

JAMES J. PHOENIX

[REDACTED] Reno, NV 89510
WCSD District C.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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 WCSD 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 WCSD Board of Trustees?

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

Why? To represent the WCSD 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 WCSD community to better their education needs; be a voice to and for the WCSD 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 WCSD 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 WCSD 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 WCSD system. Moreover, engage with the community to better understand their concerns and guide them towards feasible solutions as a part of our WCSD family.

My specific interest is to ensure native and rural WCSD 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 WCSD 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 WCSD Trustee leadership; I will be present and actively engaged at planned community events as a community leader for the WCSD; 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 WCSD 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 WCSD Trustee?

In my opinion, the role of the WCSD Trustee is to follow the duties and responsibilities of the WCSD Board of Trustees in accordance with Board Policies and state laws. In addition, serve as stewards of the WCSD 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

[REDACTED] Reno, NV 89510
WCSD District C.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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 WCSD 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 WCSD 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 WCSD Board of Trustees the best way I know how. I am committed to the mission and its significance for our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JJ Phoenix', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

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]