



JEFFERSON WEST

Unified School District 340

P.O. Box 267 • Meriden, Kansas 66512 • 785-484-3444

A. Patton Happer, Superintendent



December 9, 2021

It is with mixed emotions that we announce the retirement of Superintendent Pat Happer at the close of the 2021-2022 school year. While we are excited for him to get to spend more time with his wife, children, and grandchildren, we will miss his experience, his leadership, and his immense love for the students, patrons, and staff of the Jefferson West School District.

Education has changed considerably since Mr. Happer first began as a teacher forty-four years ago and Jefferson West has been fortunate to have Mr. Happer usher us through many of those changes as the high school principal for one year, for eighteen years as the elementary school principal, and finally as Superintendent for the past eleven years. During his thirty years here, Mr. Happer has tirelessly served Jefferson West Unified School District 340.

Whether it is a hearty handshake and a smile at a concert, a concerned phone call to the district office, or the excitement in his voice announcing a Friday night football game, there is no doubt Mr. Happer's love and passion for education and the future of our community has only grown.

Mr. Happer, we wish you nothing but the best in your retirement and look forward to celebrating you and showing our appreciation for your many years of service to the Jefferson West School District as the school year draws to a close.

As the Board of Education begins the daunting task of searching for and hiring a new leader for Jefferson West Unified School District 340, we would like to hear qualities our parents, patrons, students, and staff would like to see in our new superintendent. Please click the link below and complete the survey to provide your recommendations to the school board.

USD 340 Board of Education

The Jefferson West Board of Education has contracted with KASB to assist with the search for a Superintendent who will take over for Pat Happer upon his retirement on June 30, 2022. In an effort to make the best possible selection, the Board would like to include as part of the search process a way for stakeholders to offer their thoughts on this very important position and process. Below is a link for an online survey to seek input on desired characteristics of the new superintendent. The survey will take approximately five to seven minutes to complete and can be accessed through the link below. Thank you for your participation.

- Click here <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/USD340> to complete the survey.

The survey asks participants to share their ideas about the major issues facing the district in the next several years; the personal and professional qualities they believe are important for the superintendent, and the performance expectations they believe would mark that person's success. All responses are entirely anonymous and are delivered directly to the KASB search facilitator, Dr. Britton Hart.