



**National Association of
School Superintendents**
United in Common Purpose: Each Other's Success

Darryl Hogue, Ed.D., Superintendent

**River Bend CUSD #2
Fulton, IL**

INTRODUCTION

Dr. Darryl Hogue has always been a champion for connecting and creating opportunities for students and employers. River Bend is located in Northwest Illinois along the banks of the Mississippi River just a bridge away from Clinton, Iowa. River Bend serves the communities of Albany, Fulton and Garden Plain, Illinois and works closely regionally with area employers to provide opportunities for young people to live and work in these communities.

EDUCATION

Darryl earned his first undergraduate degree from Barat College in Lake Forest IL. He earned a Master's of Science degree as a reading specialist from Northeastern, Illinois University in Chicago. He also holds a Masters of Arts in Educational Administration from Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois. He completed his doctoral work at Western Illinois University in Macomb, Illinois.

EXPERIENCE

Dr. Hogue's educational career began immediately out of high school as a Hospital Corpman enlisted in the United States Navy. Darryl continued on active duty for six years and remained in the US Naval Reserves for 14 years. He began his teaching career as a middle school special education teacher in Libertyville, Illinois for D70 in 1995 where he spent ten years. In 2005 Darryl moved his family west to Morrison, Illinois where successfully served

9 years a middle school principal. In 2014, Dr. Hogue answered the calling to be the next superintendent of River Bend CUSD #2 where he remains today. s During his time as a teacher, principal and superintendent making learning connect to life has been his passion.

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS

While serving in the United States Navy, Dr. Hogue earned a Meritorious Service award and multiple Sailor of the Quarter awards. As a teacher Darryl spoke at several conferences and lead staff training on successful inclusive practices. As a principal and superintendent Dr. Hogue has continued to lead and find ways for students to connect learning to life. While at River Bend Dr. Hogue has led five building renovations. During the most recent renovation he and the construction management team crafted a unique opportunity for a paid high school internship for his students. He is often asked to present at state and national conferences about the value of work study programming and its impact on students and the community. He has been recognized as an Illinois Association of School Administrators Northwest region superintendent of distinction. His motto is “If you love what you do, you will always love what you do.” He has worked tirelessly to help students find and experience their passions.

AN INTERVIEW WITH DARRYL HOGUE

Tell us about how you see today’s superintendent.

Superintendents are community connectors and supporters. It is the job of the superintendent to help students connect their knowledge to the skills needed to be life ready. Working closely with community partners and employers allows me to have a pulse on the community and its needs. I then work to provide students with real life experiences in the community that deeply connect them to their broader context and prepares them to be successful after high school in pursuit of their dreams. Having a strategic plan that aligns and supports this work with students preschool through 12th grade provides focus and direction.

What new understandings did you acquire after two or three years on the job?

After being a superintendent for two years, I began to see the impact I could have when I was active in the community and served in various organizations. I also learned how valuable it was to visit and talk to employers as we partnered to provide opportunities for students. I wanted to learn and hear about ways the schools in the community could help employers meet their goals. Spending time in and around the community listening and learning helped me bring ideas to the district that we could support. I also found value in sharing good ideas and encouraging others. I have served on boards, spoke at conferences and engaged with stakeholders because I believe good practices should be talked about. I eagerly seek to grow and learn and believe those in our field do as well.

Share an idea to use or something you've learned with your colleagues.

I learned that my colleagues and I all have different strengths and we need to learn from and support each other more. I love workforce development and connecting kids to opportunities. My neighboring superintendent does not spend as much time on this as I do. However, he is an expert in curriculum and I often reach out to him to get support in the area of curriculum. My other neighbor is great with finances and I often seek her input. I am not afraid to ask for help and I look to offer support and help. If superintendents would do this more often we could expand our tool box.

Submitted by:

Name/Signature

Date