

**Petition Background:**

**February 2014**

In January 2014, Kern High School District (KHSD) Superintendent Donald E. Carter announced he is retiring as of August 2014. The Kern High School District Board of Trustees announced they **only** plan to conduct an **internal** search, despite public pressure from community stakeholders urging an open search. While we acknowledge that there may be competent candidates currently serving KHSD, we believe our community will benefit from the widest possible search for the most forward thinking and highly skilled candidate. We need a superintendent with substantial experience and the qualities necessary to tackle the issues and challenges facing the district at this juncture.

**Petition:**

Dear Kern High School District Board of Trustees,  
We, the community members of Kern County, urge you to conduct an open nationwide search for the new superintendent of the Kern High School District, rather than limiting this to an internal search. We understand that this comprehensive search may take longer than an internal search, therefore request the appointment of an interim superintendent.

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