



Cedar Rapids Community School District Appoints David Nicholson as New Chief Financial Officer

CEDAR RAPIDS, IA (May 5, 2026) — The Cedar Rapids Community School District (CRCSD) is pleased to announce the appointment of David Nicholson as its new Chief Financial Officer. A veteran financial leader with deep roots in Iowa's educational and public sectors, Nicholson brings decades of experience in managing large-scale budgets and long-term financial planning.

Nicholson will succeed Karla Hogan, who is retiring in January 2027. Karla has served CRCSD for nearly 10 years, including the last 4 years as CFO.

Nicholson returns to CRCSD from the Council Bluffs Community School District, where he currently serves as Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer. His appointment marks a homecoming to Cedar Rapids, where he previously served for four years as the district's Executive Director of Business Services.

"I am honored to return to the Cedar Rapids Community School District," said David Nicholson. "Having served here previously, I have a deep appreciation for this district's commitment to excellence. I am eager to use my experience to ensure our budget remains firmly focused on student success and the long-term health of the district."

Nicholson's career includes high-level financial leadership roles for several prominent Iowa organizations, including:

- Vice President & CFO at Central Iowa Power Cooperative.
- CFO/Operating Officer for the Linn-Mar Community School District.
- CFO/Treasurer for the Central Rivers Area Education Agency.

David's expertise is well-suited for the district's current needs, including long-term financial projections, risk management, union contract negotiations, and more efficient district operations.

In addition to his professional roles, Nicholson has served as the President of the Iowa Association of School Business Officials (IASBO) and is a frequent contributor to state-level committees, including the Iowa Department of Education CAR/SES. He is also an active community member, having served on the Marion City Council and as President of the Marion East/Cedar Rapids Rotary.

"We are thrilled to welcome David back to our leadership team. His deep understanding of our district and expertise in school finance will be instrumental as we advance our school redesign efforts and long-term strategic goals," shared Superintendent Dr. Tawana Lannin. "David's commitment to financial stewardship and accountability will help guide our district toward long-term financial stability, so we can continue to invest in what matters most - our students and staff."

Nicholson will officially begin his duties on October 1, 2026.