OSBA Board of Directors
CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Name: Kris Howatt

Date: September 28, 2026

Address: [redacted]

City/Zip: [redacted]

Business phone: [redacted]

Residence phone: [redacted]

Cell phone: [redacted]

E-mail:

District/ESD/CC: Gresham Barlow School District

Term expires: 2027 Years on board: 25 years

Region: Multnomah

Position #: 17



I certify that if elected I will faithfully serve as a member of the OSBA Board of Directors. My nomination form has been submitted to OSBA (or is attached to this document) as evidence.

Kris Howatt

Name

September 28, 2026

Date

Be brief; please limit your responses to 50 words per question.

1. Describe in your own words the mission and goals of OSBA.

   OSBA's primary objective is to support School Board Directors. That support shows itself in providing ongoing training options; governance support around policy implementation; expanded lobbying partnerships in State & Federal legislation; overall leadership education. These areas focus on improving education outcomes for the students in the state of Oregon.

2. What do you want to accomplish by serving on the OSBA board of directors?

   Education is in constant flux. The methods change, the content changes, and the necessary outcomes change. We build on past success, and look to the next challenge. We support our community, and are the conduit for accurate information about student education. OSBA gives board members the tools to succeed; that means focusing on the student needs, and having timely and accurate info . We support each other, so everyone can succeed.

3. What leadership skills do you believe you bring to the board of directors? Give an example of a situation in which you demonstrated these skills.

   I think I bring a calm, thoughtful voice to the conversation. I have experienced through my local board service and OSBA board service, budget crises, sudden leadership changes, and external pressure by people who don't always have a student focus. We have had challenging bargaining scenarios, and commuity concerns about safety in our schools. Having accurate information and sharing that information is crucial. One of my proudest moments was successfully leading OSBA in strongly supporting Measure 98.

OSBA Board of Directors

4. What do you see as the two most challenging issues faced by OSBA?

   Maintaining affordable services for districts who are facing budgetary impacts.

   Offering training in a variety of formats to meet the needs of citizen elected board members.

5. What do you see as the two most challenging issues faced by your region?

   Pockets of declining enrollment

   Economic stresses on families

6. What is your plan for communicating with boards in your region?

   Use of expanded distribution tools, e.g. Email list serve for OSBA updates. Attending regional and statewide training sessions with fellow board members. Using existing technology to attend local board meetings, and provide updates via public comment. Always availble via email, phone or text for questions or concerns.

Please continue to the next section.

OSBA Board of Directors
CANDIDATE PERSONAL/PROFESSIONAL RESUME

Work or service performed for OSBA or local district (include committee name and if you were chair):

GBSD - 2001-present (2026) - GBSD Board Chair, Vice Chair, Licensed & Classified Bargaining committee, Policy committee
TAG Legislative Committee, State Land Use Rules Revision committee, 2 Successful Capital Bonds, Student Based Health Center

Other education board positions held/dates:

Scrip Fundraising Coordinator (Gresham HIgh School) 2004-2017

Occupation (Include at least the past five years):

Employers:	Dates:
Selff-employed Small Business - Feather Your Nest Quilt Store	April 2012 - current

Schools attended (Include official name of school, where and when):

High school: Sam Barlow HS, Boring Oregon 1979

College: MHCC - Gresham Oregon - Computer Tech Certification (1982)

Degrees earned:

Education honors and/or awards:

NSBA School Board Leadership Recognition - 2010 (one of 3 in Oregon)
OSBA Leadership Cetification 2007
Oregon Leadership Institute

Other applicable training or education:

Native American Caucus Member - National
Federal Relations Network (Advocacy Institute)
NSBA Conferences (14 attended)

Activities, other state and local community services:

Theater Costume Seamstress (Gresham High) 2003-2013
Exchange student host family (8 years)

Hobbies/special interests:

Quilting, adventure movies, travel

Business/professional/civic group memberships; offices held and dates:

Gresham Chamber of Commerce 2014-2026
Historic Downtown Gresham Business 2015-2026

Additional comments:

As long as I am excited about options and opportunities for students, I want to continue to serve. When it becomes a chore, then I know I will be done. For now, there is excitement on the horizon, and I want to be part of creating a positive future.