OSBA Board of Directors
CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Name: Syed Qasim Date: 09/25/2026

Address: [redacted]

City/Zip: [redacted]

Business phone:

Residence phone:

Cell phone: [redacted]

E-mail:

District/ESD/CC: Beaverton School District

Term expires: June 2029 Years on board: 1

Region: Washington Position #: 15



is
me

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.

Syed Qasim 09/25/2026

Name 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 exists so Oregon's school boards can govern well and speak with one voice in Salem. It trains us, offers policy and legal support, and advocates for students. It helps boards connect the dots between goals, funding and results, so every student gets a fair shot at success.

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

   I want to help OSBA support boards get ahead of AI and education technology instead of playing catch-up: model policy, student privacy protections and shared vendor vetting. I want state funding tied to what students actually need. And I want every board to see clearly which investments are working.

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.

   Systems thinking. As a technology architect, I look at how parts connect before fixing one. I've brought that lens to the Oregon Network for Education Excellence, helping frame our challenges as one chain linking governance, goals, funding and student results. On my board, I push for lasting structures.

OSBA Board of Directors

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

First, funding. Oregon spends more per student than most states, yet outcomes lag, and our formula is 35 years old. Second, edtech and AI are outpacing policy: devices, screen time, student data, AI tools. OSBA can help boards connect goals, dollars and results instead of each district deciding alone.

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

First, Washington County districts are losing students while pension and staffing costs rise, forcing cuts that reach classrooms. Second, we are Oregon's technology hub, yet capacity is uneven: small rural districts like Gaston have far less than Beaverton. Shared regional expertise on technology helps every board.

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

Within a week of every OSBA board meeting, each of our eight boards gets a one-page brief: decisions, what's next, where your input matters. In year one, I'll attend a meeting of every board. I'll host monthly virtual office hours and survey the region's priorities before each legislative session.

Please continue to the next section.

OSBA Board of Directors
CANDIDATE PERSONAL/PROFESSIONAL RESUME

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

Beaverton School District Board of Directors, Zone 5 — elected May 2025; serving July 2025 to present (term through June 2029).
Committees: Legislative Advocacy Committee (2026-27); Budget Committee (2025 to present); Audit Committee (2025-26).

Other education board positions held/dates:

Board Member, Cool Islam - a Community based education organization providing access to education for Arabic.

Occupation (Include at least the past five years):

Employers:	Dates:
Salesforce - Senior Technology Consultant	09/2020 - Present
Planar Systems - Business Systems Manager	03/2019 - 09/2020
Nike - Product Owner for Product Data Reporting	10/2018 - 03/2019

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

High school:

College: Portland State University

Degrees earned: Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy

Education honors and/or awards:

Other applicable training or education:

Technology and Systems Certifications across Microsoft, Google and other ecosystems

Activities, other state and local community services:

Co-chair, City of Beaverton Climate Action Task Force (2021–2024)
Beaverton Inclusive Housing cohort, City of Beaverton (2020)
Board member / advisor to local nonprofits including Cool Islam and Wake Up Beaverton
Oregon Network for Education Excellence (ONE) — contributor to its statewide content and framing on education governance and funding, as

Hobbies/special interests:

Watching movies and tv shows
Playing Cricket
Community connections

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

Co-chair, City of Beaverton Climate Action Task Force (2021–2024)
Beaverton Inclusive Housing cohort (2020)

Additional comments: