

Press Clippings - June 27, 2023

– Chicago Tribune –

New U-46 superintendent to receive \$282,500 salary when she officially starts the job July 1

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By Mike Danahey - The Courier-News



School District U-46 Superintendent Suzanne Johnson will be paid \$282,500 for the 2023-24 school year under the contract approved this week by the U-46 School Board. (School District U-46/HANDOUT)

New **School District U-46 Superintendent Suzanne Johnson** will be paid a \$282,500 salary for the 2023-24 school year under a 3-year, performance-based contract approved Monday by the School Board.

Johnson's contract starts July 1 and runs through June 30, 2026. It includes a 3% pay increase in the second year and a raise in the third year based on the board's rating of her performance in accomplishing five goals included in the agreement.

Those goals are “tied directly to the district's goals in areas including early childhood education, educational pathways, building and facilities improvements, and work around **U-46 Rising**,” a news release issued Tuesday said.

“The fifth goal is the creation of a new strategic plan to guide **U-46's** work for the next five years,” the release said. “In addition, the contract calls for **Dr. Johnson** to prepare

refined and/or additional goals by no later than Oct. 31, 2023, to then be reviewed and approved by the board.”

Johnson's salary is higher than that of her predecessor, Tony Sanders, who received a base salary of \$269,243 for the 2022-23 school year.

Johnson thanked board members for the time they put into the selection process and their trust in choosing her for the job, which she described Monday as “a most awesome responsibility” and “the greatest role in the world.”

Additionally, she thanked **U-46** staff for their help during the search process and acknowledged the support of her husband and two children, who attend U-46 schools, and her parents, both of whom were **U-46** career educators.

“It’s super exciting,” **Johnson** said of the new job. “July 1 starts my 27th year in education.”

The board appointed **Johnson** interim superintendent in February after Sanders left to become Illinois superintendent of education.

Johnson has spent her entire career at **U-46**, starting as a language arts teacher at **Canton Middle School** in Streamwood and spending the last five years as the district’s assistant superintendent of instruction. She’s an **Elgin High School** graduate and currently lives in Streamwood.

With the selection process now complete, **board President Sue Kerr** thanked her fellow board members and **U-46** staff members for their work and the community, students and others who provided input.