



**BOISE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEE  
DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY**

CANDIDATE FILING DEADLINES (I.C. 34-1404)	TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT TIMELINE
<b>Application Deadline:</b> March 25, 2024 (12:00 pm)	<b>March 25, 2024</b> - Candidate nominations due by 12:00 p.m. <b>March 26, 2024</b> - Special Meeting - Consideration and voting of applicants to interview. <b>April 1, 2024</b> - Possible Special Board Meeting to be scheduled to interview trustee candidate finalists and select a new Trustee. <b>April 8, 2024</b> - 6:00 p.m. New Trustee sworn in at Regular Board Meeting.

CANDIDATE INFORMATION				
Candidate Name (As it appears on your voter registration record.)				
First Deborah	MI D	Last Donovan	Phone Number [REDACTED]	
Email Address [REDACTED]				
Residence Address (As it appears on your voter registration record.)				
Street Address [REDACTED]	City Boise	State ID	Zip Code 83706	County ADA
Mailing Address (If different from your residence address.)				
Street Address	City	State	Zip Code	County

*This petition must be filed in the office of Boise School District Clerk of the Board with the Declaration of Candidacy on or before 12:00 p.m. on the last day of filing for the Trustee Appointment. The submitted petition must have affixed thereto the names of at least five (5) qualified electors, which reside within the Boise Independent School District boundaries. (I.C. 34-1404)*

SIGNERS STATEMENT: I, the undersigned, being a qualified elector of the Boise Independent School District in the State of Idaho, do hereby certify and declare that I reside at the place set opposite my name, and that I join in the petition of the candidate for the office listed above, to be appointed by the Board of Trustees, and that each for themselves says: I have personally signed this petition; I am a qualified elector of the State of Idaho and my residence address is correctly written after my name.				
Signature of Petitioner	Printed Name	Residence Address	Date Signed	
1. <i>Beatrice Black</i>	BEATRICE BLACK	[REDACTED]	3-13-2024	
2. <i>Mark B Jones</i>	Mark B Jones	[REDACTED]	Boise 3-14-24	
3. <i>Ben Harad</i>	Ben Harad	[REDACTED]	Boise 3/14/24	
4. <i>George Harad</i>	GEORGE HARAD	[REDACTED]	Boise 3/14/24	
5. <i>Andrei Baleskoff</i>	Andrei Baleskoff	[REDACTED]	Boise 3/14/24	

CERTIFICATION	
In the event of my appointment as Trustee of the Independent School District of Boise City for the term as described above, I hereby agree to serve as Trustee.	
Dated: 3/25/2024	Candidate Signature: <i>Deborah Donovan</i>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT (Clerk of the Board use)	
Date Nomination Received: 3/25/24	Clerk of the Board Signature: <i>Sharon Mast</i>



**BOISE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEE  
CERTIFICATION OF CANDIDATE  
FILING TO BOARD CLERK**

**CLERK OF THE BOARD**

Upon receipt of the Declaration of Candidacy form along with the Petition of Candidacy:

1. Verify the qualifications of the Candidate.
2. Verify that the Petition of Candidacy is signed by not less than 5 electors and verify with the County Clerk's Office that the electors are registered voters within the Boise Independent School District Boundaries.
3. Stamp or write the date and time of receipt on the front of the Declaration of Candidacy and Petition of Candidacy.
4. Complete the fields and statement below.
5. Provide a copy of this Certification along with a copy of the Declaration of Candidacy to the Candidate.

**CANDIDATE NAME BEING CERTIFIED TO THE BOARD CLERK**

Candidate Name *(Please print)*

Deborah Donovan

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Sharon Mast, certify that the qualifications of the candidate listed above have been verified, including the validity of the electors signing the Petition of Candidacy, and that the individual meets the requirements to hold the office of Trustee with the Boise Independent School District to be appointed at a Regular Board Meeting to be held on the 8th day of April, 2024.

Signature of the Clerk or Representative of the District:

Sharon Mast

Dated:

3/25/24

**IMPORTANT**

Verification of the candidate's qualifications and the validity of the signers of the petition should occur immediately upon receipt of the filing. This allows the candidate time to correct any errors in the filing.





**BOISE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEE  
CANDIDATE QUESTIONS**

**QUESTION 1**

**Why do you seek to be a Trustee and what specific issue or issues, if any, cultivated your desire to apply for a position on the Board of Trustees?**

I would be honored to be considered to fill the current open Boise School District trustee seat for many reasons. I have always held a deep conviction for the work the Boise School District does to prepare ALL students to meet the challenges they will face in the future. The current staff, administration and board are truly “educating today for a better tomorrow”. My passion for the school district has been within me since I was a young college student preparing for a career as an educator in the Boise School District. I was fortunate to have enjoyed a very fulfilling career in the Boise School District. I have no specific agenda or issue that has brought me to this decision to apply other than continuing to give back to this incredible school district by serving the community in a new role as a trustee. I realize the importance of the Board of Trustees in supporting the efforts that are happening in the schools. It would be an honor to work alongside the current trustees to continue the amazing work the school district continues to do for the students, staff and community.

**QUESTION 2**

**What skills, talents and experiences will you bring to the Board which you think will help public education in our District?**

I have worked in public education, specifically, Boise School District my entire career. I hope to bring to the Board my experience and knowledge of the workings of a public K-12 education system. School systems have their own language and practices including a variety of acronyms which can be difficult to navigate, however at the core we all want what’s best for the students we serve. While I will greatly benefit from the new trustee orientation provided, I will bring to the board background knowledge that will help in getting me up to speed on the current workings of the Boise School District.

I also have an understanding of the role of a trustee as well as the time commitment needed to be prepared for meetings. Being fully prepared will assist in being a contributing team member of a high-functioning board.

In the variety of roles I have held in my career, it was beneficial to hear all aspects of the “story” in the decision-making process. All voices should be heard; this helps in understanding the “why”. While being a board member is different in making and implementing decisions, actively LISTENING to all parents, students, staff, and community members as well as other board members is still needed for trustees to be an effective team member of a board. This is a skill I learned early on in my career as a teacher, school administrator and district administrator.



**BOISE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEE  
CANDIDATE QUESTIONS**

**QUESTION 3**

**Describe what you consider are major issues regarding the District that should be addressed by the Board in the coming year?**

This past year the school district dealt with many challenges supporting students and staff dealing with mental health concerns. The district thoughtfully provided a variety of easily accessible resources and support for students and staff. Collaborating with the community further extended the reach to address this community-wide concern. This will be an ongoing effort for the school district as this is not likely a one and done solution. Evaluating and adjusting these resources and support will continue to be a district and community need.

It would also be beneficial for a new trustee to listen to current board members and district leadership to understand their thoughts about issues needing to be addressed in the coming year. Studying the proposed 2024-25 Strategic Plan as well as reviewing the 2023-24 plan will also assist in understanding the areas of focus identified for the upcoming year.

**QUESTION 4**

**What do you consider appropriate oversight of the District for a Board member?**

Policy 1125\* identifies commitments and role of the board of trustees. It is important for a trustee to take the needed time to be informed and educated on each of these commitments. Appropriate oversight for a board member should center on these commitments. Oversight would include establishing and monitoring the guiding district policies, which support the vision, mission and strategic plan while also ensuring accountability to the public. The board would also provide oversight and continued monitoring of the district budget ensuring transparency and accountability to the public. The board would also provide oversight for student achievement and academic programs by monitoring the goals and progress identified in the Strategic Plan. These commitments provide structure and support so that the Superintendent and district leadership have the ability to meet the goals of the district.

\*Policy 1125: Board Commitment

The Board is committed to:

- To act as an advocate for students and public education;
- To set the policies that guide District operations;
- To govern through policy development and to ensure that the district follows its vision, mission and strategic plan;
- To hire, evaluate, and work as a team with the superintendent;
- To establish District priorities through approval of the budget, safeguarding and prudently using public assets and tax payer dollars;
- To monitor student achievement and approve academic programs.





**BOISE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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CANDIDATE QUESTIONS**

**QUESTION 5**

**How do you define the success of public education and/or a School District?**

Successful schools ensure all students have access to high-quality learning opportunities and the support to enable them to set and reach high goals for their own learning, as well as developing critical thinking skills to be lifelong learners. This includes all aspects of the school district working together to ensure access has been provided for students to achieve these goals. This is not a one size fits all; defining success and allowing all to progress through the learning targets is essential for success. This includes providing clarity for students and staff to have a clear understanding of what “success” looks like. The district's development of the upcoming Graduate Profile is a great example of providing this level of clarity for students, staff and community to identify what success looks like for graduation. Students are encouraged to use self agency to progress and find success which motivates them for future endeavors.

**QUESTION 6**

**What do you feel the District has done well and what could be improved upon?**

It has been quite impressive to see the transformation of student learning in the school district these past few years. I've seen evidence of this through the student reports during this past year's board meetings. Students have reported becoming more involved in their own learning in the classroom. They are sharing examples of the changes that are happening in their classrooms. The student and staff engagement is quite evident through these examples.

The school district has also done a great job focusing on strategies to attract and retain the hiring of hard to fill positions. An example of this was providing a more convenient system to complete the requirements for the instructional classified positions.

Being transparent this past year about the struggles students/staff have been experiencing, as well as collaborating with community organizations to provide support for students and families was received well by the community. Navigating these very difficult situations with grace is always a hallmark of the Boise School District.

An area of improvement can always be to continue to tell the great story of Boise School District. This is something educators are not always good at doing. Although, I have noticed a significant increase in these stories being told through district, school and teacher social media accounts this past year. Yea! This great story continues to build and maintain a high level of trust within the community.



**BOISE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEE  
CANDIDATE QUESTIONS**

**QUESTION 7**

**As a Board member, what do you see as your role in interacting with the community?**

The Board is committed to advocate for students and public education \*Policy 1125. It is important to be representative to all that are served in the Boise School District; including students, families, staff, administrative staff and community members. This is something I believe to my core. I have an endless passion for the success of this district and welcome the opportunity to share this with anyone. When I was an employee of the school district as well as a Boise Public Schools Foundation Board Member, I was provided many opportunities to share the district's message and engage with the community in a variety of settings like rotary meetings, neighborhood association meetings and school Parent Meetings.

In doing so, it is important to be mindful of the Code of Ethics of a Board Member. Trustees do not speak for the district or the board, their role is limited to the board meetings and/or committee meetings. I also recognize that individual board members have no authority to act on behalf of the District or Board unless authorized by Board action or directive. \* Policy 1126 Board Code of Ethics \*Policy 1115 Individual Board Member Authority



# Deborah (Debbie) Donovan



## Objective

To advocate for public education including students, staff and community through service and volunteer opportunities.

## Work Experience

### Boise School District \* Area Director \* Boise Quadrant 2018-2022

- Assisted with the development and supported the implementation of the Boise School District's Strategic Plan.
- Supervised and supported all schools included in the Boise Quadrant.
- Assisted with the coordination and implementation of Instructional Leadership practices for district administrators.
- Provided leadership, supervision and evaluation of all aspects that are delivered in the schools.
- Established and supported a climate, which promoted learning and growth mindset among educators throughout the school district.
- Supported schools/teachers as they implemented online learning during the pandemic as well as assisted in the development of the Boise Online School opportunity.

### Boise School District \* Administrator of Student Programs 2014-2018

- Assisted with the development and supported implementation of the Boise School District's Strategic Plan.
- Supervised and supported all curriculum areas.
- Coordinated training and support for the implementation of sound grading practices, which reflected accurate reporting of student progress on standards as well as increased student confidence.
- Provided leadership, supervision and evaluation of the instructional programs that are delivered in the schools.
- Responsible for the implementation and coordination of the Idaho Core Standards through an ongoing process of planning for innovation, strategic change, and continual student achievement at the district level.
- Ensured that instructional staff received quality professional development relating to the needs of the district and staff.
- Established and supported a climate, which promoted learning and growth mindset among educators throughout the school district.
- Mentored and supported new to district certified staff as well as new to district administrators.
- Mentored and supported new principals in the district.
- Supported the development of the district's online presence/communication through the website and social media.

### Boise School District \* Garfield Elementary, Principal 2011-2014

- Provided leadership, supervision, and evaluation of the instructional programs for the school.
- Responsible for the implementation and coordination of the Idaho Core Standards through an ongoing process of planning for innovation, strategic change, and continual student achievement at the building level.
- Ensured that instructional staff received quality professional development relating to the needs of the building.



- Established a school climate which promoted learning, good conduct and positive attitudes and values by students and staff.
- Increased parent and community involvement in the on-going educational programs of the school.
- Implemented the Strategic Plan Initiatives into everyday practice in all components of the school.
- Improved the culture of the school to be more inclusive to parents and community.
- Developed strategies/procedures to run special education programs more effectively at Garfield.
- Increased the professionalism among staff members including how they relate to each other as well as relating to our school community.

**Boise School District \* Mountain View Elementary, Principal 2006-2011**

- Provided leadership, supervision, and evaluation of the instructional programs for the school.
- Responsible for the implementation and coordination of state standards through an ongoing process of planning for innovation, strategic change, and continual student achievement.
- Ensured that instructional staff received quality professional development based on current needs of the school.
- Established a school climate which promoted learning, good conduct and positive attitudes and values.
- Effectively involved parents and community in the on-going educational programs of the school.

**Boise School District \* Longfellow Elementary, Principal 2001-2006**

- Provided leadership, supervision, and evaluation of the instructional programs for the school.
- Responsible for the implement and coordination of state standards through an ongoing process of planning for innovation, strategic change, and continual student achievement.
- Ensured that instructional staff received quality professional development based on needs of the school.
- Established a school climate which promoted learning, good conduct and positive attitudes and values. Promoted the school to the neighborhood to increase the enrollment.
- Effectively involved parents and community in the on-going educational programs of the school.

<b>Franklin Elementary/Shadow Hills Elementary, Intern Principal</b>	<b>2000-2001</b>
<b>Valley View Elementary/Shadow Hills Elementary, Intern Principal</b>	<b>1999-2000</b>
<b>Boise School District, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher * Highlands, Valley View, and White Pine</b>	<b>1982-1999</b>

**Education**

**University of Idaho**

**ED.S. Educational Administration 1999**

**Boise State University**

**M.A. Degree in Curriculum and Instruction 1988**  
**B.A. Degree in Elementary Education 1981**





## Skills

- **Technology:** Extensive training and utilization of technology in the school setting. Provided staff development and support as teachers effectively implemented a variety of technology devices to increase the learning in the classroom as well as increased their use as a teacher tool. Worked with a variety of schools to implement the use of iPods and iPads in their classrooms/schools.
- Served on the BSD's Foundation Board 2005-2018. Served as a co-chair on Innovative Grant Committee and Executive Board 2009-2018. Facilitated yearly grant-writing workshops for BSD staff as well as coordinates the yearly reading and awarding of teacher grants.
- Coordinated all elementary athletics (girls' and boys' basketball and track) for the BSD 2001-2015. Coordinated schedules, training, supervision, organized tournaments, updated handbooks, facilitated sport coaching meetings, and problem solved concerns that arose throughout each season.
- Completed all coaching contracts for BSD. Updated staffing information into an Access Database to create and maintain coaching contracts.
- Served on the District's Legislative Committee

## Awards Received

- 2022 Women's and Children's Alliance ~Tribute to Women and Industry (TWIN) Award Recipient
- 2017 Idaho Business Review Woman of the Year
- 2012 Garfield Distinguished School Award given by Idaho State Board of Education
- 1999 Red Apple Award for Outstanding Services to Education
- 1994 NEWEST Honors Teacher Award; sponsored by NSTA and NASA