



January 23, 2026

Dear Members of Our Archdiocesan Community,

I am writing to share that the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis has formally launched a national search for our next Director of Catholic Education and Superintendent of Schools. This search represents an important moment of discernment as we look to the future of Catholic education across the Archdiocese, while remaining firmly grounded in our shared mission, traditions, and commitment to forming students in faith, excellence, and service.

To support this important work, the Archdiocese has engaged Partners in Mission Search Solutions, a nationally respected firm dedicated exclusively to advancing leadership excellence in Catholic schools and dioceses. Partners in Mission brings deep experience, a trusted and prayerful process, and a strong understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing Catholic education today.

As part of the discovery and listening phase of the search, we invite your participation in a brief [confidential community survey](#). The survey is designed to gather broad input on the priorities, leadership qualities, and opportunities most important for the next Director and Superintendent. Your voice is essential, and I encourage all invited stakeholders to take a few minutes to complete the survey by Saturday, February 7.

Kyle Pietrantonio of Partners in Mission will conduct an enrichment visit on January 26 and 27, spending time meeting with key stakeholders, reviewing materials, and gaining deeper insight into the strengths, culture, and aspirations of Catholic education across the Archdiocese. This visit will further confirm the refinement of the position description and the development of a detailed Search Prospectus to guide the search.

Following the enrichment visit, Partners in Mission will engage a broad national network of mission-driven Catholic leaders, beginning with candidates experienced in diocesan and system-wide Catholic education leadership, and expanding outreach as appropriate to ensure a strong and diverse pool of qualified candidates. A carefully vetted group of candidates will then be presented to the Search Committee for consideration.

The Search Committee will conduct confidential interviews with selected semifinalists and finalists and will coordinate structured opportunities for appropriate stakeholder engagement. After reviewing all feedback, references, and materials, the Committee will bring forward a recommendation for appointment.

While we anticipate appointing the next Director of Catholic Education and Superintendent of Schools in the coming months, retained leadership searches are dynamic, and timelines may evolve as exceptional candidates emerge. Confidentiality will remain essential throughout the process to attract and discern the strongest possible leaders.

Please be assured that during this transition, the mission, vitality, and daily excellence of Catholic education across the Archdiocese remain strong. The team in the Office for the Mission of Catholic Education continues to support our schools and parish catechetical programs.

Thank you in advance for completing the survey, for your engagement in this process, and for your prayers as we move forward together in discernment. We are confident that this process will lead us to a leader who will faithfully steward and advance Catholic education in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "+ Bernard A. Hebda". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend Bernard A. Hebda
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis