

# CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

## OSBA board of directors

Name: Beth Gerot

Date: July 9, 2008

District/ESD/CC: Eugene 4J

Position: 6

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.



Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

*I believe that the mission of OSBA is (1) to build the capacity and skills of school board members across Oregon by providing professional development essential for them to be strong leaders in increasing the achievement of every student; (2) to be the voice for the needs of public education and the necessity for control by local school board members; and (3) to provide services to districts, large and small, that they are not able to provide themselves to meet local needs and state and federal requirements.*

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

*I am very excited about the strategic planning process we are beginning and the commitment to a greater focus on student achievement and increasing the skills of local board members. I would like to bring my experience with such planning and focus on my local board to this process. I am also anxious to continue to be a part of the change in governance and ensure that it increases communication and collaboration with and among board members across the state.*

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 bring a solid understanding of educational policy issues and an ability to listen well, collaborate, and engage diverse voices in decision-making. During my tenure as 4J board chair, we had a very controversial school-naming (Caesar Chavez). I worked with the Latino community, our board, and the larger community to ensure that the process was respectful and all voices were heard. The outcome was a community proud of the heritage embodied in the new school.*

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

*1. Clearly, one of the greatest challenges will be to restructure and focus activities following the end of the insurance pool.*

2. *A second challenge facing OSBA is to continue to shift from an operational to an instructional focus and increase collaboration with other educational partners while meeting the needs of Oregon's diverse school districts and board members.*

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

*In many ways, Region 6 is a microcosm of the state. There are large and small, urban and rural, and growth and declining enrollment districts. Every district is seeing changing community, family, and student demographics. Each (1) faces the challenges presented by a lack of resources to meet increasing state and federal mandates and the needs of every child and (2) each faces the challenge of ensuring that every student meets the new high school graduation requirements while being taught by highly qualified teachers and gaining the knowledge, skills, and confidence to meet his/her aspirations and to be able to live and work in a complex global society.*

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

*I will continue to use e-mail and the Fall and Spring Regional meetings as a way to provide information and seek input. I am hopeful that the new OSBA regional listservs will encourage an exchange of ideas and help me better represent the perspectives of all board members in Region 6.*

*Materials submitted by the candidate on this form may be subject to a public information request under ORS Chapter 192.*

# **CANDIDATE PERSONAL/PROFESSIONAL RESUME**

## **OSBA board of directors**

Name: Beth Gerot

Date: July 9, 2008

Address: 1270 River Road

City / ZIP: Eugene 97404

Business phone: 541-688-1040

Residence phone: 541-689-5747

E-mail: gerot\_b@4j.lane.edu

Fax (if applicable): 541-688-8077

District/ESD/CC: Eugene 4J

Term expires: June, 2009 Years on board: 9

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

OSBA Vice President (2007-08)

OSBA Secretary/Treasurer (2006-07)

OSBA Legislative Policy Committee (2000-08); currently serving as Chair

OSBA Governance Committee (2006-08)

OSBA Leadership Oregon (2001)

ODE Professional Educators Advisory Committee (2005-08)

Oregon Quality Education Commission (2008)

Eugene 4J Board Chair (2003-06)

Eugene 4J Board Vice Chair (2001-03; 2007-08)

Eugene 4J Board representative to Harvard ExEL team (2007-08)

Eugene 4J Budget Committee (1999-08); Financial Policy Committee (1999-01); Schools of the Future Committee (1999-2000); School Closure, Consolidation, and Replacement Committee (2000-01); Instructional Policy Committee (2000-03); Charter School Council (2000-04); Education Specifications Committee (2002); Strategic Planning Coordinating Committee (2005-08)

Eugene 4J Site Councils: Roosevelt Middle School, North Eugene High School, International High School (1996-2001)

### **Occupation (Include at least the past five years):**

Employers: Woodruff Nursery & Landscapes, Inc. (Officer)

Dates: 1973-present

G & P Homes LLC (Partner)

2004-present

*(Continued)*

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

College: University of Oregon, Eugene (1964-1968)

Degrees earned: B. A. English

M. S. Interdisciplinary Studies

**Activities, other state and local community services:**

Coalition for School Funding Now: State Co-Chair (2003-04)

Lane Coalition for Healthy Active Youth, Board member (2004-2008)

**Hobbies/special interests:**

Sailing, skiing, gardening, traveling, reading

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

Oregon Association of Nurseries: Emerald Empire Chapter President (1976-78); Retail Chapter President (1978-79);  
OAN Executive Committee (1979-80); Lifetime Certified Nursery Professional

Oregon Landscape Contractors Association

Oregon Business Association: Education Committee (2005-08)

Eugene Chamber of Commerce

Eugene City Club: Program Committee (2004-08)

**Additional comments:**

Oregon Association of Nurseries Young Nurseryperson of the Year, 1978

Participated in numerous OSBA/NSBA/MSAN conferences

Minority Student Achievement Network (MSAN): Annual Board Assembly Coordinator (2006-08)

Presentations at OSBA and Wallace Foundation conferences

Federal Relations Network representative (2007/2008)