



North Star Public Charter School

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GOVERNING BOARD NOMINEE APPLICATION

Name: Roy R. Ledesma Contact phone number: (208) 286-4261
Board position applying for (Seat #): Parent/Community (Seat #2)

Please respond to the following questions and return your application to the Clerk of the Board by **June 10, 2014**. If you are newly nominated, please include a current c.v. or resume. Please be aware that your responses are public record and may be disseminated to assist parents in making an informed decision. In addition, personal interviews may be requested if needed to elect final candidates.

1. What experience(s) and traits do you possess that will be beneficial as a board member?

Experience

- Retired Navy Commander (25 years of Active Duty service)
- Math instructor at the university and high school level (7 years)
- North Star faculty member and parent (4 years)
- Program Director for a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization (3 years)
- US Naval Academy's Area Coordinator for Blue & Gold Officers in Idaho (2 years)

Traits

- Reliable, dedicated, detail-oriented team player
- Professional integrity, strong moral courage, and honesty
- Passionate, energetic, and hard-working

2. What do you understand is the main philosophy of the school/charter?

- To develop virtuous citizen leaders in our local and global community
- To prepare our students to think critically and to possess a passion to learn, serve, and excel
- To prepare students for college

3. What do you see as the school's long term goal?

- To provide a safe and nurturing learning environment that will challenge students to strive to reach their personal (academic, athletic, social, ...) goals.

4. What changes do you feel would be beneficial to our school/charter?

- **There are no significant changes that need to be made at this time.**

5. Would you consider yourself supportive of school choice? **YES**

6. What is your knowledge of Charter Schools in Idaho or elsewhere?

I have a very extensive knowledge of Charter Schools in Idaho and in the United States since my children have attended North Star for 6 years. Additionally, when we lived in Maryland, my wife and I researched all of the education options (traditional public school, charter school, private school) that we had for our children.

7. How (if at all) are you affiliated with North Star Public Charter School?

- **Middle school and High School faculty member (4 years)**
- **Parent of 2 children that have graduated from North Star**
- **Parent of 1 child who currently attends North Star**

8. How familiar are you with North Star Public Charter School's charter and bylaws?

- **Very familiar**

9. How many North Star Board meetings have you attended? Have you ever attended any charter school or other school board meeting?

- **I have attended numerous North Star Board meetings over the past 6 years.**
- **I have not attended a board meeting at any other charter school.**

10. Have you ever attended a PFA or PTA meeting?

- **I have attended numerous North Star PTA meetings over the past 6 years.**

11. Have you visited North Star Public Charter School during operating hours and what is your opinion?

- **I have visited North Star during operating hours and overall it is a safe and nurturing learning environment for students in grades K-12.**

12. What is your knowledge of the Harbor School Method of Instruction?

- **Prior to accepting my teaching position at North Star, I had to attend a 2-day training at Liberty Charter School in Nampa.**
- **I was interviewed by Ms. Becky Stallcop who is the Principal of Liberty Charter School and the founder of the Harbor School Method.**

13. Are you supportive of the Harbor School Method of Instruction? **YES**

14. What is your knowledge of the International Baccalaureate Program?

- **I am very knowledgeable of the IB program. I was an IB Math instructor for 3 years. I attended 3 different IB training conferences during my teaching tenure at North Star.**
- **I am an IB certified instructor.**

15. When it comes to education, what are you passionate about?

- **I am passionate about insuring that today's children are prepared and equipped (mentally, morally, and physically) to go to college and be successful for any profession or field of work they desire.**

16. What do you feel is important in a K-12 educational program?

- **Academically challenging**
- **Fair and consistent**
- **Provide students with leadership opportunities**
- **Provide students with community service opportunities**

17. How do you feel about the current administration and staff at North Star Public Charter School?

- **The current administration and staff is professional and knowledgeable.**

18. Do you have children? Ages or Grades:

- **I have 2 children who graduated from North Star and one child who is currently attending high school at North Star. Teo is a junior at the US Naval Academy (20 years old), Sam will be a freshman at the US Naval Academy (18 years old), and Max is an 11th grade student (16 years old).**

19. Do you understand that board members are not granted Founder status and do not get special provisions?

YES

20. This is a two year commitment with monthly meetings, other planning sessions, and special events up to 20 hours per month. Are you aware of the commitment and are you willing to follow through?

YES

21. How are you prepared to deal with public scrutiny?

- **There will be times when leaders must make decisions that will be unpopular. I believe that if I am open and honest and do not compromise my personal integrity and core principles then the public will respect my position. The public may not always agree with the decision but hopefully they will respect it. Communication (up and down the chain of command) is the key to a successful organization!**

22. Do you understand that all board members must be fingerprinted and undergo a criminal background check at the expense of the board member?

YES

23. Are you a citizen of the United States?

YES

24. Do you agree with the Code of Conduct (included with the Application)?

YES

25. How did you hear about this position?

- **I am currently a North Star Director.**

26. Is there any conflict of interest or relationship you'd like to disclose that could be in question while serving on our board?

- **I have no conflict of interest with serving on the Board.**

Please provide a response to the following questions if you are an incumbent board member:

1. Having served on the NSCS board of directors, please describe the impact of your participation as a board member.

- **During my 2 year service on North Star's Board, we have accomplished the following:**
 - **Stabilized the school during a tenuous period of uncertainty**
 - **Rebuilt the trust between the Board, Administration, faculty, and parents through open and honest communication**
 - **Stabilized our financial status**
 - **Started the Framework for the Future Campaign that raised over \$60,000.00 for the school's operational requirements**
 - **Updated and rewrote the school charter**
 - **Developed and approved numerous school policies**
 - **Increased teacher salaries**

2. What is your vision for NSCS going forward to the next two years?

- **Now that the school's financial issues have been resolved, the Board can focus on developing a Strategic Plan that will guide North Star Charter School to a 21st Century educational program.**
- **Specifically, we need to:**
 - **Expand our development and marketing efforts to ensure long-term sustainability**
 - **Improve our K-12 educational program and ensure that we strive to become the BEST K-12 educational program in the country**