

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. How long have you been working in education?

I have been teaching mathematics for 13 years. I began teaching middle school math and did so for 3 years at East Valley Middle School in Nampa. While there I also coached volleyball, girls and boys basketball, snow team, and Tennis. I then taught for 6 years at Columbia High School in Nampa. For my first two years there I taught mathematics as well as Introduction to Engineering Design. At Columbia High School, I also coached varsity girls basketball, snow team, and golf. For the last 4 years I have been teaching at Capital High School in Boise.

2. What positions of leadership have you held (elected, appointed or voluntary) at the local, region, state or national level?

- Local President – Nampa Education Association
 - led during the largest district financial crisis
- Phone banking/knocking on doors for education activities:
 - community led levy and bond groups
 - advocating for local supplemental levies
 - national, state, local, and school board elections
 - get out the vote calls
 - lit drops
- IEA Board member for Region 7
- Trustee and Vice Chair of the Nampa School Board
- IEA Shane Anderson Outstanding Member Award recipient
- Attending local, regional, and state events, recruitments, socials, etc.
- Presenter at Regional trainings
- Member of the ESP Caucus
- Member of the Women’s and Minority Caucus
- Member of the Idaho School Board Association
- Building representative
- Attending ISBA’s Day on the Hill to lobby for public education
- Budget Committee
- Lead Negotiator for Nampa EA
- Local Executive Board
- IEA Membership Committee
- Calendar Committee

- Negotiations team in Nampa that identified the financial shortfall in the district
- Presenter at IEA Summer Institutes
- Representative at NEA RA
- Delegate at DA
- Lobbying at the Capitol
- Advocating at school board meetings (as IEA/NEA member)
 - preventing outsourcing of jobs
 - changing board policy to better fit the students and educators
 - holding the school board accountable
- Providing meals for attendees at Career Ladder listening sessions
- Gathering signatures for Vote NO on Props 1, 2, 3
- Volunteering at the AFL-CIO Labor day picnic

3. What do you believe are the three primary responsibilities of this office?

- Listening to members and being their voice at the state and national level
- Increasing membership
- Building positive relationships with stakeholders statewide

4. What do you see as the greatest challenge IEA members will face in the next five years? What ideas do you have to address that challenge?

I believe the greatest challenges that IEA members will face in the next five years are funding and the privatization of education. These are not new challenges, but ones that I believe will possibly be amplified under the new federal education leadership. My ideas to address these challenges are to first and foremost continue working to build stronger relationships with the Idaho School Boards Association, the state's Superintendent of Education, our community members, and the State Board of Education. I began implementing one plan to address these challenges a year and a half ago by being elected to the Nampa School Board. I am serving my second year on the Nampa School Board and I have been able to build relationships with other school board trustees state wide and will continue to strengthen these relationships and build more across the state. We must continue to unite in our work to improve school funding and reduce the threat of privatization. I believe another effective way to unite all stakeholders is to help members to begin breaking bread with local and state politicians.

5. What is your plan for increasing membership and member engagement?

My plan to increase membership and member engagement is to be actively involved in communicating with members and potential members on a daily basis and plan to be visible and accessible to all members and potential members. I will be working closely with members in each local to help build stronger locals and recruit new members. I will not ask anyone to do something that I won't do side by side with them. I also plan to increase membership by supporting professional development efforts in locals that entice non-members, building a stronger presence across the state at conferences, and partnering with other organizations that advance teaching and learning.

6. How do you intend to communicate with members in order to keep them informed and to find out their concerns?

I plan to communicate with members in many different ways. There are so many effective ways to reach out and communicate and I intend to use multiple strategies to do so. My own personal goal is to reach out and communicate with a minimum of 5 members daily to find out their concerns and use that information to better the association at all levels. I plan to communicate via face to face conversations, text messaging, Facebook, Twitter, e-mail, and mailing letters. I plan to work to have the IEA's App, website, and Facebook page up-to-date so that members and potential members can be very informed.

7. Provide other information you would like members to know:

I made the decision to run for the position of IEA President 4 years ago. I made this decision, because I could see the impact that could be made, if we try some new and innovative strategies. I am willing and committed to treat members as partners in our collective efforts. I will never assume I am the expert on everything regarding the union. I know that the strength lies in the members and will bend over backwards to empower their voices for the benefit of the association. You will not find anyone more passionate about public education than I am. I would be honored to represent your voice for education.