

CANDIDATES QUESTIONNAIRE for Prospective Board Members 2023

Please note – there is a 100-word limit on all answers.

Name: Vivek Sreekumar

1. Why do you wish to serve on the ASCA Board of Directors?

As a member of a school board, I want to share my business and life experience to benefit our community. I can represent different groups in the community and ensure that everyone has a voice in making educational and administrative decisions. As a member of board, I will be a conduit for the concerns and interests of teachers and parents alike. I have a daughter in high school and son in middle school and does have personal interest in preserving and improving the quality of our school system. I do whole heartedly believe in quality public education for current and future students in our province and country.

2. What is your school council experience?

This year, I joined JGD Chief's Council as Treasurer is in charge of maintaining the Parent council and Casino Reserve budget. Along with managing Fundraising events, I also ensure all funds are used responsibly and in accordance to Parent council votes and regulations. I formed a budget committee within the Parents council and as the treasurer I chair the committee meetings. I work closely with President, Vice President, Principal, teachers and other parents in the committee to ensure that all financial requests presented by school are met to best of our ability.

3. How will your greatest strength help you perform as a board member?

I think that my greatest strength is my curiosity! I'm fascinated by learning what makes people tick, and so I enjoy asking everyone I come in contact with questions about their backgrounds and hobbies, as well as about their goals. This helps me to establish a personal rapport with them and ensures that our consultative dialogues are productive. Since I know that ASCA Board and programs emphasize the importance of quality relationship building, I think you'd find that I'd fit into the board quite well.

4. What do you see as the top priority or challenge for K-12 parents in the province?

Parents must take time to talk to their children about how they are feeling, and let them know they are there for them. They should also understand that it takes a village to raise children and they are not alone. Go out and seek the support of your fellow parents, more often we miss to see is that everyone around us struggling in some way and together we can raise a whole new generation who will be self-sufficient, confident and successful.

5. Give an example of how you have dealt with differing perspectives:

Everyday at work, working with 6 project managers across 5 provinces and managing construction work in all these provinces remotely is a challenge as I have to regularly deal with many individuals with different perspectives. Some of the points that I always keep in mind and as helped me: I don't take things personally, I love asking questions to clarify, I always try to understand "Why" and solution oriented and I move on.

6. Have you reviewed the time commitment required to be a Director? How do you see yourself balancing your professional and personal life to manage the duties of a board member?

Yes, I can definitely commit to 10 – 20 hours per month on average

7. Do you have affiliations/involvement that may affect/influence your performance as a board member or be perceived as a conflict of interest? (eg. political, employment, etc.)

None

8. Which social media platforms do you use? (LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)
LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram.

9. Please indicate your social media accounts (with username/addresses/links):
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/viveksreekumar/>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/vsree711>

10. What do you view as the purpose for social media?
Social media has become a primary medium to stay connected through which people can communicate with their close ones, friends, relatives or stakeholders and wider community with all like-minded individuals, interact/ voice their opinions and answer any questions or concerns.

11. What makes you an ideal candidate for the position?
I am a good team player: I collaborate well with others and are respectful of the other board members and participants. With my experience as Director of Finance for multiple Corporations, I can adopt a fiscally sound district budget and pay attention to finances and regularly monitor the fiscal health of the Council and Board. Having 2 children of mine in the Schools, I will focus on what is best for all students and their achievement and implementing policies that will ensure success for all students. I will advocate at the local, state and national level for public education (if needed) and take advantage of opportunities to communicate the needs of public schools to other levels of government and advocate for strong public schools.

Additional CANDIDATES QUESTIONS for Previous or Current Board Members

How has the ASCA Board been successful because of your work on the Board?
N/A

How did your preparation and attendance impact your contribution to the Board?
N/A

What have you learned during your time with the Board, and what will you do with that experience moving forward?
N/A

Please include a (jpeg) photo submitted with the questionnaire and nomination form.

Candidate information is posted on the ASCA website at **three** intervals; March 15, April 1, and April 13 (10 days prior to the election at the AGM).

This **FORM** must be completed and submitted electronically **ONLY** by email to parents@albertaschoolcouncils.ca