

November 9, 2020

Board of the Mahtomedi School District
1520 Mahtomedi Avenue
Mahtomedi, MN 55115

Via email: lucy.payne@isd832.net

I understand that you are in the process of searching for an individual to fill the unexpired term of Mike Chevalier. Please accept this as my letter of application. As my enclosed resume indicates my emphasis is in management, finance, and community relations.

I currently serve as the Co-Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of Commercial Lending for North Star Bank. My positions involve developing and overseeing the long-range objectives, plans, and policies of the Bank, along with oversight and development of the financial position and management of employees including salary administration, incentives, objectives and corporate goals. I developed a succession plan for key employees and corporate ownership, manage all real estate owned by the Bank, and am the Bank's sole investment officer.

My position requires me to communicate thoughts clearly, both orally and in written form. To be involved in the local community where I use strong interpersonal skills to promote a favorable image of the Bank, and to maximize business contacts and develop a working relationship with potential and current customers.

I have lived in Grant for the last 17 years and have a 12-year-old daughter who has benefited and excelled from being a proud Mahtomedi student.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SJR', with a horizontal line extending to the right and a vertical line at the end.

Steven J. Ritt

MAHTOMEDI PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL BOARD APPOINTMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

DIRECTIONS: Please respond briefly to the following questions and **return with your letter of interest and resume** to Lucy Payne at the Mahtomedi Public Schools, 1520 Mahtomedi Avenue, Mahtomedi, MN 55115 or lucy.payne@isd832.net by due by noon on Monday, November 9, 2020.

1. Your Name: Steven J. Ritt

2. Why are you interested in serving on the Mahtomedi School Board? To ensure and uphold the quality of education that the Mahtomedi school district is known for, and to better prepare our children for the future.

3. How have you been involved with this or other school districts and educational programs? Have you served on any other boards? I currently serve on the on the Board of Directors for North Star Bank, Century College Foundation, Mahtomedi Area Educational Foundation, and Lakeshore Players.

4. What experiences or talents can you bring to the Mahtomedi School Board? 20 years in the finance industry, 12 years purchasing municipal bonds including but not limited to educational district offerings.

5. What do you believe are the most pressing issues facing the Mahtomedi Public Schools? Hybrid learning, diversity, growth.

STEVEN J. RITT
11968 Ironwood Avenue
Stillwater, Minnesota 55082
651-487-4437

Experience:

Director

North Star Bank, White Bear Lake, Minnesota November 2004 to Present.

- Establish the Bank's lending objectives, policies, and guidelines.
- Discuss, review, and approve loans, credit extensions, or credit facilities recommended by the Officer Loan Committee.
- Review and confirm loans over \$25,000, discuss delinquencies, problem loans, letters of credit, unfunded loans, operating statements, and approve all loan concentrations over \$750,000.
- Review and discuss the Banks financial position, securities portfolio, and participations with correspondent banks.

Co-Chief Executive Officer: April 2019 to present

- Responsible for providing an acceptable return for its shareholders while also protecting investor's interests.
- Oversee North Star Bank management of employees on issues including salary administration, management trends and incentives, departmental objectives and corporation goals.
- Oversee the bank's current financial position. Assess and analyze risks with regard to capital, assets, interest rate, equity, liabilities and bank's reputation.

Chief Financial Officer: December 2016 to Present

- Asset Liability Management
- Responsible for overall financial plans and policies and their implementation
- Prepare, present and interpret financial reports for Board of Directors
- Supervise and make recommendations for budgeting, Strategic and capital planning.
- Prepare and seek necessary Board and regulatory approvals for shareholder distributions.

Chief Investment Officer

North Star Bank, White Bear Lake, Minnesota April 2013 to December 2016

- Invest excess deposits to earn a higher yield.
- Develop policies, select vendors and brokers, and report progress to Funds Management Committee and Board of Directors.
- Grew portfolio from \$22 million in 2008 to over \$106 million by 2013. Use cash flow to support loan growth through 2019 to its current balance of \$65 Million.
- Purchase and sell securities to manage liquidity and capital.

Vice President Commercial Lending

North Star Bank, White Bear Lake, Minnesota September 2004 to Present.

- Solicit and obtain new profitable business from prospective customers.
- Cross-sell and answer questions about the Bank's products and services.
- Contribute to the continued growth and profitability of the Bank
- Serve on all Board appointed committees, including: Executive, Discount, Examining, Board Audit Committee, Officers Loan Committee, Funds Management, CRA, Loan Review, Compliance, IT, and Appraisal.

Assistant Vice President Commercial Lending

North Star Bank, November 03 to November 04.

Commercial Lender

North Star Bank July 02 to November 03

Management Trainee & credit underwriter

Midway National Bank, July 01 to June 02

Education:

St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, Minnesota

Bachelor of Science degree, June 2001, Cum Laude honors, concentration in Marketing.

Century Community College, White Bear Lake, Minnesota

Associate of Arts degree, May 1998, Dean's list for Academic Excellence three quarters.

Licensed Insurance Producer (property & casualty and Life & Health), July 2002 thru 2007.
Managed Midway Insurance Agency and sold company in 2007.

**Community
Involvement:**

- Mahtomedi Area Educational Foundation – Board Member July 2019 to present.
- Business Networking International – past President and VP, 2012 to 2018.
- Century College Foundation, 2007 to present, past chair, executive committee, audit committee, and finance committee.
- Century College Alumni Association – Board member, 2010 to 2018.
- Ritt Family Foundation 2002 to present – Lifetime donations over \$500,000
- White Bear Lake Community Foundation Investment Committee, 2016 to present
- Hill Legacy Award committee 2017 to present
- Vadnais Heights Networking “Breakfast Buddies”
- Donor – Century College Foundation, Lakeshore Players Theatre, Giving Gardens, MAEF
- MAEF – Premier sponsor 2018 & 2019
- Century College Scholarship banquet - Premier sponsor 2007 to present.
- Lakeshore Players Theatre – Board member & Finance Committee chair 2018 to present.