

SPCSA Application

First Name: Debra

Last Name: Guedry

Reason to Serve: I would like to serve on the State Public Charter School Authority Board to share my education, experience and support for Nevada's students and their educational opportunities. My interests include recruitment of more charter schools in areas most needed, based on the Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment, assuring that existing charter schools are meeting or exceeding performance standards, and that highly effective and best practices are implemented at the Board and school levels. Choices for families have become more limited, due to our growth, and due to the elimination of zone variances, elimination of open enrollment, magnet schools that select from lotteries, charter and private schools that have wait lists, or private schools that most families cannot afford. As a life-long Nevadan, I believe we have a responsibility to provide more choices with the hope that students can feel successful, and graduate prepared to enter college or a career. These efforts ultimately result in a more viable workforce, opportunity to attract new business, and diversify and strengthen our economy.

Qualifications: My qualifications to serve on the State Public Charter School Authority Board include my experience as a student and graduate in the Clark County School District system, having observed successes and the challenges over the last several decades. I pursued my Bachelor of Science degree in Education at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and obtained my teaching license in 1997. I taught in grades K-5, with most of my experience in 3rd and 4th grades. This experience revealed how essential it is for students to master specific academic skills, in order to build upon their knowledge and skills after 3rd grade. My teaching experience was complimented by other opportunities to administer programs that empowered students and forged partnerships with the business community. In addition, my Board service with an education stakeholder group allowed for input in Superintendent searches, understanding education policy and governance, and shaping legislative education policy.

Summary of Experience, education, achievements: Please see attachment.

County of Residence: Clark

Highest Level of Education Completed: Bachelor's Degree

Current Employer: Self-employed, Real Estate Broker

Job Title: N/A

Professional Licenses: Nevada Real Estate License, issued in 1980. Nevada Real Estate Broker's License, issued in 1990. Nevada K-8 Teaching License, issued in 1997. Nevada K-8 Math & Science Certification, issued in 2010.

Served on other Board, Commission, etc.: No

Registered to Vote: Yes

Registered Lobbyist: No

Gender Identity: Female

Identify as Hispanic and/or Latino/a: No

Ethnic Identity: Caucasian/White

Tribal Heritage: n/a

Languages: English

Veteran Status: No

Disability Status: No

Accurate Information: Yes

No Conflict of Interest: None

DEBRA GUEDRY BIOGRAPHY

As a native Nevadan, Debra Guedry attended and graduated from Clark County School District schools, and earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She also completed her certifications in Middle School Math and Science, and taught grades K-5, with experience in Integrated Thematic Instruction and multi-age instruction. She was honored as Southwest Area Teacher of the Year in 2000, and headed the school's Microsociety Committee, school courtyard renovation, and Business Partner Recognition Program. Debra was also awarded a Nevada State Education Technology Grant to create and implement software to administer the bank accounts, business licensing, and university day for over 900 students for Jacobson Elementary's Microsociety Model.

Debra's professional background is complimented by her 40-plus years as a Nevada Real Estate Licensee and Broker. She has worked for Summa Corporation, Realty Holdings, and Howard Hughes Properties, with experience in commercial leasing, sales and management. In 1993, she was honored as Summa Corporation's "Dealmaker of the Year". She is currently the President of Landmark Commercial of Nevada.

Guedry has served on her community HOA Board for over 20 years as Secretary and Director. In addition, she served as Treasurer on the Board of BEACONevada (Business Educational Alliance for the Children of Nevada), which acted as a Stakeholder Group in CCSD Superintendent Searches and meetings with State Legislators and candidates regarding proposed education issues. In 2016, she and her husband, John, co-founded the Business + Education (BE) Engaged Summit, with the goal of increasing the business community's participation and support of public education, and forging partnerships with education-related non-profit organizations.

As an advocate for education, Debra was recognized in 2022 by the Girl Scouts Of Southern Nevada. She has volunteered with Goodie Two Shoes, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Opportunity Village, and Las Vegas Homeless Teen Shelter. Other volunteer activities include church teaching assignments, Jacobson Elementary Parent/Teacher Organization Vice-President, and Faith Lutheran Jr/Sr. High Arts Fundraisers.

Debra and John, have been married for 38 years, and have two daughters, and twin grandsons. In her extracurricular time, she enjoys reading, genealogy, bicycling, hiking, and her grandsons' sports!