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Board Member Recruitment

Take this opportunity to learn about League of Education Voters (LEV) and League of Education Voters Foundation. We hope that as you learn more about our organization, you would like to partner with us to have a meaningful impact on education in the state of Washington, so all children can have access to opportunities for success.

Interviews, a completed application and board approval are all next steps in our recruitment process. Ensuring that LEV is a good fit for you and that you are a good fit for us is crucial in developing a high-quality board and to the overall success of LEV and League of Education Voters Foundation.

If you are interested in a board position, please complete our online application form:
<https://educationvoters.salsalabs.org/boardrecruitment>

Questions? Contact LEV CEO Lauri Hennessey at LauriH@EducationVoters.org

Who we are

League of Education Voters is a non-partisan organization that partners with students, families, and civic leaders who believe in a high-quality public education from cradle to career. **Our vision is that every student in Washington state has access to an excellent public education that provides equitable opportunities for success.** Our work has influenced crucial issues such as education funding, school discipline, early childhood education, and charter public schools. The biggest successes have come when LEV leads, rallies, and supports partners and communities, working together to demand change. We shape the debate, build powerful coalitions, amplify individual voices, and mobilize people to advocate to achieve meaningful reform and ample

resources for education. League of Education Voters was founded in 2001 by Washingtonians to support an education system that provides all students an equal opportunity for success from cradle to career. Working on behalf of students, LEV has successfully led the charge on many of the landmark funding and policy decisions helping improve the education landscape in Washington.

The League of Education Voters is made up of three separate organizations: a 501(c)3, 501(c)4, and a PAC.

Mission

To achieve our vision, the LEV and the LEV Foundation will:

- Develop community-informed, targeted policy solutions to benefit students impacted by racism, poverty, disability discrimination, and other forms of oppression.
- Advocate for ample, equitable, and stable resources to meet the needs of every student.
- Mobilize families, businesses, youth, educators, communities, and other stakeholders to understand and remove the systemic barriers to each student's success within the public education system.
- Partner with stakeholders to advocate for equitable, high-quality, and fully-funded education.
- Highlight research-driven and promising educational practices that prepare students to reach their full potential and contribute meaningfully to our democracy and economy.
- Provide voters, stakeholders, policymakers, and the media with strategic, accurate, and timely information about public education in Washington state.

WHY WE SERVE

- Learn about and discuss education policy in Washington state
- Be involved in advocating and improving education for all students across the state.
- Add a unique perspective.
- Build networks and relationships with people who have a shared passion for improving education.
- Offer and use your expertise.
- Have a lasting impact.

Our Values

At League of Education Voters, we base our work on the following values:

- **Put Students First**
Students have an important voice in shaping the education system. Families are critical partners in student success. We commit to working with students, families, and communities – especially Black, Indigenous and students of color, students with disabilities, students gaining English proficiency, students experiencing homelessness, foster youth, and other historically marginalized students – to identify barriers and formulate solutions together, and we support them in organizing to advocate for their future.
- **Honor Community Knowledge and Experience**
LEV recognizes that communities themselves offer the best definition of the challenges they face and often the best pathways for addressing them.
- **Embrace Anti-Racism**
We are committed to understanding and dismantling historic and systemic racism which creates stark inequities in education and being held accountable for our own action or inaction. We are also committed to looking inward at LEV's history, committing to changes, and being accountable for them.
- **Operationalize Equity**
We believe equity should lie at the heart of our decision-making. We must employ approaches and build structures and policies externally and internally that will be designed to embed equity at every decision point.
- **Advocate for Educators Who Better Reflect the Students They Serve**
We believe students need teachers and school leaders who reflect them, understand their lived experiences, and are equipped to help them succeed.
- **Pursue Collaboration**
We believe we are most effective when we work across the lines of difference toward common solutions. We will learn from the community and acknowledge the power of lived experience.
- **Act with Courage**
We will have the courage to act, to learn from our actions, and to strive to improve our practice with innovation and humility.
- **Remain Nonpartisan**
We believe education is not a partisan issue. We are deeply engaged in the political process but do not align ourselves with any political party.

Board Responsibilities / Expectations

At LEV, we believe education can create a better world. To make that world a reality, we need to be the strongest, smartest organization we can be. Board members play a crucial role in this work – in setting our policy course, determining our strategic goals and plans, and in growing the strength of the organization. The Board is focused on governance, fundraising, and supporting staff in key projects.

The **responsibilities** of LEV board members are to:

- Define the vision and mission of the organization and determine and monitor high-level outcomes and strategies.
- Ensure adequate ongoing financial resources for the organization to fulfill its vision and mission.
- Exercise fiduciary responsibility for the organization by overseeing the finances of the organization.
- Be an ambassador and advocate for the organization and its goals.
- Recruit, build, and develop board and executive leadership.
- Offer good judgement, logical thinking, and curiosity.

Expectations

Each board member can expect to serve a three-year (3) term and spend three to five hours a month on LEV-related business. Board members are expected to:

- Attend monthly in-person board meetings and an annual strategic planning session. These board meetings are for the board to discuss policy and strategic initiatives as well as allow LEV staff and committee chairs to report activities, progress, and challenges.
- Participate in various ad hoc projects and may serve on one or more committees. Committees meet monthly and work together on goals developed by the committees. We have standing, ad hoc, and advisory committees.
- Serve as advocates of LEV and promote its programs and outreach. Board members are expected to actively participate in the organization's events as appropriate to their time and availability.
- Make an annual monetary donation to the organization. Board members are expected to give to the best of their means, at a level they would consider generous. In addition, assist in the fund development process in the many other ways that can be helpful.