



BOARD OF EDUCATION  
**SAN DIEGO CITY SCHOOLS**

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RON OTTINGER  
 President

STATEMENT BY  
 RON OTTINGER  
 DECEMBER 19, 1996

The Board of Education has decided today to begin the search process immediately for the next superintendent of the San Diego Unified School District.

While the board had planned to search for a new superintendent in the spring of 1997, that search now takes on a new urgency. Superintendent Dr. Bertha Pendleton is a finalist for the superintendency of the Dallas Independent School District. The board wishes Dr. Pendleton well in her candidacy in Dallas and in other opportunities that she may be pursuing.

The board will be looking for a superintendent who will focus the district on improving student achievement based on measurable results year by year, school by school, classroom by classroom and student by student. The superintendent needs to concentrate attention on the school and the classroom, the heart of the district, where the students are and where learning takes place.

In January 1997 the board will consider a search process that will include:

- \* a search committee consisting of community and educational leaders;
- \* public hearings and interviews with a broad spectrum of community leaders to define the job description and critical characteristics for the new superintendent;
- \* a national search for a leader in education or in the public or private sectors outside of education;
- \* a new superintendent being on board as soon as possible.

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Editor's Note: Mr. Ottinger will be available for comments until 6 p.m. at 293-8562 or after 8:30 p.m. at 584-8250. The Board of Education has designated Mr. Ottinger as president to be the official spokesman on this matter.

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