The Minneapolis Board of Education at a meeting on October 13 announced preliminary steps in the process to select a new superintendent for the 2010-11 school year. In July 2009, Superintendent William Green announced that he would not seek a renewal of his contract, which will expire on June 30, 2010.

The board will begin a series of meetings with Minneapolis Public Schools stakeholders to obtain their evaluation of the district at the present time and prioritize the qualities they would like to see in a new superintendent. These meetings will be conducted with parents, staff, community partners, political and business leaders, the philanthropic community and all of the major advisory committees to the district. The board intends to complete these community conversations by early November. A form for comments on the search process will soon be available for the public on the MPS website: www.mpls.k12.mn.us

The board will simultaneously research the experience of other urban districts that have recently hired or are in the process of hiring a new superintendent. “Our goal is to learn from their experiences and move expeditiously through our own,” said Board Chair Tom Madden.

Finally, the board will prepare a request for proposals (RFP) to identify a person or firm able to provide professional guidance through the candidate selection process.

“We deeply appreciate the service Dr. Green has rendered to the district and the generous amount of time he afforded the board to find his replacement,” said Madden. “We are aware of the need for both speed and careful deliberation as we move forward. We intend to finish our task in a timely manner, while engaging in an open, fair and transparent process. Our goal is to select the very best, fully qualified candidate to lead the Minneapolis Public Schools.”