

Elections 2021

Statement to Membership from Angela Choe

Candidate for Parent Charter Board Member Position

ANGELA CHOE BSc ND

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Statement:

As a mother, I have personally experienced the highs and lows of navigating education for gifted children. I initially believed that I would best serve my own child's development by integrating them into traditional public school. My story I now know is one many parents experience of seeing their vibrant, happy, engaged children slowly developing school avoidance and disengaging. As a Naturopathic Doctor this awareness has shifted the way I support families with young children. I have seen the benefit time and time again when families go through the psycho educational assessment process and learn how to best support the unique learner in each child. Personally I am thrilled to hear comments on my daughters report cards about her participation and engagement with the class- our family truly feels the difference that gifted education makes.

I have always seen volunteering as part of a balanced happy life. The opportunity to volunteer on the Westmount Board of Directors blends my desire to give back to my community, impact an area I am passionate about, and use my unique blend of education and entrepreneurial skills where they may both be of benefit. I thrive working within a team of thinkers and doers. I am driven to see projects through, and have measurable markers of progress over time. It is how I treat each and every client I work with in my clinic, as well as how I have nurtured the growth of my business.

I feel Westmount Charter School is a vital and important school, which the community of gifted children in Calgary need. I wholeheartedly understand and believe in its mission to support a child first for who they are, to ultimately help them become the best they can be. I look forward to the opportunity to work within a Board of Directors to support Westmount in achieving its goals now and in the future.

Elections 2021

Statement to Membership from Shefun Jiwani-Ali

Candidate for Parent Charter Board Member Position

SHEFUN JIWANI-ALI



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WESTMOUNT CHARTER SCHOOL SOCIETY NOMINATING COMMITTEE 728-32 STREET NW

Dear Westmount Charter School Society,

This letter represents my interest in the position of parent board member of Westmount Charter school. I have included a copy of my resume outlining my background and experience. I would love the opportunity to give back by contributing my time and skills to Westmount Charter, the school by my daughter attends and benefits greatly from.

I am resourceful and have the ability to multi-task to ensure efficient and timely delivery of action items. As a business owner and school director, I have been able to effectively fundraise, budget, plan and organize events for staff, students and parents for a number of years.

My work with the Raindrop Gala allowed me to contribute my knowledge of fundraising skills by coming up with creative ways to fundraise during the economic downturn in Calgary. Our efforts allowed us to raise over \$300,000, exceeding the gala's goals.

I have been praised for my ability to be a strong leader and teammate to ensure that goals are achieved. I have a strong sense of community and strive for excellence in all my endeavors.

Westmount Charter School is a wonderful community and I am confident that I can make a meaningful contribution as a board member. Please contact me by phone or email at your convenience. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Shefun Jiwani-Ali

Elections 2021

Statement to Membership from Simon Corrin

Candidate for Parent Charter Board Member Position

February 7th, 2021

Dear Westmount Community,

My name is Simon Corrin and I am excited to express my interest in becoming a part of the Westmount Charter School Board as a parent member.

I have 3 children at Westmount, two at the Elementary Campus and one in the Mid-High. As such, I have a long-term interest in supporting the school's vision and mission. Our family's prior experience at other schools has highlighted the difference for us between a standard education and one that supports the varied needs of gifted students from the inside out. Nurturing a balance between soaring talents in certain areas with emerging, uneven skills requires a unique approach and education plan. I am wholeheartedly in support of gifted education, recognizing the critical roles of student resiliency and self-awareness. I promise to work tirelessly to support the board in ensuring these remain priorities through difficulties in budget, staffing, virtual teaching, and other external pressures we may face.

My prior board experience enables me to hit the ground running with the Westmount board. Some of this experience includes the University of Calgary Daycare Society and University Heights Community Association. As a member of the U of C Daycare Board, I actively participated in bringing a variety of proposals to support the board working through challenging budget cuts, ensuring we continued to meet high standards within the budgeted means available. With the community association I fulfill several roles, primarily focused on improving membership, community engagement, and the volunteer-run soccer program.

With my experience at the executive level of technology companies in Canada and the U.S., I have worked with gifted team members and have insight into how to set the stage for a successful and fulfilling work-life for the gifted. I enjoy working with teams and supporting individual growth, development, and resilience. A gifted education needs to align the students with a successful career path following their education.

I am an active member of our community and I look forward to long term engagement with the board, the school campuses, and the greater community. Thanks you for your consideration.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Simon Corrin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Simon Corrin

Elections 2021

Statement to Membership from Toddye Kam

Candidate for Parent Charter Board Member Position

Background information and Commitment to board membership and to the education of the gifted by Toddye Kam

Background

I moved to Calgary in the year 2000 from Hong Kong, China and have been living in the city since. After I finished my Bachelor Degree in Economics in the University of Calgary, I progressed my career at several different financial institutions. Throughout my career I was responsible for different roles and currently I am a Financial Advisor at Edward Jones. My primary responsibility is to help my clients achieve their financial goals by running different financial planning models and manage their investments and insurance with suitable solutions. I am also an active leader in Edward Jones and have held several different leadership roles to support others, contribute to business decision and support the growth of the firm.

I am married with my wife Lisa and have 2 children, Brandon and Selina. Both our children are considered gifted, Brandon is currently enrolled in grade 3 in the Westmount Chartered School and Selina is attending the TLC program while in the process of applying for grade 2 into Westmount for the 2021-2022 school year.

We have been living in the Panorama Hills community for the past 12 years and I am currently the vice president of the volunteer board in the community resident association, the Northstar Resident Association (NSRA). I joined the board in March 2018 as a director and have taken over the VP role in December of 2019. My main goal is to give back to the community that I live in and I have learned a lot over the past few years in this volunteer position.

Commitment to board membership and to the education of the gifted

It was fascinating for me to learn how Westmount educate their children differently than some of the traditional school. Our son Brandon loves the school since he joined this past September and is very happy going to school every day. Given that both of our children are gifted I am very committed to learn more about the best way to provide the best support to them and as well as contribute any way I could to help others with my experience. Every gifted child is different and even with the two we have at home they have vastly different personalities so I think different families can bring different unique things to the table and all can contribute to even further improve the school environment.

I have been on the NSRA volunteer board since 2018 and am familiar with spending time after work to join committee and board meetings. I have inquired about the time commitment for your board and am confident that I will be able to fulfill those commitments without issues. I believe my financial background and skills set will bring great value to your board.