



East Union and Murray School Boards Name Justin Jeffs Next Shared Superintendent

February 26, 2026

The East Union Community School District Board of Education and the Murray Community School District School Board have named Justin Jeffs as their next shared superintendent.

Jeffs currently serves as principal of Kate Mitchell Elementary School in Ames, Iowa, a position he has held for 15 years. During his tenure, he led culture-building and staff retention initiatives that reduced educator turnover in his building. He also implemented academic improvement strategies that increased student performance on standardized assessments and introduced systems that reduced suspension rates by 70 percent over two years.

In addition to his building leadership experience, Jeffs played a key role in facilitating a successful \$110 million voter-approved bond referendum to expand five elementary schools and construct a new high school in the Ames Community School District. He also has experience with grant writing and bond planning processes to support facility improvement and long-term infrastructure needs.

“I am truly honored and deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve as the next shared superintendent of the East Union and Murray school districts. During my time visiting the schools and meeting with staff and community members, I quickly recognized the passion, pride, and commitment that define these districts,” Jeffs said. “I look forward to working together to strengthen student learning, celebrate our achievements, and expand opportunities that ensure continued growth and excellence for every student.”

Both boards partnered with [Grundmeyer Leader Services](#) throughout the superintendent search process to identify highly qualified candidates and allow adequate time for a leadership transition ahead of the 2026-27 school year.

Jeffs will officially begin leading the East Union and Murray Community School Districts effective July 1, 2026.

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