

SCHENECTADY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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June 29, 2026

Announcement of Appointment

Welcoming John Blowers, New Chief of Human Resources

The Schenectady City School District is pleased to welcome Mr. John Blowers as the new Chief of Human Resources. Following approval by the Board of Education on June 24, Blowers will join the district immediately. A lifelong resident of the area, Blowers brings an impressive thirty plus year human resources career spanning from local startups to massive global enterprises.



While Blowers' corporate background is vast, his transition to public education is a natural alignment of his professional skills and personal values. He understands the unique ecosystem of public schools, having served for 16 years on the Board of Education for the Burnt Hills Ballston Lake Central School District. This deep governance experience, combined with his enterprise level HR expertise, positions him perfectly to support our educators, staff, and students.

Blowers' career is deeply rooted in our community. His Schenectady career highlights include working as a security guard at Ellis Hospital during college, spending 11 years with GE, and leading talent acquisition efforts for Price Chopper Golub's headquarters, stores, and distribution centers.

Throughout his career, Blowers has specialized in building high performing, inclusive organizational cultures from the ground up. At Public Consulting Group, Blowers launched a new Albany based company to staff the New York State Department of Health. In just 90 days, he built the HR function from scratch by hiring the team, establishing benefits, and writing the policy manual. Under his leadership, the company scaled to over 500 employees and 35 million dollars in revenue in 27 months, keeping voluntary turnover at a remarkable 6 percent.

Recruited next as VP of HR for K and A Engineering, Blowers helped scale the organization to 400 plus employees and 50 million dollars in revenue while expanding operations to Kathmandu, Nepal. His cultural initiatives drove voluntary turnover down to 5 percent and built a workforce that was 45 percent diverse and 55 percent female, far outpacing engineering industry standards.

“John brings a rare combination of exceptional human resources expertise and a deep, personal commitment to public education,” said Superintendent Dr. Carlos M. Cotto, Jr. “His proven ability to build supportive, inclusive workplace cultures, develop strong talent, and foster meaningful relationships makes him the ideal leader to support our staff and advance our district’s mission. I am excited to welcome John to our team and look forward to the leadership and impact he will bring to the Schenectady City School District.”

Blowers holds an MBA from the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University and is the proud father of three grown children. He views this new chapter not just as a job, but as a calling. Blowers shared in his cover letter to the district that there are a lot of places in which you can find happiness, work - when structured right - is one of the few places where you can find meaning. He believes public education is a calling that is mission-oriented and highly rewarding, and that those who choose this career path deserve to find meaning in their work.

With his blend of deep local roots, extensive school board governance, and world class HR expertise, Blowers is uniquely equipped to ensure our district remains a place where educators and staff feel valued, supported, and inspired.

As Chief of HR, Blowers is a member of the Superintendent’s Executive Leadership Team (ELT). He oversees all aspects of the district’s human resources operations, talent strategy, and employee relations.

Please join us in welcoming John Blowers to the Schenectady City School District community.