environment
- ◆ Free transportation within service area
- ◆ Field trips
- ◆ O-term and j-term: 2 experiential learning weeks
- ◆ Nurturing environment
- ◆ Student-centered hands-on learning
- ◆ Developing, evaluating and continuously improving our students learning experiences by meeting individual needs
- ◆ Integration of projects into the curriculum
- ◆ Student-driven clubs and activities
- ◆ Leadership opportunities for students
- ◆ Community service and involvement
- ◆ Nutritious breakfast and lunch program (made on site)
- ◆ All students grades 7-12 are members of the FFA
- ◆ Vocational and college-prep learning strands

Application Deadline

To be considered for this position, an applicant's completed file must be received by MSBA prior to 11:59 p.m. on April 14, 2024.

The AFSA Way

- ◆ AFSA provides hands-on and experiential learning through field trips, terms and classroom activities throughout the year.
- ◆ Students are offered opportunities to engage with the environment and the community as well as develop leadership skills.
- ◆ AFSA K-12 emphasizes agricultural connections within our unique curriculum.
- ◆ Each level of our program prepares our students for post secondary education and beyond.

By the Numbers

- ◆ Student enrollment: 400
- ◆ Licensed staff members: 46
- ◆ Non-licensed staff members: 36
- ◆ Principals/Asst Principals or Deans: 2/2
- ◆ Full-time Office staff: 1
- ◆ District buildings maintained: 2

Search Timeline

Announce Vacancy	March 19, 2024
Application Deadline	April 14, 2024
Applicant Screening	April 15-23, 2024
First Round Interviews	April 29 & May 1, 2024
Second Round Interviews	May 8, 2024
Approve Contract	May 21, 2024
Executive Director Begins	July 1, 2024

Leadership Profile

The AFSA School Board seeks an executive director who:

- ◆ Develops and directs an effective leadership team
- ◆ Develops trust and works collaboratively with diverse groups of stakeholders
- ◆ Experience in fundraising and/or grant writing
- ◆ Experience in charter school finance
- ◆ Knowledge of and experience with special education needs
- ◆ Promotes business and community involvement in schools
- ◆ Visible and accessible to the Board, staff, students, parents, and community

Previous experience as an Executive Director preferred, but not required.

Mission Statement

The Academy for Sciences and Agriculture (AFSA), a public charter school for grades K-12, engages learners in academically rigorous, student-centered, hands-on experiences and leadership opportunities within a science, environmental education, and agricultural context.

Salary and Benefits

A competitive compensation and benefits package will be negotiated commensurate with experience and qualifications. The contract length is negotiable as provided in Minnesota statute.

Financial Highlights

- ◆ General Fund Revenue: \$ 7,250,000
- ◆ General Fund Expenditures: \$ 7,200,000
- ◆ General Fund Balance: \$ 50,000

Vision

AFSA will develop lifelong learners who are curious, care for others and have high skill levels in applied sciences, and will be prepared for a future in a diverse, global and changing society.

Screening Team

A team from the Minnesota School Boards Association's Executive Search Service (MSBA) has been selected to assist the School Board in securing and screening applicants. The search team will be led by John Ward, MSBA Associate Director of Leadership Development and Executive Search.

Deadline and Selection

MSBA's Executive Search Service uses an online application process. Applicants begin the application process at mnmsba.myrevelus.com. To be considered for this position, an applicant's completed file must be received by MSBA prior to 11:59 p.m. on April 14, 2024.

Contact John Ward at 507-479-0935 (jward@mnmsba.org) with questions.

Applicants are requested to not contact school board members.

AFSA is an equal opportunity employer. The MSBA Executive Search Service is an equal opportunity search agency.

Deadline to apply: April 14, 2024