DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR SEARCH

RICE LAKE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

30 Phipps Avenue, Rice Lake, WI 54868

715-234-9007 ● ricelake.k12.wi.us



District Statistics

Students	2,042
Administrators	13
Teachers	193
Support Staff	170
Operating Budget	$52 million/Fund 80

District operates child care center, pool, and community center in Fund 80.

Mission

We will partner with students, families and community members to graduate students who are ready to successfully attend college, begin a career, and/or support themselves with a job.

Vision

The Rice Lake Area School District will educate and prepare all students to become successful members of our society: life, career, or college.

Application Timeline

Application Deadline ..... Nov. 13, 2026
Review of Applications ..... Nov. 17, 2026
First Round of Interviews ..... Dec. 1 and 3, 2026
Final Round of Interviews..... Dec. 8, 2026
Potential Starting Date..... Feb. 1, 2027
..... but no later than July 1, 2027

Qualifications:
A Wisconsin Superintendent License is Required.

How to Apply:
The application process can be found on WASB.org.

1. Create an account in the Search Services Portal.
2. Complete your profile.
3. Apply to the Rice Lake Area search.

Interested applicants should contact:
Cheryl Gullicksrud, Search Services Consultant (cgullicksrud@wasb.org, 715-530-0121)
Teresa Kimball, Search Services Coordinator (tkimball@wasb.org, 608-512-1714)

WASB
WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS

About the District

The Rice Lake Area School District is recognized for its commitment to academic excellence, student growth and continuous improvement. Its broad range of advanced academic and career preparation opportunities, the district prepares students for college, careers and life. Through innovative programming, exceptional extracurricular opportuunities and strong partnerships, Rice Lake students are empowered to reach their full potential while contributing to a tradition of excellence that benefits the entire community.

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS



- SIX SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT:
  - Rice Lake High School (9-12)
  - Rice Lake Middle School (5-8)
  - Hilltop (4K-4), Tainter (4K-4) and Haugen (4K-4) Elementary Schools
  - Warriors on Wisconsin *(charter)* (9-12)
- 100% graduation rate in 2026.
- **Feed Our Kids Backpack Program** is offered to all students in preschool through 12th grade.
- **Clear Path Clinic** is available for RLASD employees and their families, is onsite and connected to the administration office-open five days a week.
- Learn more about us: Student and District Performance/School and District Report Cards, Points of Pride, Rice Lake High School Athletics and Student Activities.

CONSTRUCTION/RENOVATION PROJECTS

Recent investments by the school district and its community partners have expanded learning, child care and recreational opportunities for students and residents. Projects include:

- **Rice Lake Aquatic & Recreation Center** (with an eight-lane lap pool and a recreation pool).
- **RLASD Littlest Learners Child Care Center**, located on the UW-Eau Claire-Barron County campus.
- **Boys & Girls Clubs of Barron County Clubhouse** for elementary and middle school students.
- **Community center**, including a gymnasium and walking track.

OTHER IMPORTANT FINANCIAL FIGURES: District debt will be paid off in July 2027.

REFERENDUM INFORMATION

The district is in the process of considering a facilities referendum. Potential facility improvements include:

- Safety and security improvements (PA/notification systems) throughout the district.
- Career & Technical Education expansion; gymnasium, locker room and cafeteria updates; and HVAC/AC upgrades at the High School.
- Grounds improvements at the Middle School and Hilltop Elementary.
- Air exchanger replacements at Haugen and Tainter Elementary Schools.

Candidate Profile

SUPERINTENDENT QUALIFICATIONS

The Rice Lake Area District Board is seeking a District Administrator committed to the continuous improvement of learning opportunities provided to all the district's students. The ideal candidate will possess instructional credibility and the experience and confidence to navigate complex financial, operational, and relational responsibilities with integrity, professionalism, and empathy.

The next leader of the Rice Lake Area School District must possess strong interpersonal skills and the desire to be highly visible in the school buildings and the community. In addition to being approachable and receptive to questions and feedback, the district also desires a collaborative leader who:

INSTRUCTIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

- provides leadership for both daily operations and long-term strategic planning.
- seeks out varied viewpoints and makes data-informed decisions.
- delegates effectively and provides supportive mentoring.
- partners collaboratively with the Board of Education to facilitate strong governance practices and build mutual trust.
- promotes both academic and career and technical educational programs.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

- consistently, proactively, and transparently communicates goals, successes, and challenges to community groups, families, and staff.
- listens to others thoughtfully and respectfully and seeks to understand.
- explains complex issues in an articulate and clear manner.

KEY STRENGTHS AND SKILLS

- is an honest, ethical, and trustworthy leader who models personal accountability.
- effectively manages resources and budgets to successfully sustain and strengthen program offerings, maintain facilities, and provide funding for improvement projects.
- has experience and/or knowledge of self-funded health insurance programs.
- is able to prioritize multiple operational tasks and schedules productively.
- addresses conflict and difficult situations in a timely and effective manner.



About the Rice Lake Community

The City of Rice Lake (population 9,064 2020 Census) is located in Barron County in northwestern Wisconsin on the shore of Rice Lake. The city combines the charm of a close-knit community with the amenities of a regional center. Surrounded by lakes, forests, and abundant year-round recreational opportunities, the area offers an exceptional quality of life, a vibrant downtown, strong healthcare and educational resources, world-class manufacturing, and a diverse economy. Several organizations and industries partner with and support the school district. Rice Lake's welcoming atmosphere, nautural beauty, and community spirit make it an attractive place to live, work, and learn. Located approximately one hour north of Eau Claire and two hours northeast of the Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport, Rice Lake provides convenient access to major metropolitan amenities while maintaining its small-town character.

The Rice Lake Area School District serves portions of Barron County and Washburn County. The district's attendance area includes the City of Rice Lake, the Village of Haugen, and the townships of Barron, Bear Lake, Birchwood, Cedar Lake, Doyle, Long Lake, Oak Grove, Sarona, Stanfold, Stanley and Sumner.

Attractions and Recreation: The Friess Family Community Campus, located adjacent to Rice Lake High School, serves as a premier community recreation destination. Residents and visitors enjoy numerous parks, shopping and dining opportunities, camping, golfing, fishing and ice fishing, archery, UTV/ATV trails, and snowmobile racing. The scenic Blue Hills are just a 20-minute drive away, while Christie Mountain offers skiing, snowboarding, and tubing during the winter months.

Related Websites

- Rice Lake Aquatic and Recreation Center *(district operated pool, indoor walking track, classes & activities; completed September 2026)*
- River Doc Nature Conservancy *(55 acres of hiking trails along Lake Desair, forest, prairies & wetlands that was generously donated to the district)*
- Littlest Learners Child Care Center *(completed April 2026)*
- Education Foundation of Rice Lake
- Summer Academy *(popular with parents and the community-so many opportunities!)*
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Barron County *(opened September 2026 and is connected to the pool, community center and Hilltop Elementary)*
- Rice Lake Chamber of Commerce
- Rice Lake Community Media







