



Board of Trustees Special Meeting - Jan 07 2025 Agenda

at 1:00 PM

University of Nevada, Reno; Joe Crowley Student Union, Room 403; 1664 North Virginia Street; Reno, Nevada

Parking for this meeting will be available on the 4th floor of the Whalen Parking Garage

NOTICE: Disrupting a public meeting is a criminal act per Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 203.090 and/or 203.119 and potentially under other statutes.

Forum Restrictions and Orderly Conduct of Business:

The Board of Trustees conducts the business of the Washoe County School District during its meetings. The presiding officer may order the removal of any person whose statement or other conduct disrupts the orderly, efficient, or safe conduct of the meeting. Warnings against disruptive comments or behavior may or may not be given prior to removal. The viewpoint of a speaker will not be restricted, but reasonable restrictions are imposed upon the time, place, and manner of speech. Irrelevant and unduly repetitious statements and personal attacks which antagonize or incite others are examples of speech that may be reasonably limited.

Items on the agenda may be taken out of order; combined with other items; removed from the agenda; moved to the agenda of another meeting; moved to or from the Consent Agenda; or may be voted on in a block. Items with a specific time designation will not be heard prior to the stated time but may be heard later. The Consent Agenda is a single agenda item and is considered as a block and will not be read aloud. The Board of Trustees may take recesses at the discretion of the presiding officer.

Page


1. Opening Items

- 1.01 Call to Order - 1:00 p.m. - University of Nevada, Reno; Joe Crowley Student Union, Room 403; 1664 North Virginia Street; Reno, Nevada
- 1.02 Roll Call
- 1.03 Pledge of Allegiance

1.04 Land Acknowledgment

2. Items for Presentation, Discussion, Information, and/or Action -

***Public Comment - Comments from the public are invited on items listed for possible action. A Public Comment Card should be filled out and submitted to the Recording Secretary before speaking during the Public Comment section, which must at least include the name of the speaker. Pursuant to Board Policy 9115, Meetings of the Board of Trustees, all persons are limited to 3 minutes per item. The time limit may be altered at the discretion of the meeting manager. In order to comply with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 241 (Open Meeting Law) and on the advice of Legal Counsel, the Board/Committee is discouraged from discussing and precluded from deliberating and/or acting on items raised by Public Comment which are not already on the agenda. Pursuant to NRS 241.035, correspondence or written materials submitted for public comment shall be attached to the minutes of the meeting. The Board of Trustees/Committee imposes reasonable content-neutral restrictions on public comment such as willfully disruptive comments that are irrelevant, repetitious, slanderous, offensive, obscene, inflammatory, irrational, amounting to personal attacks, intimidation, or interfering with the rights of other speakers. The Board/Committee will also accept public comments before and during the meeting through publiccomments@washoeschools.net . The Board/Committee will take time to read those comments during the meeting and announce the names of those who provided public comment via email.**

2.01 [REVIEW AND DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGARDING THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED TO FILL THE VACANCY ON THE BOARD IN DISTRICT C CREATED BY THE RESIGNATION OF TRUSTEE JOSEPH RODRIGUEZ WHO WAS ELECTED TO THE SPARKS CITY COUNCIL; AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SELECT UP TO FIVE CANDIDATES TO BE INTERVIEWED BY THE BOARD FROM AMONG THE FOLLOWING LEGALLY-QUALIFIED APPLICANTS: JASON BUSHEY, FELIPE ESCAMILLA, MARCUS HODGES, MONICA LEHMANN, TAMARA OSWALD, BRUCE PARKS, JAMES PHOENIX, TRACEY THOMAS, AND TIMOTHY ZYSK; THE CHARACTER, COMPETENCE, AND MISCONDUCT OF ANY APPLICANT MAY BE CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD PER NEVADA REVISED STATUTE \(NRS\) 241.033 AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST ANY APPLICANT PER NRS 241.034 \(FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\)](#) 

5 - 38

[Attachment A – J. Bushey Application Redacted.pdf](#) 

[Attachment B – F. Escamilla Application Redacted.pdf](#) 

[Attachment C – M. Hodges Application Redacted.pdf](#) 

[Attachment D – M. Lehmann Application Redacted.pdf](#) 

[Attachment E – T. Oswald Application Redacted.pdf](#) 

[Attachment F – B. Parks Application Redacted.pdf](#) 

[Attachment G – J. Phoenix Application Redacted.pdf](#) 

[Attachment I – T. Zysk Application Redacted.pdf](#) 

3. Closing Items

3.01 Public Comment - Comments from the public are invited at this time on topics not specifically addressed elsewhere in the agenda. A Public Comment Card should be filled out and submitted to the Recording Secretary before speaking during the Public Comment section, which must at least include the name of the speaker. Pursuant to Board Policy 9115, Meetings of the Board of Trustees, all persons are limited to 3 minutes per item. The time limit may be altered at the discretion of the meeting manager. In order to comply with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 241 (Open Meeting Law) and on the advice of Legal Counsel, the Board/Committee is discouraged from discussing and precluded from deliberating and/or acting on items raised by Public Comment which are not already on the agenda. Pursuant to NRS 241.035, correspondence or written materials submitted for public comment shall be attached to the minutes of the meeting. The Board of Trustees/Committee imposes reasonable content-neutral restrictions on public comment such as willfully disruptive comments that are irrelevant, repetitious, slanderous, offensive, obscene, inflammatory, irrational, amounting to personal attacks, intimidation, or interfering with the rights of other speakers. The Board/Committee will also accept public comments before and during the meeting through publiccomments@washoeschools.net. The Board/Committee will take time to read those comments during the meeting and announce the names of those who provided public comment via email.

3.02 Adjourn Meeting

NRS 203.090 Disturbing meeting. Every person who, without authority of law, shall willfully disturb any assembly or meeting not unlawful in its character, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

NRS 203.199 Commission of act in public building or area interfering with peaceful conduct of activities.

1. A person shall not commit any act in a public building or on the public grounds surrounding the building which interferes with the peaceful conduct of activities normally carried on in the building or on the grounds.

2. A person whose conduct is prohibited by subsection 1 who refuses to leave the building or grounds upon request by the proper official is guilty of a misdemeanor.

3. Any person who aids, counsels or abets another to commit an act prohibited by subsection 2 is guilty of a misdemeanor.

4. For the purpose of this section:

(a) "Proper official" means the person or persons designated by the administrative officer or board in charge of the building.

(b) "Public building" means any building owned by:

(1) Any component of the Nevada System of Higher Education and used for any purpose related to the System.

(2) The State of Nevada or any county, city, school district or other political subdivision of the State and used for any public purpose.

Members of the public wishing to request supporting materials for this meeting or who are disabled and require special accommodations at the meeting should contact Jennifer (JJ) Batchelder, Director of Board Services. Ms. Batchelder can be contacted in writing via email at jbatchelder@washoeschools.net.

This agenda and supporting materials, as indicated, have been posted at the following locations:

<https://washoeschools.diligent.community/Portal/>

<https://www.washoeschools.net/Page/1>

State of Nevada - www.notice.nv.gov



TITLE: REVIEW AND DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGARDING THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED TO FILL THE VACANCY ON THE BOARD IN DISTRICT C CREATED BY THE RESIGNATION OF TRUSTEE JOSEPH RODRIGUEZ WHO WAS ELECTED TO THE SPARKS CITY COUNCIL; AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SELECT UP TO FIVE CANDIDATES TO BE INTERVIEWED BY THE BOARD FROM AMONG THE FOLLOWING LEGALLY-QUALIFIED APPLICANTS: JASON BUSHEY, FELIPE ESCAMILLA, MARCUS HODGES, MONICA LEHMANN, TAMARA OSWALD, BRUCE PARKS, JAMES PHOENIX, TRACEY THOMAS, AND TIMOTHY ZYSK; THE CHARACTER, COMPETENCE, AND MISCONDUCT OF ANY APPLICANT MAY BE CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD PER NEVADA REVISED STATUTE (NRS) 241.033 AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST ANY APPLICANT PER NRS 241.034 (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

FROM: Board of Trustees

PRESENTER(S) & PRESENTATION TIME/CONSENT:

Beth Smith, President, Board of Trustees
Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel

DATE REPORT WRITTEN: December 17, 2024

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

Trustee Joseph Rodriguez was elected to the Sparks City Council on November 5, 2024 and tendered his resignation from the Board of Trustees effective December 15, 2024. Per Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 281.055, no person may hold more than one elective office at the same time.

The Washoe County School District notified the public of the application process using newspaper advertisements, media releases, and social media, including on the district's website, pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 386-270. Applications were accepted until close of business on December 20, 2024. Applications were received from the following individuals: Jason Bushey, Felipe Escamilla, Marcus Hodges, Monica Lehmann, Tamara Oswald, Bruce Parks, James Phoenix, Tracey Thomas, and Timothy Zysk.

The residency and electoral qualifications of each applicant were verified with the Washoe County Registrar of Voters.

The Board will review applications received from legally-qualified applicants using a paper screening process (see Attachment A) and will select up to five finalists to be interviewed at a special meeting scheduled for January 14, 2025.

During the paper screening, the Board will review the application packets submitted by the candidates. Those applications packets include a Resume or Curriculum Vitae and Letter of Intent, which include responses to the following questions:

1. Why are you interested in serving on the WCSD Board of Trustees?
2. What experience, interests, training or other skills do you feel you would bring to the WCSD Board of Trustees?
3. How will you engage with students, staff, families, and the community in this role?
4. What is the role of a WCSD Trustee?

Each applicant will be allowed 5 minutes to provide a statement to the Board and community on why they are interested in serving on the Board of Trustees until the next election cycle in 2026.

The Department of Board Services received an email from Ms. Tracey Thomas on January 1, 2025 stating she would be voluntarily withdrawing her application from consideration.

FINANCIAL: N/A

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Board has used the same process to fill prior vacancies on the Board of Trustees.

NRS 386.270 provides:

Any vacancy occurring in a board of trustees must be filled by appointment by the remaining members of the board at a public meeting held after notice of the meeting is published at least once each week for 2 weeks in a newspaper qualified pursuant to the provision of chapter 238 of NRS. The appointee shall serve until the next general election, at which time his or her successor must be elected for the balanced of the unexpired term.

The person appointed to fill the vacancy must have the qualifications provided in NRS 386.240: be a qualified elector (eligible to vote) and have the qualifications of residence within the county school district required for the office for which he or she seeks election (Washoe County, School Trustee District C).

District C represents Northern Washoe County, including Gerlach, the North Valleys, and Wingfield Springs. District C schools include: **Elementary Schools** – John C. Bohach, Desert Heights, Nancy Gomes, Jesse Hall, Michael Inskeep, Lemmon Valley, Natchez, Silver Lake, Alice Smith, Spanish Springs, Stead, Alyce Taylor, and Edward Van Gorder; **Middle Schools** – Cold Springs, William O’Brien; Sky Ranch; and Yvonne Shaw; **High Schools** – North Valleys and Spanish Springs; and **Specialty Schools** – Gerlach K-12.

PREVIOUS ACTION: N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – J. Bushey Application_Redacted

Attachment B – F. Escamilla Application_Redacted

Attachment C – M. Hodges Application_Redacted

Attachment D – M. Lehmann Application_Redacted

Attachment E – T. Oswald Application_Redacted

Attachment F – B. Parks Application_Redacted

Attachment G – J. Phoenix Application_Redacted

Attachment H – T. Thomas Application_Redacted (*removed since applicant withdrew from consideration*)

Attachment I – T. Zysk Application_Redacted

STRATEGIC PLAN: This agenda item supports the mission and vision of the Washoe County School District.

BOARD POLICY:

[Board Policy 9055 – Officers and Duties of the Board of Trustees](#)

LEGAL: NRS 386.270, NRS 386.240, and NRS Ch. 238 as mentioned above

RECOMMENDATION: The Board of Trustees reviews the applications submitted to fill the vacant position in District C on the Board, and selects up to five (5) candidates to be interviewed by the Board from among the following applicants: Jason Bushey, Felipe Escamilla, Marcus Hodges, Monica Lehmann, Tamara Oswald, Bruce Parks, James Phoenix, and Timothy Zysk.

Jason Bushey

[REDACTED]
Reno, NV, 89506
[REDACTED]

December 9, 2024

Washoe County School District Board of Trustees
425 East 9th Street
Reno, NV 89512

Subject: Letter of Intent for Appointment to WCSD Board of Trustees, District C Seat

Dear Members of the Washoe County School District Board of Trustees,

I am writing to express my sincere interest in serving on the Washoe County School District (WCSD) Board of Trustees for District C. As a dedicated community member with a profound commitment to the educational success and well-being of our students, I believe my experience, skills, and passion make me a strong candidate for this position.

Why I Am Interested in Serving on the WCSD Board of Trustees:

Education is the cornerstone of a thriving community, and I am deeply invested in the future of our children and the quality of education they receive. Having lived in Washoe County for my whole life (outside of my time in the military), I have witnessed both the challenges and achievements of our school district firsthand. As a product of the Washoe County School System and someone who has also experienced homeschooling, I have a unique perspective on the educational landscape in our community. Moreover, as a parent of three children who are or will be entering the public school system, I am personally committed to the excellence of our schools. I am eager to contribute my efforts toward fostering an environment where every student has access to excellent educational opportunities. Serving on the Board of Trustees would allow me to play a pivotal role in shaping policies that directly impact students, teachers, and families in District C and throughout the county.

Experience, Interests, and Skills I Bring to the Board:

I bring a diverse background that combines educational advocacy, community involvement, and professional expertise in security. As a combat-wounded and retired Army veteran, I have developed strong leadership, strategic planning, and problem-solving skills through my military service, where I gained extensive experience in physical security. Building on this foundation, I further honed my expertise in electronic security working for a local security integrator. These combined experiences equip me with the skills and understanding to enhance school security, allowing me to contribute effectively to creating a safe and secure environment for students.

Additionally, as the supportive husband of a dedicated schoolteacher and North Valleys High School cheer coach, I am closely connected to the educational community and understand some of the challenges and opportunities within our schools. These experiences have deepened my commitment to education and equipped me with valuable insights into fostering student success.

How I will engage with students, staff, families, and the community in this role:

I believe that open communication and collaboration are essential for the success of our schools. To engage effectively with all stakeholders, I plan to:

- Attend school events to listen to the concerns and ideas of students, teachers, and parents.
- Partner with local organizations and businesses to support educational programs and resources.
- Maintain an open-door policy, making myself available to discuss issues and provide updates on Board activities.

Role of a WCSD Trustee:

A WCSD Trustee holds a significant responsibility to the community and the district. The role involves:

- **Policy Development:** Collaborating with fellow Board members to establish policies that govern the district effectively and ethically.
- **Financial Oversight:** Ensuring responsible budgeting and allocation of resources to address the needs of all schools and students.
- **Superintendent Support and Evaluation:** Working closely with the Superintendent to achieve district goals and monitor progress.
- **Advocacy:** Representing the interests of the district at the local, state, and national levels to influence educational legislation and funding.

As a Trustee, I would be committed to upholding these responsibilities with integrity, dedication, and a focus on student achievement.

I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to serve on the WCSD Board of Trustees and contribute to the ongoing efforts to enhance educational outcomes in our community. I am confident that my experience and commitment align with the Board's mission and values.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the possibility of working with you to serve the students and families of Washoe County.

Sincerely,



Jason Bushey

Resume of Jason Bushey

Jason Bushey
[REDACTED]

Reno, NV 89506
[REDACTED]

Objective

To obtain a position on the Washoe County School Board where my leadership experience, dedication to community service, and commitment to educational excellence can contribute to the success and development of our schools and students.

Education

Architecture/General Studies (some college) TMCC, Reno, NV, 2010-2013

United States Army Infantry School, Ft. Benning, GA, 2006

General Education Development Diploma, Fallon, NV, 2006

Experience

- 2014 – Present RFI Communications and Security Systems
 - Position 2019 – Present Account Executive
Responsibilities:
 - As an Account Executive, I manage a portfolio of over 40 client accounts, consistently achieving quarterly sales targets and contributing to increasing annual revenue. I develop and maintain strong relationships with key clients, resulting in growth in repeat business and client retention rates. Collaborating with internal teams, I tailor product solutions to meet client needs, enhancing customer satisfaction and driving sales. I negotiate contracts and closed deals exceeding \$1,000,000, demonstrating strong sales and negotiation skills. Additionally, I prepare and deliver presentations and proposals to senior-level executives and decision-makers. I monitor industry trends and the competitive landscape to adjust sales strategies and stay ahead in the market.
 - Position 2016 – 2019 Senior Field Technician
Responsibilities:
 - Install software control panels, command consoles, and field devices for CCTV, access control, and alarm systems—including cameras, card readers, sensors, door hardware, and locking devices. I walk job sites to assist account managers with project scopes and work closely with site customers to ensure successful installations.

- Position 2014 – 2016 Installer
Responsibilities:
 - Install Field Devices for CCTV, Access Control, and Alarm Systems, to include Cameras, Card Readers, Sensors, Door Hardware and Locking Devices.
- 2006-2018 United States Army – Retired
 - Position 2010 – 2018 Army National Guard – Combat Engineer Staff Sergeant
Responsibilities:
 - Responsible for leading a squad in the field and providing technical expertise in the areas of construction, demolition, and survivability.
 - Ensure the proper functioning of combat engineering operations and equipment and oversaw the safe and effective deployment of combat engineering resources.
 - Coordinate and supervise the application of technical engineering principles and practices to support the mission of the unit.
 - Provide guidance and technical expertise to other personnel in the completion of engineering tasks.
 - Monitor the safety of personnel and equipment involved in engineering operations and provide guidance for the proper use and maintenance of such equipment.
 - Provide technical advice and guidance on engineering issues related to operations, planning, and training.
 - Position 2006 – 2009 U.S. Army Active Duty - Infantryman Sergeant
Responsibilities:
 - Lead, train, and motivate a team of infantry soldiers.
 - Ensure the team is prepared for all missions and operations.
 - Provide guidance and instruction to junior enlisted personnel.
 - Supervise the administration of daily operations.
 - Always maintain battle-readiness status.
 - Develop, coordinate, and execute tactical plans.
 - Monitor and enforce safety regulations.
 - Monitor and maintain weapons, equipment, and supplies.
 - Develop and implement training programs for personnel.
 - Prepare and submit reports on unit status and operations.

Skills

- Excellent communication and customer service skills
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite
- Knowledgeable in security and surveillance systems
- Strong problem-solving and organizational skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team

Felipe Escamilla

[REDACTED]

Sparks, NV 89436

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

December, 20, 2024

Washoe County School District Board of Trustees

Letter of Intent – Board of Trustees Position, District C

Dear Members of the Washoe County School District Board of Trustees,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic interest in serving as a Trustee for the Washoe County School District, representing District C. As a dedicated community leader, a passionate advocate for public education, and a parent deeply invested in the success of our public schools, I am confident that my experience, skills, and unwavering commitment to our students and teachers make me a strong candidate for this position.

My involvement in the community has always been driven by a desire to build a better future for all. I am particularly invested in our public school system, recognizing it as an incredible learning and community resource for every child, especially those who are underserved. My daughter, a first-grader in the district, has further solidified my resolve to contribute to a system that provides equitable opportunities for every child to thrive. I believe that a strong public school system, one that fosters collaboration between parents, grandparents, teachers, and administrators, can create transformative change in the lives of students.

For the past eight years, I have worked for Khan Academy, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing a free, world-class education to anyone, anywhere. As a video producer, I have been involved in creating a wide range of content, from promotional videos to educational resources for teachers and learning content for students. This experience has provided me with invaluable insights into the realities of the classroom and the challenges faced by students, including behavior, mental health issues, learning differences, and the dedication and struggles of teachers and administrators who work tirelessly, often with limited resources and pay. Prior to my work with Khan Academy, my experience as an investigative journalist in the San Francisco Bay Area honed my ability to give a voice to the voiceless, hold the powerful accountable, and advocate for the best interests of the community. I learned to approach complex issues from all sides with an objective lens, always mindful of the impact on the broader community and particularly on under-resourced populations.

If elected as a Trustee, I understand that listening and gathering as much information as

possible will be paramount. I am committed to engaging with students, staff, families, and the community to gain a comprehensive understanding of their needs, concerns, and goals. I believe that everyone, regardless of their viewpoint, deserves to feel seen, heard, and understood. I will make it a priority to visit schools, attend community events, and maintain an open-door policy to ensure that I am accessible and responsive to the community of learners and teachers I serve. My experience coaching my daughter's soccer teams has not only built patience for leading young children who learn, focus, and perform at different paces, but it further reinforced the importance of listening to diverse perspectives and finding common ground, even when faced with challenging opinions from parents.

I understand that the role of a WCSD Trustee extends beyond the publicly documented duties of governing, monitoring performance, reviewing policies, and supporting professional development. It is fundamentally about being a point of contact for the entire community and advocating for the best interests of all students, particularly those who are most in need of support. I am eager to work collaboratively with my fellow board members, recognizing that healthy debate and differences in opinion ultimately lead to stronger decisions. My goal is to foster a harmonious and productive environment where we work together as a team, always keeping the best interests of our students at the forefront of our efforts. Most importantly, working with the Superintendent in developing strategies, goals, and alignment will be one of the most important aspects of the role of trustee.

I am excited about the opportunity to contribute my leadership, my passion for the life-changing potential of education, and my commitment to our community to the Washoe County School District Board of Trustees. I am confident that, together, we can build a brighter future for all students in our district.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to an opportunity to speak before you on January 7, 2025

Sincerely,

Felipe Escamilla

Felipe Escamilla

Education Communications Specialist

[REDACTED]
Sparks, NV 89436
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

EXPERIENCE

Khan Academy, Remote — Producer/Video Manager

JANUARY 2017 - CURRENT

As part of the External Relations Team, I manage all video-related announcements across all channels and lead promotional video production for learning content.

Khan Academy is an online education platform providing a free, world-class education to anyone, anywhere. We serve over 190 million registered teachers and students.

NBC Bay Area Investigative Unit, San Francisco, CA — Producer/Videojournalist

OCTOBER 2011 - JANUARY 2017

Conducted research, analyzed data, and translated complex issues into clear, concise stories.

NBC Bay Area, San Jose, CA — On-Air Talent Producer/Videojournalist

SEPTEMBER 2007 - OCTOBER 2011

As the primary Videojournalist and occasional Reporter, I produced, recorded, and edited sports-related stories.

EDUCATION

San Diego State University, San Diego

September 1999 - May 2002

Incomplete pursuit of Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology

REFERENCES

References available upon request

SKILLS

Communication: Strong written and verbal communication skills.

Collaboration: Proven ability to work effectively with diverse stakeholders.

Leadership: Demonstrated leadership experience through community involvement.

Project Management: Adept at strategically managing projects, budgets, and deadlines.

Data Analysis: Skilled at researching and analyzing complex information.

GROUPS & AWARDS

Vice President, Parent & Family Organization, Bohach Elementary (2023 - Current)

WCSD Superintendent's Family Action Committee (2023-2024)

National Emmy, DuPont, and Edward R. Murrow award-winner for journalism excellence

LANGUAGES

English and conversational Spanish

Dear Members of the Washoe County School District Board of Trustees,

I am writing to express my interest in serving as a member of the WCSD Board of Trustees. As a resident of Washoe County for over 35 years, and with two children who have successfully navigated the WCSD system—one now attending the University of Nevada, Reno and the other a senior at Spanish Springs High School—I have a deep personal and professional commitment to the district and District C in particular, where I have lived for the last eight years. My experience has fostered my belief in the importance of providing an equitable education for all students, regardless of their backgrounds or needs, and I am passionate about supporting the classified, certified, and administrative staff who contribute so much to the success of our students. I am particularly focused on ensuring that facility improvements are prioritized, with an emphasis on safety and campus security.

With 28 years of experience in the public sector, I bring a wealth of knowledge in labor-management relations, fiscal management, and organizational development. I also hold an MBA, which provides me with a strong understanding of the financial aspects critical to the success of any organization, including our school district. As a foster parent with training in Trauma-Informed Parenting, I have developed an understanding of the unique challenges faced by children in transition, and I am committed to advocating for those students. I am also the parent of a student who is twice exceptional, and therefore, I am familiar with individualized education plans (IEPs) and 504s, as well as the support systems in place for students in advanced and specialized programs within WCSD, such as those taking Advanced Placement classes or enrolled in the GATE magnet programs. Additionally, I am passionate about expanding opportunities in Career and Technical Education (CTE) to provide all students with pathways to career success.

In this role, I would prioritize meaningful engagement with students, staff, families, and the broader community. I believe in regularly visiting schools within District C to stay connected with the needs and concerns of students and educators, attending both school and after-school events. I am committed to active listening during school board meetings, ensuring that all voices are heard. By responding promptly to inquiries and concerns from constituents, I aim to make sure that everyone feels represented and valued. I believe in maintaining open lines of communication and will follow up with individuals to ensure that issues are addressed in a timely and efficient manner.

As a trustee, my role would be to represent the voices of District C, to comply with state laws and WCSD guidelines, and to work collaboratively with the Board to guide policy decisions. I understand the importance of fiscal oversight and will be dedicated to reviewing budgetary matters and advocating for necessary resources. Furthermore, I am committed to promoting transparency in decision-making processes, supporting our district's staff, and ensuring that the district's long-term goals align with the needs of our community. I would be honored to serve as a trusted voice for our students, staff, and families, and I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the continued success of Washoe County School District.

Sincerely,
Marcus Hodges

CURRICULUM VITAE

MARCUS HODGES | SPARKS, NV | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

WORK EXPERIENCE

University Police Department – Northern Command

Reserve Police Officer / Rangemaster

2024-Present

- Proactively interact with community members to provide a safe and trusted environment on the Northern Nevada campuses under the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE).
- Enforce the laws of the State of Nevada and school policies set by NSHE.
- Develop and provide instruction on firearms to all levels of sworn staff in Northern Nevada.
- Coordinate with other instructors to ensure proper training is provided to all personnel which complies with local, state, and federal laws and standards.
- Responsible for inventory management for firearms instruction needs.

Reno Guns and Range

Assistant General Manager / Sales Manager

2020-Present

- Management of store personnel, including hiring, termination, and performance evaluations.
- Responsible for bi-monthly payroll processing.
- Responsible for inventory management – purchasing, liquidation options, operational needs, turn efficiency, and loss tracking.
- Use data-driven analysis for decision making.
- Provide training for civilian and law enforcement personnel.

Washoe County District Attorney's Office

Criminal Investigator

2003-2020

- Conduct follow-up investigation necessary for prosecution of criminal cases, including collecting and reviewing of evidence, conducting witness interviews, conducting surveillance, analyzing police reports and business records associated with prosecutions.
- Execute search warrants and arrest warrants contemporaneously with investigations.
- Investigative specializations in fraud/embezzlement, elder abuse, and computer/cell phone investigations.
- Conduct internal investigations involving harassment and hostile work environment.
- Budgeting and purchasing for range and Investigator training.
- Provide training to LE personnel and qualified civilians in firearms, Taser ECD, Force-on-Force, and CCW.
- Assisted with job-task analyses, employment interviews, new employee orientation and onboarding.
- Provide training on civilian response to active assailants.

Washoe County District Attorney Investigator's Association

President/Vice President

2003-2020

- Voting member on the Insurance Committee, responsible for assessing the effectiveness of the plan, usage reviews, plan changes, and hearing denial appeals.
- Voting member on the Deferred Compensation Committee, responsible for conducting quarterly reviews of the plan enrollment, returns, and employee engagement efforts.
- Represented employees in potential disciplinary actions.
- Contract negotiation committee member for fifteen years. Chief negotiator during last contract cycle.
 - As the chief negotiator, demonstrated familiarity with employee contracts, labor relations, changes to employer requirements under NRS and federal statute, conducted salary and benefit surveys with comparable agencies.
 - Participated in regular meetings with the HR manager for the county to discuss potential changes in contract language, financial crises, and emergency management.
 - Met with the CFO for Washoe County to discuss alternate strategies for cost savings during financial crises.

Nevada Office of the Attorney General

Investigator

1999-2003

- Conduct investigations into insurance fraud.
- Interview victims, witnesses, and suspects in cases. Write detailed reports of any interviews.
- Analyze business policy and procedures for exploited weaknesses.
- Write and execute search warrants and arrest warrants as needed for cases.
- Provide training to insurance company fraud investigators.
- Conducted numerous health care fraud investigations.

Nevada Attorney General Investigator’s Association

President

2000-2003

- Created the 503(c) non-profit organization for the betterment of AG Investigators.
- Responsible for dues collection, bill payment, financial reporting, and compliance with state requirements.
- Provided representation to Investigators during disciplinary actions.

Washoe County Sheriff's Office

Deputy Sheriff

1996-1999

- Responsible for care and control of Detention Facility population.
- Field Training Officer.

Home Care Plus

Network Administrator

1992-1996

- Development, installation, and maintenance of a LAN for a health care business.
- Implementation and support of software supporting medical documentation and billing.
- Provided business support in AR, AP, and payroll.

University & Community College System of Nevada

Programmer

1989-1992

- Development and coding of business and student applications for two Universities and six Community Colleges in Nevada.
- Work with multi-disciplinary teams in multiple locations to ensure the alignment of needs across all the schools in the system.

FORMAL EDUCATION

MBA - Western Governors University-Nevada

2017-2018

MBA Information Technology Management

Graduate Work – Fort Hays State University

2016

Studies in computer networking and cybersecurity.

Bachelor’s Degree – DeVry Institute of Technology

1987-1989

Major in Computer Information Systems, Minor in Business

RELATED INVESTIGATION TRAINING & EDUCATION

Legal Implications of Force by LE Personnel – Reno, NV	August 2018
Advanced Elder Abuse Investigation – Carson City, NV	September 2018
Elder Abuse Investigation – Reno, NV	July 2018
Mobile Device Examiner – NCFI USSS – Hoover, AL	August 2017
National Domestic Communications Assistance Center (NDCAC) – Nevada HIDTA – Reno, NV	November 2016
Elderly Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault - National Institute of Crime Prevention – Reno, NV	October 2016
Basic Mac Investigation Training – NCFI USSS – Hoover, AL	December 2014
Force Science Institute Certification Course – Las Vegas, NV	December 2013
Online Social Networking – NCFI USSS – Hoover, AL	September 2013
Financial Investigation Techniques – Carson City, NV	August 2012
Investigating Sex Crimes – Las Vegas Metro Police Department - Las Vegas, NV	March 2011
Forensic Interviewing of Children – Prosecuting Attorney’s Association of Michigan – Reno, NV	November 2010
First Line Supervision Seminar – Nevada POST – Carson City, NV	December 2007

MARCUS HODGES

Basic Homicide Investigation – Utah POST – West Wendover, NV
Financial Investigations – Rocky Mountain Information Network – Carson City, NV
Financial Investigative Procedures – Carson City, NV
Insurance Fraud Investigations – National Insurance Crime Bureau – Phoenix, AZ

PAGE 3
September 2003
April 2003
August 2002
March 2000

SECURITY CLEARANCE

Successfully adjudicated SSBI (US Marshal's Service Task Force) – May 2019

MONICA LEHMANN

██████████ Reno NV 89508 | ██████████ | ██████████

20 December 2024

Washoe County School District
425 East 9th Street,
Reno, NV 89512

Dear Members of the WCSD Board of Trustees Selection Committee,

I am excited to express my interest in serving as a member of the WCSD Board of Trustees. My passion for education, commitment to the community, and dedication to fostering an inclusive and equitable learning environment have inspired me to pursue this meaningful opportunity.

Education has played a transformative role in my life and in the life of my family. One deeply personal experience that shaped my educational philosophy involved my son's journey through the Public-School Charter program. During his elementary years, he began to feel disengaged from traditional schooling, expressing that he was no longer learning. Recognizing his potential and the need for a more personalized approach, we decided to enroll him in an online Public-School Charter program. This decision was life-changing for him. It provided the freedom to explore learning on his own terms, sparking a renewed passion for education.

With this new approach, my son's growth was remarkable. He excelled academically, mastering each subject and taking on a leadership role by assisting his teachers and peers during the program's four in-person hours each week. By the time he reached his junior year, he was supporting college students in their studies while simultaneously taking advanced-level math courses. His dedication and leadership earned him recognition as one of the best "students helping students" at the college level. Ultimately, he graduated as Valedictorian of his Public School Charter and, three years later, completed a bachelor's and master's degree in mechanical engineering. Throughout his educational journey, I proudly played the role of "taxi driver," ensuring he had access to every learning opportunity available to him.

Another pivotal experience came when my other son, then a second grader, faced significant challenges due to dyslexia. When the public school system informed me that they had no accommodation for children with dyslexia, I refused to accept this as an answer. I researched alternative solutions and learned about a specialized computer-based reading program that could support children with dyslexia. I spent two years advocating, negotiating, and persistently requesting this program be implemented. When it finally arrived, I volunteered as the only adult supervisor for an after-school reading program that quickly attracted many students. With this support, my son's progress was extraordinary—he achieved one of the highest listening comprehension scores in middle and high school. Today, he is pursuing a B.S. degree in Industrial Design at San Jose State University, California.

My experiences with my daughter's education also highlight my commitment to inclusive learning. When we moved from Germany to the U.S., my daughter—then in second grade—spoke only German. She understood Spanish but did not speak it, and she had no English proficiency. The public school system could not offer a German-speaking teacher, but I advocated for a creative solution. I requested that she be placed in a fourth-grade classroom for half a year with a German speaking teacher, allowing her to learn English through natural interaction with older students. The results were remarkable—in just three months of play and social engagement, she learned enough English to be placed in her regular grade. This experience reinforced my belief in the power of immersive learning environments and the need to support students in nontraditional ways.

These personal experiences have deeply informed me of my approach to education and fueled my passion to serve as a trustee. I believe that every child deserves access to an education that meets their unique needs and empowers them to thrive. I have seen firsthand how creative problem-solving, persistence, and advocacy can drive student success.

Serving as a trustee offers the opportunity to contribute to decision-making that directly affects students, staff, and families in the district. I'm driven by a desire to ensure that every student has access to a high-quality education that honors their unique potential. My professional experiences as a business owner, financial analyst, internal auditor, and office assistant have equipped me with a diverse set of skills in leadership, problem-solving, and financial oversight. I've learned to approach challenges with analytical rigor, clear communication, and empathy—skills I believe are essential for a trustee's role.

Beyond policy and procedure, I'm committed to fostering an inclusive environment where all voices are heard. I recognize that every family's story is unique, just as every child's path to success is different. My goal as a trustee would be to ensure that district decisions reflect this diversity of experiences and perspectives. **I am eager to collaborate with students, parents, educators, and the broader community to create policies that support the holistic development of all students.** I would pursue this through scheduling regular, in-person meetings, using multiple communication channels, being transparent and accountable, listening actively and with empathy, being culturally responsive and sensitive, and involving students and families in decision-making.

Lastly, I view this role as an opportunity for personal growth. Serving on the board would allow me to further develop my leadership skills, engage in meaningful dialogue with diverse stakeholders, and be part of a dynamic, fast-paced environment where the work we do has a direct and lasting impact on students' lives.

I believe that the role of a trustee includes:

- Making informed decisions: On policies, budgets, and other matters affecting the district and its students.
- Providing oversight: Ensuring that the district is operating effectively, efficiently, and in the best interests of students.
- Representing the community: Advocating for the district and its students, engaging with stakeholders and representing their interests.
- Setting district goals and priorities: Developing and implementing strategic plans to achieve the district's mission and vision.
- Hiring and evaluating the superintendent: Appointing and evaluating the superintendent, who serves as the chief executive officer of the district.
- Approving budgets and financial plans: Reviewing and approving the district's budget and financial plans, ensuring that resources are allocated effectively.
- Monitoring student achievement: Tracking student performance and progress, using data to inform decision-making and drive improvement.
- Engaging with the community: Fostering partnerships and collaborations with local organizations, businesses, and community groups to support student success.

Thank you for your consideration. I'm excited about the possibility of serving on the WCSD Board of Trustees and contributing to a brighter future for all students in our community. I welcome the opportunity to discuss my candidacy further.

Sincerely,

Monica Lehmann

MONICA LEHMANN

[REDACTED], Reno NV 89508
[REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

To serve as a dedicated and effective advocate for the students, families, and educators of School District C, working collaboratively to ensure that every student receives a high-quality education that prepares them for success in college, career, and life.

EXPERIENCE

SMALL BUSINESS OWNER

Freedom Home Health Care | Contra Cost County in Bay Area, CA
2014 – 2017

Operated a self-owned non-medical home care business, providing compassionate caregiving services and training families in holistic care principles to promote well-being and self-sufficiency.

MEDICAL OFFICE ASSISTANT

John Muir Medical Center | Brentwood, CA
2006 – 2008

Served as a Medical Office Assistant, supporting daily operations in medical practices, coordinating special events, managing medical suites, and providing front-desk reception with a focus on patient experience and administrative efficiency.

FINANCIAL ANALYST

Contra Costa Newspapers | Walnut Creek, CA
2005

Worked as a Financial Analyst for the Contra Costa Newspaper, overseeing capital asset inventory, developing comprehensive physical inventory policies and procedures, and facilitating training programs for Circulation District Managers to enhance operational efficiency and accountability.

OFFICE ASSISTANT II

Contra Costa County | Brentwood, CA
2004

Served as an Office Assistant for Contra Costa County, facilitating coordination and streamlining internal communications between departments to ensure efficient information flow and operational support.

INTERNAL AUDITOR

Telefónica, S.A. | Santiago, Chile
1990-1991

Supported financial oversight for a multinational telecommunications company by auditing financial statements, managing stock and debenture accounts, and ensuring accuracy within the Cost Department's financial reporting.

EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF ARTS | BUSINESS AUDITING

Metropolitan Technology University (Santiago, Chile)

DECEMBER 1990

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT | SMALL BUSINESS OPERATIONS

Los Médanos College (Pittsburg, CA)

MAY 2013

SKILLS

- **Leadership & Governance:** Business ownership, policy development, and stakeholder collaboration.
 - **Administrative Support:** Front-desk reception, office management, and scheduling.
 - **Operational Efficiency:** Process improvement, inventory control, and procedure development.
 - **Communication & Coordination:** Internal communications, family training, and cross-departmental collaboration.
 - **Financial Oversight:** Auditing, budget management, and capital asset tracking.
 - **Analytical & Problem-Solving:** Financial analysis, auditing, and data-driven decision-making.
 - Microsoft Office Suite
 - Fluent in Spanish, English, and elementary German
 - Cross-culturally aware
 - Mother of children who went through private, public, and charter schools
-

Tamara A. Oswald, MS

[REDACTED]
Reno, NV 89506

[REDACTED] 8 Email: [REDACTED]

December 1st, 2024

Washoe County School District Board of Trustees

425 East Ninth Street

Reno, NV 89512

Dear Members of the Selection Committee,

I am writing to express my intent to serve as a member of the Washoe County School District (WCSD) Board of Trustees. As an experienced educator, small business owner, and lifelong advocate for children and families, I am passionate about fostering inclusive, innovative, and equitable education for all students in our community.

Why I Am Interested in Serving on the WCSD Board of Trustees

My interest in joining the WCSD Board stems from my deep commitment to education and my belief in the transformative power of schools to shape future generations. For over a decade, I have dedicated myself to creating environments where children can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Serving as a Trustee would allow me to contribute my knowledge and experience to policy-making and oversight that directly impact the success of WCSD's students and educators.

As the owner of Tiny Turtles Early Learning Center, I have seen firsthand how critical early childhood education is to build a strong foundation for lifelong learning. My background in special education has also given me valuable insights into addressing diverse student needs and ensuring every child has access to quality instruction and resources. I am eager to advocate for policies that promote equity, academic excellence, and family engagement throughout the district.

My Experience, Skills, and Interests

My professional journey has equipped me with a range of skills and experiences that align with the responsibilities of a WCSD Trustee:

- **Educational Leadership:** I have led programs for children ranging from infancy to elementary school, developed curricula, and collaborated with families to support student success.
- **Special Education Expertise:** My work as a special education teacher included managing Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), fostering inclusion, and implementing differentiated instruction to meet diverse learner needs.
- **Community Engagement:** Through my work as a foster parent, Sunday school teacher, and leadership coach, I have built strong relationships with parents, students, and community stakeholders.
- **Operational Oversight:** As a business owner, I manage budgets, regulatory compliance, and staff training, skills that translate directly to the governance and strategic planning responsibilities of a Trustee.

These experiences, combined with my academic credentials in education and ongoing studies in business leadership, position me to effectively contribute to the WCSD Board’s goals.

Engagement with Students, Staff, Families, and the Community

If selected as a Trustee, I will prioritize open communication and active listening to ensure all voices are heard. I will:

- Regularly visit schools to connect with students, teachers, and staff to understand their challenges and celebrate their successes.
- Host forums and attend community events to engage with parents and residents, fostering transparency and collaboration.
- Advocate for family-centered policies and programs that empower parents as partners in their children’s education.

I believe building trust and strengthening relationships within the community is key to fostering a thriving school district.

The Role of a WCSD Trustee

The role of a Trustee is multifaceted: setting the vision and direction for the district, ensuring fiscal responsibility, and holding the district accountable for student outcomes. Trustees are stewards of public trust and advocates for the educational well-being of all students. They must balance competing interests and make decisions that reflect the values and priorities of the community.

I am committed to upholding these responsibilities with integrity, diligence, and a focus on equity. My goal as a Trustee would be to ensure every student in Washoe County has access to the resources, opportunities, and support they need to succeed.

Thank you for considering my application. I am excited about the opportunity to bring my experience, passion, and dedication to the WCSD Board of Trustees. I look forward to the possibility of serving our students, families, and community in this capacity.

Sincerely,

Tamara A. Oswald, MS

TAMARA A. OSWALD, MS

██████████ • Reno, NV 89506
██████████ • ██████████

CANDIDATE PROFILE

Passionate educator and community leader with over a decade of experience in early childhood and special education. Dedicated to fostering inclusive learning environments, empowering families, and advocating for quality education. Demonstrated expertise in curriculum development, program leadership, and fostering parent-teacher collaboration. Committed to enhancing educational policies that prioritize student growth, family support, and community involvement.

EDUCATION

- **Master of Science in Special Education** – Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, AZ (2016)
- **Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education** – University of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ (2013)
- **Associate of Science, General Education** – Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno, NV (2008)
- Nevada Registry Certified Early Childhood Education
- Wonderschool Graduate Online (June 2023)
- **Leadership Coach** – International School of Ministry
- Currently Pursuing: Bachelor’s in Business Leadership

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Owner & Operator, Tiny Turtles Early Learning Center – Reno, NV

October 2016 – October 2023

- Established and operate a licensed early learning center serving children ages 6 weeks to 6 years.

- Build strong relationships with parents and the community to create a collaborative and nurturing learning environment.
- Develop and implement customized curricula, fostering growth in academic, social-emotional, and physical development.
- Guide parents in educational best practices and provide resources for home learning support.
- Maintain compliance with state regulations, manage enrollment processes, and oversee financial operations.

Special Education Resource Teacher (Grades 2-6), Washoe County School District – Reno, NV

September 2013 – October 2016

- Designed and implemented differentiated lessons aligned with Common Core Standards to meet diverse student needs.
- Created and monitored Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) in collaboration with parents and multidisciplinary teams.
- Facilitated parent-teacher conferences and professional learning communities to support student achievement.
- Cultivated a safe, respectful, and motivating classroom environment through positive reinforcement strategies.

Substitute Teacher, Washoe County School District – Reno, NV

September 2008 – October 2013

- Delivered instruction across grade levels, adhering to district curricula and adapting to varied learning needs.
- Engaged students with interactive lessons that included manipulatives and movement to enhance learning outcomes.
- Built relationships with staff, students, and families to foster a cohesive school community.

Foster Parent, Washoe County Social Services – Reno, NV

February 2009 – 2014

- Provided a nurturing and structured home environment for foster children, prioritizing academic and emotional growth.
- Managed diverse schedules and supported children with behavioral challenges to achieve their potential.
- Actively partnered with parents and social workers to ensure successful reunifications or permanency outcomes.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- **Sunday School Teacher** – Developed and taught faith-based lessons for elementary-aged children.
- **Leadership Coach** – Mentored individuals to build leadership skills and pursue personal and professional growth.

CORE SKILLS

- Educational Leadership & Policy Advocacy
- Curriculum Design & Differentiated Instruction
- Parent & Community Engagement
- Special Education
- Program Development & Operational Oversight
- Effective Communication & Collaborative Problem Solving

Bruce W. Parks

[REDACTED]
Sparks, NV 89436

20 November 2024

Jennifer Batchelder

WCSD Board Services Coordinator

425 E. 9th St.

Reno, NV 89512

To Whom It May Concern:

This is my Letter of Intent for consideration as an appointment to the WCSD Board of Trustees Seat for District C. I am interested in serving because it is my belief that our children should be our first priority especially when it pertains to education. They deserve to have representation that considers their needs before all others. I am a person that will do exactly that. It is my opinion that we must improve the academic standings of our school and do everything in our power to keep our schools from being rated in the lower half compared to the rest of the country. I would like to see WCSD become the model for other school districts to emulate. I also believe we have a responsibility to the taxpayers of our community and would like to ensure that WCSD becomes more fiscally responsible.

I bring considerable leadership and managerial skills to bear that I have acquired and utilized over many years. My experience includes:

- Security Account Manager with U.S. Security Associates Jul 2013-Feb 2018
- Independent Contractor/Ceiling Mechanic Sep 2005-Jul 2013
- East Carolina University Business Education Major Sep 2002-Sep 2005
- Plant Manager Urethane Innovators Oct 1999-Sep 2002
- Line supervisor/Operator Bosch Power Tools Jan 1998-Oct 1999
- Salesman Jenkins & Wynne Ford Feb 1996-Dec 1997
- U.S. Army Dec 1975-March 1996

During my military career I was assigned various leadership roles from Junior to senior levels and worked in Plans and Operations at various command levels for over 14 years. I completed my career as a Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Operations Specialist Senior Non-Commissioned Officer.

The role of a WCSD Trustee is:

- Set the vision and goals for WCSD with an emphasis on academic achievement.
- Adopt and oversee an annual fiscally responsible budget.
- Adopt and update policies that give the WCSD direction to set priorities and achieve goals.
- Be responsive to the students, staff and public the Trustee serves.
- Hire and evaluate the Superintendent.

Engagement with the students, staff, parents and community is the only effective way to understand their needs. Without knowing what is important to the people a Trustee is essentially flying blind. I believe that a Trustee should not only be aware of the needs of their district, but the community as a whole. It is difficult to work with the other Trustees if your focus is only on your district. Cooperation and teamwork can only improve the outcome for our students.

Bruce Wane Parks

Sparks, Nevada

Objective: WCSD Trustee

Equipped with the innate ability to influence a group of individuals in order to accomplish a mission, I am an enthusiastic and results-driven individual with high level of ethics.

Employment

U.S. Security Associates Sparks, Nevada

7/2013 – 2/2018

- Account Manager RNO3 Amazon Distribution Center
Supervise, direct, train and develop a security team to fulfill client requirements IAW SLA standards and U.S. Security policy

Urethane Innovators New Bern, NC

10/1999 - 11/2002

- Plant Manager
Production planning and logistics, production quotas, quality control, inventory control, supervision. Sales increased from \$3 ½ million to \$8 million in three years.

S & B Power Tools New Bern, NC

1/1998 - 10/1999

- Assembly Line Supervisor
Directed daily activities of power tool assembly line.

United States Army

12/1975 – 3/1996

- Brigade Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO)/Staff Officer, Air Assault Infantry Task Force
Responsible for 3 Battalions and 18 NBC NCO's in a Brigade of 3800 soldiers.
- Battalion Nuclear, Biological, Chemical (NBC)/Staff NCO, Air Assault Forward Support
Managed operations and planning, coordinated training areas. Lead 38 troops.
- Battalion Operation NCO
Managed 3 detachments of 42 troops deployed to the Republic of Korea in a Battalion of 200.
- Platoon Sergeant, Air Assault Division
Responsible for and deployed to combat 42 troops
- Nuclear, Biological, Chemical (NBC) and Staff NCO
NBC for a nuclear capable howitzer Battalion (1500 personnel) deployed to Europe; managed operations and training

Recognition

Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal (5), Army Achievement Medal (5), Humanitarian Service Award

Education

- East Carolina University, Greenville, NC, Business Education Major – 2005 to 2006
- Craven Community College – 2003 to 2005
- Advanced Non-Commissioned Officer Course
- Basic Non-Commissioned Officer Course
- Primary Leadership Course

JAMES J. PHOENIX

██████████ Reno, NV 89510
WCSO District C.

LETTER OF INTENT

Greetings Washoe County Board of Trustees & Staff,

My name is James Phoenix, I go by JJ. I grew up and reside in the Reno Sparks Washoe County area. I reside upon the Pyramid Lake Paiute Indian reservation which is within WCSO District C. All of my children, family and friends graduated from Washoe County Schools. Washoe County is my home and I want to contribute the best way that I can serving as a Trustee.

I will answer the following questions to the best of my ability:

Why are you interested in serving on the WCSO Board of Trustees?

I, James J. Phoenix, am interested in serving on the Washoe County School Board of Trustees.

Why? To represent the WCSO and serve the students, families, staff, and our community within the district that I reside in; be a Trustee that is transparent and real in order to connect with our WCSO community to better their education needs; be a voice to and for the WCSO Board of Trustees to better serve and engage with our constituents; serve as a major contributor towards policy making, oversight of operations that ensures equality for all students and families educational needs.

What experience, interests, training or other skills do you feel you would bring to the WCSO Board of Trustees?

I have experience whereas I served as Chairman of the Board of Education for the Pyramid Lake Jr/Sr High School. I also served on the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council and as the Chairman. I am a co-chair of the Veterans Committee for the National Congress of American Indians; I also serve as a member of the Nevada Local Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council for Washoe County; I am a veteran and I volunteer for the Nevada Department of Veteran Services as an Advocate; moreover, a substitute teacher for the Washoe County School District.



My interests are to ensure equality for all students and families within the WCSO where their children can receive the best education our district can offer. Be a role model in the community that demonstrates a “Can Do” attitude as a product of our WCSO system. Moreover, engage with the community to better understand their concerns and guide them towards feasible solutions as a part of our WCSO family.

My specific interest is to ensure native and rural WCSO students have the opportunity to receive the best education, resources, and representation our district can offer.

Other skills I bring are my military officer education and experience; my Tribal Council and Chairman learned skills and state-national level network; my extensive law enforcement background; and my WCSO substitute teaching grassroots experience. These skills should enhance the current Washoe County School Board of Trustees, our staff, and our community. In my experience, it is identifying that role in which one’s skills will benefit the team.

How will you engage with students, staff, families, and the community in this role?

With every opportunity I will engage with students and staff at district events, meetings, trainings, that demonstrates WCSO Trustee leadership; I will be present and actively engaged at planned community events as a community leader for the WCSO; moreover, be transparent and real with students, families, staff, and the community that builds a level of trust and maintain said trust being consistent with my words and actions; I will work diligently with WCSO Staff and be an asset to the team; more importantly engage with face to face in-person communications. In my opinion, being connected, present, real, and maintaining trust is key.

What is the role of a WCSO Trustee?

In my opinion, the role of the WCSO Trustee is to follow the duties and responsibilities of the WCSO Board of Trustees in accordance with Board Policies and state laws. In addition, serve as stewards of the WCSO family to create an educational system where all students achieve academic success, develop civic responsibility, and achieve career and college readiness for themselves, their families, and become a productive member of our community.

JAMES J. PHOENIX

██████████ Reno, NV 89510
WCS D District C.

Moreover, a Trustee oversees the organization's finances, assets, ensures it's managed effectively in accordance with the mission; by making informed decisions and upholding ethical standards; also, takes part in the evaluation of the WCS D Superintendent to ensure overall success and readiness; and must be responsible for governance through state and federal regulations, monitor educational operational performance, and respond to constituents' concerns as well as being engaged with the community, staff, students and families.

Therefore, a Trustee must be a member of the team, contribute by being available and transparent, effectively communicate and express their points of view in a candid discussion; and have the ability to maintain team integrity with the best interest of the WCS D family.

In closing,

Thank you for taking the time in reading my letter of intent. If selected, I look forward to meeting and working with the WCS D Board of Trustees the best way I know how. I am committed to the mission and its significance for our community.

Sincerely,



James J. Phoenix

*"Candid Discussion
is Always Needed"*

James J. Phoenix

[REDACTED]
Reno NV 89510

WCSD District C
[REDACTED]

Date: December 16, 2024

**RESUME FOR
JAMES J. PHOENIX**

POSITION: WCSD BOARD OF TRUSTEE DISTRICT C.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Reno Police Officer Retired 25 years

Nevada Army National Guard Lieutenant Colonel Retired 28 years

Pyramid Lake Tribal Council & Chairman 2020-2023

EDUCATION:

Edward C. Reed & Pyramid Lake High School 1982

Truckee Meadows Community College Associate Applied Science Law Enforcement 1999

University of Phoenix Reno Campus Bachelors Criminal Justice Administration 2006

University of Nevada Reno Masters Justice Management 2012

MILITARY EDUCATION:

Non-Commissioned Officer Leadership Courses SGT/SSG 2000-2002

Officer Candidate School 2003 & Branch Specific Armor 2004, Military Police 2008

Command Staff General College ILE 2011-2013

CERTIFICATIONS:

Nevada Law Enforcement POST Category 1 Basic, Intermediate, Advanced 1990-2000

Crime Free Housing Hotel & Motel 2015, DARE Officer 1995

Washoe County Substitute Teacher 2024 present

Nevada Department of Veteran Services Veteran Advocate 2024 present

BOARD EXPERIENCE:

Pyramid Lake Jr/Sr High School Board of Education Chairman 2020-2022

Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council & Chairman 2020-2023

Pyramid Lake Paiute Board of Fisheries 2020-2022

National Congress of American Indians Veteran Committee Co-Chair 2023 present

Nevada Local Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council for Washoe County 2023 present

REFERENCES:

Ondra Berry, The Former Adjutant General State of Nevada National Guard [REDACTED]

Arlan Melendez, The Former Reno Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Chairman [REDACTED]

Rick Harris, Executive Director, Nevada Association of School Boards, [REDACTED]

Timothy James Zysk

[REDACTED]
Reno, NV 89508 US

Cell Phone: [REDACTED]

Home Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Letter of Intent:

- **Why are you interested in serving on the WCSD Board of Trustees?** Since retirement in 2018, I have dedicated myself to be very involved in the community in several ways with the WCSD as a Guest Teacher and Bus Driver, with the VA as a Veteran Advocate, and with the Board of Elections as a Pole Worker. I have strong interests in being involved in helping the WCSD School Board make the best thought-through decision for the students and teachers.
- **What experience, interests, training or other skills do you feel you would bring to the WCSD Board of Trustees?** I am a calm, deliberate, and thoughtful decisions maker. I have experience with the school system as noted above. I have life skills with research, construction, computers, and life in the US and across the world. I am not politically active, so therefore I do not have a network of people or party behind me but am extremely interested in doing what is best for the WCSD students and community.
- **How will you engage with students, staff, families, and the community in this role?** I will reach out to each school community of students, teachers, and families in person and by phone. I feel strongly that families are the most important people in the student's education, so they must be involved.
- **What is the role of a WCSD Trustee?** The primary role is to reach out and listen to the families of current or future students of the District C schools. Then, to be involved with the board, leadership, and admin team to make the best recommendations regarding budget, policy, construction, physical improvements, and other pertinent issues.
- My wife teaches in District B, so I may need to recuse in some decisions.

Timothy James Zysk

[REDACTED]
Reno, NV 89508 US

Cell Phone: [REDACTED]

Home Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Quick Summary:

- Applying for WCSD School Board Seat C, due to resignation of current seat holder. Skills I bring are non-partisan thinking, strong desire to do what is best for children and teachers, knowledge of Washoe County school system and strong interest in community involvement. Known as calm decision maker after research and discussion with peers and contributors. I am a Resident of Washoe County since 2011 and have 2 grandchildren that have been in the school system (currently home schooled).
- I have been a substitute teacher since my 2018 retirement, recently resigned on 12-13-24 so that I could apply for school board seat. My guest teaching focused most on ROTC substitutions, but also did some middle and grade schools.
- I also signed up due to the dire need for BUS drivers for WCSD in 2023 and drove for about a year until health reasons forced me into surgery. I am well now and ready to serve WCSD.
- I am healthy, fit, and good natured. No drinking or drugs. I have had many background checks and security checks and have NO undesirable history. I do not need or want health or retirement pension benefits.
- Long civilian career as Manager, Supervisor, Project Manager, Technical Writer, and Engineer (1981 to 2018). Retired civilian in March 2018.
- Retired Navy Reserve in July 2015 from over 30-year Navy Reserve Career as a Navy Engineering Officer. Experience in war zones as military (Afghan 2014 and 2007, and Iraq 2005).

Education:

Youngstown State, Youngstown, OH, bachelor's degree: Electrical Engineering, 01/1981.

Military Experience:

Retired July 7th 2015. Navy reservist, Commander 05 in Civil Engineering Corp. (construction forces) with three war-zone deployments; Afghanistan in 2014, Afghanistan in 2007-8, and Iraq in 2005. Awarded the Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service, and the Joint Service Commendation Medals.

Civilian Experience:

US ARMY Sierra Army Depot, 74C Street, Herlong, CA, 96113
01/2011 - 03/2018 (Retired). Production Control Supervisor -
Managed Demand Division of 12 to 16 civilian personnel.

General Electric, 12680 SR 93 N, Logan, OH, 43138 04/2001 -
01/2010. Materials Manager - Commercial manager for a large
continuous manufacturing plant.

ABB Corporation, 650 Ackerman Road, Columbus, OH, 43202 04/2000 -
04/2001. Project Engineer - Project Order Engineer for a Make-
To-Order machine manufacturer.

Metal Powder Specialties, 2251 E. Front Street, Logan, OH,
43138, 08/1998 - 01/2000. Materials Manager - Production
Controller for an Automotive Parts manufacturing facility.

Telesis Technologies, 28181 River Drive, Circleville, OH 43113,
10/1988 - 08/1998
Materials Manager - Materials Manager in auto machinery
manufacturing company.

PRIOR WORK

Wang Laboratories, 900 Chelmsford Street Lowell, MA 01851. Out
of business. Apollo Computers, 330 Billerica Road, Chelmsford,
MA 01824. Out of business. Sun Microsystems, 2 Federal Street,
Billerica, MA 01821. Out of business at this location.