

# CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

## OSBA Board of Directors

Name: Chris Cronin

Region: Eastern

District/ESD/CC: Grant County ESD

Position #: 1

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.

Chris Cronin

Name

Sept. 14, 2021

Date

***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 students, board members and school districts all over Oregon by providing information, expertise, support, training and advocacy at the regional, state and national levels. OSBA provides services such as board leadership training, legal assistance, policy review, and legislative advocacy.

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

I want to continue to be a voice for small, rural school districts and ESDs as we discuss how best to advocate for and to serve all Oregon students. I look forward to working with educational leaders as schools and students begin to recover from the effects of the pandemic. There is much work to be done to promote and ensure student academic success and social and emotional well-being.

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 encourage robust discussion with many voices. The best decisions are made after hearing from all stakeholders. I chaired our board as our district sought student, staff and public input as we established a student health center, began student drug tests, hired a Resource Officer, and searched for a new Superintendent. Because we included all stakeholders, those efforts were successful and supported.

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

Immediately, the OSBA's greatest challenge is assisting districts and boards as their students and staff recover from the effects of the pandemic. Schools will need resources and funding for years to come in order to help students make up for learning losses and the impacts on student mental health and well-being.

OSBA also has a role to play to unite district school boards, staff, superintendents, students and parents to work together toward common goals. The disruptions to our communities in the past two years have created cultural and political divisions that are negatively affecting students.

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

Both of the issues stated as challenges for the OSBA are also challenges faced by my region.

Also, recruiting and retaining qualified teachers, staff, and administrators remains a huge challenge, made even more difficult by the pandemic, especially in our mostly remote Northeastern Oregon school districts.

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

I regularly update regional board members via the OSBA list serve. I attend (and encourage board members in my region to attend) OSBA events such as the Fall Regionals and the summer and fall conventions. I am always accessible via phone or email.

**Deadline: October 1, 2021, 5 pm**

*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: \_\_\_Chris Cronin\_\_\_\_\_ Date: September 8, 2021

Address: 215 Franke Drive\_\_\_\_\_

City / ZIP: John Day, OR 97845\_\_\_\_\_

Business phone: NA \_\_\_\_\_

Residence phone: NA \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: (541) 620-1280

E-mail: croninville@gmail.com \_\_\_\_\_

District/ESD/CC: Grant County ESD\_\_\_\_\_

Term expires: June, 2022 \_\_\_ Years on board: \_\_\_1<sup>ST</sup>\_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline: October 1, 2021, 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](mailto:OSBAelections@osba.org)  
or mail to: Oregon School Boards Association, 1201 Court St NE, #400, Salem, OR 97301

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

Grant School District #3 (John Day) Board of Directors: July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2021

Board Chair: 6 years

Grant County ESD Board of Directors: appointed May, 2021

**Other education board positions held/dates:**

Grant County ESD Budget Committee: 2016-2021

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

Employers:

Eastern Oregon University, Regional Center Director

Dates: 1993-2017

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

High school: Burns Union High School, Burns, Oregon 1966-1970

College: Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio – 1970-1971

Southern Oregon University 1971-1972, Ashland, Oregon

University of Oregon, 1972-1973, Eugene, Oregon

Oregon State University 1973-1974, Corvallis, Oregon

University of North Dakota, 1978-1979, Grant Forks, North Dakota

Eastern Oregon University, 1992-1993, LaGrande, Oregon (distance learning)

Degrees earned: Bachelor of Science in Education, 1979, University of North Dakota

**Education honors and/or awards:**

Magna Cum Laude

Beta Sigma Phi

Distinguished Administrative Professional 2017, Eastern Oregon University

**Other applicable training or education:**

Graduate Credits in Education from Eastern Oregon University

OSBA board development in Roles and Responsibilities, Community Engagement, Board Leadership

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

Blue Mountain Healthcare Foundation

City of John Day Fire Station Advisory Committee

City of John Day Project Advisory Council

City of John Day Budget Committee

EOU/BMCC College Advisory Committee

**Hobbies/special interests:**

Exploring and enjoying Oregon outdoors via hiking & camping & regular beach trips

Gardening

Book club member for 25 years

Travel – US and International

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

NACADA (Global Community for Academic Advising): 1993-2017

Beta Sigma Phi: 2014-2017

UPCEA (Association for Professional, Online, and Continuing Education): 2010-2017

**Additional comments:**

It would be an honor to represent the 37 ESDs and school boards of Wheeler, Grant, Union, Wallowa, Baker and Malheur counties of OSBA's Eastern Region 1.

**Deadline: October 1, 2021, 5 pm**

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