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Board Cover Memorandum

To Board of Education

From Kyla Johnson-Trammell, Superintendent
Kelly Krag-Arnold, Acting Director - Office of Charter Schools

Meeting Date May 23, 2022

Subject Appointment of OUSD Representative to Charter School Governing Board

Ask of the Board Recommendation to Board for Approval

Background Education Code §47604(c) allows authorizing districts to appoint a district-selected appointee to the governing boards of the charter schools it authorizes. The OUSD Board established that it intended to exercise this right moving forward with OUSD Board Resolution 1718-0168.

Annually, the Office of Charter Schools reviews internal records to identify schools that have received multiple Notices of Concern and/or a Notice of Concern that raised serious concerns about student safety in the previous year. Following this process in 2019, the Office of Charter Schools placed a district-selected appointee on the North Oakland Community Charter School Board. This appointee is now leaving their position, requiring a replacement appointee for the charter school to be identified.

To address this need, OCS selected a candidate based on the relevant experience and skill sets they could contribute to the charter school board, as well as a lack of conflict of interest. If appointed, the OUSD-selected candidate would become a voting member of the charter school’s governing board. At the beginning of their term of service, the appointee will be required to complete 3 online trainings on the expectations and role of board members developed by Board on Track and OCS. The appointee is expected to report to the Office of Charter Schools three times per year.

The Office of Charter Schools recommends that the OUSD Board appoint **Patricia Johnson to the North Oakland Community Charter School Board.**

Background information on the recommended appointee is included in the Appendix and corresponding Attachment.

Discussion The Office of Charter Schools staff recommend that the Charter Committee **recommend** this proposed appointment to the full Board for approval.

Fiscal Impact None

- Attachment(s)**
- Appendix I: Appointee Selection Rubric
 - Appendix II: Recommended Appointee’s Skill Overview
 - Attachment I: Recommended Appointee’s Application

Appendix I: Appointee Selection Rubric

Candidates must score at least 10 points on the rubric to be considered for an appointment.

	1	2	3	4
Nonprofit Board Experience	Applicant has no experience attending board meetings or serving on boards.	Applicant has experience attending and/or participating in board meetings as an audience member.	Applicant has less than 2 years experience serving on a board AND has never served on a school board.	Applicant has 2 or more years experience serving on a board OR has any experience serving on a school board.
Relevant Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Passion for role ● Interest in education ● Past public service ● Interest in Oakland ● Conflict management ● Group Process 	Applicant has no relevant experience.	Applicant has minimal relevant experience.	Applicant has significant relevant experience in one area.	Applicant has significant relevant experience in multiple areas.
Targeted Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Board Governance ● Strategic Planning ● Finance ● Academic Oversight ● Board-CEO partnership ● Human Resources 	Applicant has no area of expertise in the target skill set areas.	Applicant has experience in a target skill set area but is not an expert.	Applicant is an expert in a target skill set area.	Applicant is an expert in multiple target skill set areas.
Impartiality	Applicant presents a strong bias around charter sector and/or has a perceived conflict of interest to maintaining neutrality.	N/A	N/A	Applicant presents no bias and has no perceived conflict of interest to maintaining neutrality.

Appendix II: Recommended Appointee’s Skill Overview

Applicant	Experience	Applicant’s Skill Area(s)	Applicant’s Score on Rubric
Patricia Johnson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Current Financial Planner at Raise Financial Advisors in Oakland ● Founder and current Executive Director for 13 years of Game Theory Academy, a non-profit which educates youth through a financial skills curriculum ● Board Treasurer for 3 years at International Development Exchange, a non-profit which funds grassroot groups and social movements promoting justice and equity ● MBA from Yale School of Management ● 22 additional years in other youth advocacy centered roles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Finance ● Strategic Planning ● Board-CEO partnership 	<i>Nonprofit Board Experience: 4</i>
			<i>Relevant Experience: 4</i>
			<i>Targeted Skills: 4</i>
			<i>Conflict of Interest: 4</i>
			Total Score: 16

Profile

Patricia

First Name

Johnson

Last Name

trish@gametheoryacademy.org

Email Address

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Charter School Governing Board: Submitted

[Redacted]

Street Address

[Redacted]

Suite or Apt

Oakland

City

CA

State

94609

Postal Code

Which Board of Education election district (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7) do you live in? *

District 1

Mobile:

Primary Phone

[Redacted]

Alternate Phone

Raise Financial Advisors

Employer

Financial Advisor

Job Title

Financial Planning

Occupation

Employer's Street Address

[Redacted]

Employer's City

Oakland

Employer's State

CA

Employer's Zip

94609

Work Phone

Work Email

Interests & Experiences

Please explain briefly your interest in serving on this Committee, Commission or Board:

I am interested in learning about, and contributing to, the governance of our school systems. I have always valued education as an enriching and essential part of childhood, but the prolonged, pandemic-related shutdown of the schools, and ensuing negative impact on children's well-being and family economics, has heightened my understanding of schools' role in durability of a family's fabric. As a child, I loved school. I want every child in Oakland to be offered the ingredients to love school in their own way, so they develop the confidence and sense of purpose that are as important as the academic skills needed for college and careers.

Please indicate your other community involvement (work with public agencies, volunteering, other Committees, Commissions, Boards, groups, etc.):

As founder/director of Game Theory Academy, I led (and still lead) the board of directors, alongside an elected chair. Related to my Game Theory Academy role, I have sat on committees the following community collaboratives: Alameda County Community Asset Network, Oakland Youth-Friendly Business Network, and Oakland Youth Ally Alliance. For three years I served as board treasurer of International Development Exchange (IDEX).

 Upload a Resume

Question applies to multiple boards

Do you have any reason, such as a potential or actual conflict of interest (real estate, business, litigation, etc.), which may or will adversely affect your ability to serve on this Commission, Committee or Board.

Yes No

Question applies to multiple boards

If Yes, please explain.

Question applies to Charter School Governing Board

Question applies to the Charter School Governing Board

I have board governing experience, with Game Theory Academy and IDEX. Both are nonprofit organizations. Both involved managing and making hard decisions regarding leadership transitions, fundraising fluctuations, and sudden growth. My financial management background has primarily been at small to medium sized organizations. I have never managed the finances of an organization facing zero financial challenges. My career timeline is marked by hard decisions, as well as the thrill of expansion. My orientation to financial and economic puzzles goes back to childhood, but I have built my financial career around meaningful organizations, and a commitment to breaking down barriers to opportunity for people shut out from mainstream success. Numbers tell a story, but numbers are not the story.

Question applies to Charter School Governing Board

Question applies to the Charter School Governing Board

I do not have any potential or actual conflicts of interest, to my knowledge.

Demographics

Choosing not to answer any of the questions in this section will not disqualify you from consideration or serving.

Ethnicity

Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

Gender

Female

Socio-Economic Group

[REDACTED]

Verification

Please indicate your agreement with the following statement

I have reviewed and understand the duties of the Commission or Committee for which I am submitting this application. I agree to perform said duties. I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

I Agree

Your application must be **completed and submitted on-line via this web form**. For assistance, if needed, or response to questions, please contact Edgar Rakestraw, Jr., Executive Assistant, Board of Education, Oakland Unified School District, 1000 Broadway, Suite 300, Oakland, CA 94607-4033 or 510/879-8658 or via email at Edgar.Rakestraw@ousd.org. Your application must be **submitted** by the applicable deadline, if any.

Note: This application and your responses are a Public record and subject to disclosure.

Patricia E. Johnson

trish@gametheoryacademy.org

Professional Experience

Jan. 2021– Present **Raise Financial Advisors** Oakland, California

Founder and Financial Advisor

- Launched a boutique firm dedicated to guiding families through goal-led planning to design investment strategies for retirement, education, and other goals.

Jan. 2019– Dec. 2019 **Youth Radio/YR Media** Oakland, California

Director, Planning & Growth

- Wrote strategic and operations plans uniting board, leadership, and staff in mission and revenue goals during transition from founder to hired executive leadership.

Mar. 2018– Sept. 2018 **Sixup PBC, Inc.** San Francisco, California

Associate Director, Sixup Foundation

- Led redesign and functionality upgrade of digital college decisioning tool, including aggregation of user data, rewriting user-facing content, and UX/UI re-conceptualization.
- Wrote winning proposal that led to funding and participation in a fintech incubator.

2008 – Present **Game Theory Academy** Oakland, California

Founder and Executive Director

Envisioned, operationalized, and scaled an award-winning financial skills curriculum for low-income youth grounded in strategic thinking principles, serving 4,000+ youth with multi-year support from 35 private and corporate foundations and 300+ individual donors.

Key Accomplishments:

- Pivoted to virtual strategy to increase program reach and sustain student opportunities during pandemic.
- Hired and trained business executives to deliver curriculum to teens in school settings, leading to improved decision-making and increased savings for a majority of students.
- Developed short- and long-term metrics to demonstrate effectiveness in improving financial skills, decision-making, and goal achievement for a majority of participants.
- Leveraged volunteer and in-kind resources, and a diverse revenue portfolio, to achieve outsized program outcomes relative to budget size: operated a balanced budget under \$400,000, raising \$2M over ten years to serve 4,000 students.
- Led communications strategy that fueled fund development, volunteer acquisition and recognition as “Innovative Idea” by the Corporation for Enterprise Development and “Childrens Education Program of the Year” by The Institute for Financial Literacy.
- Designed staffing plan that identified key competencies in college students, trained them to run all aspects of program operations, and transitioned them to graduate study.
- Developed chart of accounts, hired and oversaw bookkeeping and audit contractors; generated reports in accordance with grant requirements and public compliance.
- Led board of directors through multiple phases of organizational change, increasing engagement, oversight, and issue-area expertise, and fundraising.
- Served on the Steering Committees of the Alameda County Community Asset Network, Oakland Youth-Friendly Business Network, and Oakland Youth Ally Alliance.

Director and Co-Founder, WOW Farm Youth Entrepreneurship Program 2012–2018

- Designed an urban farm social enterprise that has served as a job training engine for 150+ low-income youth, 80% of whom report employment and promotions within one year.
- Wrote business curriculum rooted in decision theory that integrates entrepreneurship

planning, financial management, and triple bottom line analysis, resulting in measured improvement in professionalism, personal finance habits, and socioemotional growth.

- Negotiated land leases and ran capital campaign that raised 117% of target fund.
- Cultivated customer base among upscale restaurants including Flora and Chez Panisse, increasing sales revenues 800% over four years to cover 21% of program budget.
- Conducted media strategy that led to coverage in The Atlantic, San Francisco Chronicle, East Bay Express, Oakland Tribune, Edible East Bay, and Country Gardens Magazine.

2002 – 2011

New America Media San Francisco, California

Director, California Council on Youth Relations 2005–2011

- Launched advocacy program for probation and foster youth: moderated 40 conference presentations; built speakers bureau of at-risk young adults; executive produced two policy videos recognized by the Governor for excellence in adult-youth collaboration.
- Secured and implemented first-ever California Dept. of Mental Health contract to conduct focus groups with youth clients to shape state funding guidelines.
- Conceptualized and launched youth-run literacy program and magazine in Fresno, Ca., that became an influential voice in local and state policy.
- Built collaborations with juvenile detention facilities in California, New Mexico and Minnesota to implement literacy projects that improved participant mental health.

Finance and Development Director 2002–2007

- Wrote business plan for earned income social marketing venture that generated over \$15M over five years from political, philanthropic and corporate clients.
- Coached project managers to lead a 65-person staff in financial and strategic planning.
- Managed cash flow, budgeting and financial reporting as organization increased in scope from \$2M to \$6M budget; negotiated major bridge loans, re-designed chart of accounts, oversaw annual audits and created deficit reduction plan.

1998 – 2000

Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Prague, Czech Republic

Youth Network Coordinator

- Edited international political youth magazine for distribution in 25 countries.

1995 – 1997

Berkeley Roundtable on the International Economy Berkeley, California

Research Assistant

Service

International Development Exchange San Francisco, California

Board Treasurer 2008 – 2011

Education

UC Berkeley Extension Berkeley, California

Certificate in Personal Financial Planning, 2021

Yale School of Management New Haven, Connecticut

Master of Business Administration (MBA), 2002. Concentration in Finance.

University of California at Berkeley Berkeley, California

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, 1996. Honor Graduate.

Interests

Bluegrass guitar and song-leading