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“A place where learning has no limits and together we work for the success of all.”

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Harrisonburg City Public Schools – October 2018

On September 25, 2018, the School Board formally initiated its search for a new superintendent by accepting a proposal from Dr. Kevin Castner and Dr. E. Wayne Harris of BWP & Associates ([www.BWPassociates.com](http://www.BWPassociates.com)), a national search firm which specializes in assisting boards that are seeking superintendents.

“We want to engage the community in all parts of this process because community engagement is a key factor,” said Deb Fitzgerald, School Board Chair. A critical first step is to identify the characteristics the Board will be looking for in a new superintendent. The objectives of the public engagement process are three-fold:

- To learn the strengths, needs, and issues of our school division so we can better recruit a slate of candidates to meet our needs.
- To be able to describe our division’s strengths, needs and issues to the recruited candidates.
- To engage in the process in such a way that will build community understanding and support for the search.

“Hiring the right superintendent for HCPS is the most important decision our school board will make,” continued Ms. Fitzgerald. “We need your help. We’re going to hold a series of community input meetings for both the Harrisonburg school community and the broader Harrisonburg community to help us recruit and identify the best candidate for our system, and we hope you will come.”

There will be community forums and interviews with school system staff and community members during the week of October 29. Details will follow.

Additionally, a community survey will be created and, when completed, will be available at all community meetings, in school offices and at the Harrisonburg School Board Office. This survey will also be available on the division web site: [www.harrisonburg.k12.va.us](http://www.harrisonburg.k12.va.us).

Results of the information received from the Community Engagement process will be presented to the Board, along with a draft profile of the leadership characteristics for the next superintendent, by BWP at the **November 6, 2018** Board meeting.