Name: Melissa R. LaCrosse                  Region: Marion

District/ESD/CC: Jefferson 14J          Position #: 12

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: ___________________________________ Date: 19 Sept 2019

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

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

OSBA serves member school districts, educational service districts and community colleges. OSBA is committed to developing boards, providing quality training and affordable services such as policy development, bargaining, and insurance (PACE.) OSBA is dedicated to improving student success and advocacy and the state and federal levels.

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

I want to continue serving my region, well represent both our small and large districts and our diverse issues. While we have seen gains in funding from the last legislative cycle, I would like to see stability for our budgets. I am concerned for unfunded mandates that effect our districts and have wide impacts on our programs and budgets.

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 am tenacious and passionate about quality education and safe schools for our students. I spent two years (three election cycles) working and advocating for a school bond in my district. It passed on the third attempt.

I learn quickly, I research thoroughly and apply what I learn. This skill set is helpful working with policy matters and legislation.
4. What do you see as the two most challenging issues faced by OSBA?

I believe legal challenges to PERS Reform will be an issue. While we made gains in funding, we have not achieved stable funding or Constitutional amendment to fund our schools at the Quality Education Model. We need to ensure stable and equitable funding for our school districts.

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

The Marion County Region holds the heart of our State government, containing some of the State’s smaller and larger districts. Our districts are diverse, but I think our two largest issues are sustainable adequate / equitable funding and protecting our most vulnerable student populations, while providing a school environment where all our students can learn and find success.

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

I attend regional meetings, summer camp and convention; I will continue to be active at those. I have a goal to visit all boards in my region. I will use email, phone and various forms of social media to communicate and be available.

Deadline: September 27, 2019, 5 pm

Materials submitted by the candidate on this form may be subject to a public information request under ORS Chapter 192.
Name: Melissa R. LaCrosse        Date: 19 Sept 2019
Address: PO Box 754
City / ZIP Jefferson, OR 97352
Business phone: N/A
Residence phone: 541-327-8070
Cell phone: 503-949-2032
E-mail: melissa.lacrosse@jefferson.k12.or.us
District/ESD/CC: Jefferson 14J
Term expires: 6/30/2023  Years on board: 4

Work or service performed for OSBA or local district (include committee name and if you were chair):
JSD 14J Finance Committee Jan 2019 – present
JSD 14J Policy Committee July 2018 – present
OSBA Governance Committee Feb 2018 – present
JSD 14J Bond Oversight Committee July 2017 – present
JSD 14J Chair July 2017 – June 2018
JSD 14J Vice Chair July 2016 – June 2017
JSD 14J Bargaining Team July 2015 – May 2018
For Kids 4 Jefferson PAC (School Bond PAC) Oct 2015 – June 2017
JSD Classroom Volunteer Sept 2013 – present

Other education board positions held/dates:
N/A

Occupation (Include at least the past five years):
Employers:
Jefferson School District Volunteer Dates:
Sept 2013 – Present
Self Employed – Small Business Owner July 2013 – Present
Lane County Human Resources July 2010 – June 2013
Marion County Human Resources Jan 2009 – July 2010

Deadline: September 27, 2019, 5 pm
Please send your picture (head shot). A high-resolution digital photo is preferred but a print is acceptable.
E-mail to OSBAelections@osba.org, or mail to: Oregon School Boards Association, 1201 Court St NE, #400,
Salem, OR 97301
**Schools attended** (Include official name of school, where and when):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High school</th>
<th>College</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crescent Valley High School</td>
<td>Willamette University College of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corvallis, Oregon</td>
<td>Salem, Oregon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oregon State University</td>
<td>Oregon State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corvallis, Oregon</td>
<td>Corvallis, Oregon</td>
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</tbody>
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**Degrees earned:**

- Bachelors of Science in Political Science
- Oregon State University

**Education honors and/or awards:**

N/A

**Other applicable training or education:**

- OSBA Leadership Oregon Graduate 2017
- Negotiations and Collaboration: Getting to Yes – Senator David Landis / Chinook Institute
- Taking your Negotiation Skills to the Next Level – National Public Employer Labor Relations Association
- Leading with Emotional Intelligence – Suzanne Rotondo / REDSHIFT Leadership
- Cats & Dogs: Managing and Maintaining Relationships – Sari de le Motte / FORTE
- Don't Shoot the Messenger: Preserving Relationships – Sari de le Motte / FORTE

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

I actively serve my community and volunteer in the classroom. I work to support the students, families and teachers in my district. The past four years I worked on a bond project in our district - we successfully passed our bond by 15 votes on the third attempt. Our students moved into a new middle school, 6 new elementary school classrooms and a gymnasium the beginning of the 2019-20 school year. I have been a part of the Marion County Health and Human Services Drug and Alcohol Workgroup for the last year. I will continue to be a member of the coalition to reduce drug and alcohol use in our schools and Marion County.

**Hobbies/special interests:**

I enjoy the outdoors, gardening and have backyard chickens that I adore. I love singing and music. If I have spare time, you might find me reading. Family is important to me. My husband is in law enforcement. We have a daughter that just began high school. My son is a Jefferson graduate. He currently attends Chemeketa and is enrolled in a 2 year Computer-Aided Design/Computer-Aided Manufacturing program.

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

N/A
Additional comments:

I started this journey six years ago in the classroom helping 4th graders with reading, spelling and math. I was one of those children that needed help myself – in first and second grade I went to the reading lab, but by fourth grade I was in a TAG reading program. I believe we can make the difference working together. I look around, and see so many things that need fixing. I hope by continuing in the classroom, serving on my local board and serving on the regional board that I can make a difference. I want to give our children the opportunities I had for success, and that they would grow to have a lifelong love of learning.

The past two years serving the Marion Region on the Oregon School Boards Association Board of Directors has been a privilege. I have had the opportunity to represent both Jefferson and Marion Region school districts in Washington DC and in Salem. I am committed to telling our stories, the ones that will make a difference and bring stable funding for our student’s learning and success.

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