



Information Technology & Software Engineering

AT THE FAIRCHILD WHEELER CAMPUS



Victor Black, Ed.D
Principal
XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

840 Old Town Rd
Bridgeport, CT
06606

March 20, 2019

Dear Magnet Schools of America Members,

I compose this letter to support my application to serve on the Board of Directors for Region I for Magnet Schools of America. For the past five years I have had the privilege of leading a now MSA Nationally Certified Magnet school and MSA School of Excellence in Bridgeport, CT. I am committed to the MSA philosophy and a believer in the foundational pillars of MSA. Magnet schools blur geographical lines and offer *all* children the opportunity to become fundamental members of a diverse learning community geared to sustain a global economy. It would be a great honor to serve the foundation that allowed me to broaden my views on education and educational policy.

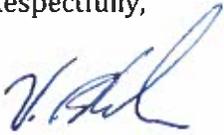
I have served in a leadership capacity in inner-city schools for over a decade; a city that continues to be impoverished, underfunded and failing; a city that approached education in the same manner, eliciting the same results, year after year. It wasn't until I was awarded the principal position of the new Interdistrict magnet school that I began to realize the need for a shift. As a magnet school principal, with the support of my staff and stakeholders, we built the school from the ground up, using the MSA pillars as the foundation. Over the past five years, together we have worked tirelessly to implement the pillars with fidelity. We are seeing results. Our city students are out-performing their same-age counterparts in both the city and suburbs. Our students are graduating and going to college, getting scholarships, learning very unique skills, interfacing and appreciating diversity; our students are seeing success, all of them!. Had I not had the opportunity to both understand and implement the MSA philosophy, I fear that my educational views would've remained stagnant and would not have positively impacted so many students in so many ways.

For that reason, I have taken the charge to help move my district in a direction that also supports the MSA foundational pillars. Our district strategic plan, of which I assisted in the development and implementation, now also includes MSA beliefs, standards and philosophies. It is my hope that the same positive results will impact more children in the city that I have dedicated my career to.

I have served on multiple Boards of Education: CASA- Connecticut Association of School administrators (Board Member), BPEF -Bridgeport Public education Fund (Board Member), BCAS- Bridgeport Council of Administrators and Supervisors (President) and believe these experiences have provided me with the skill-set necessary to be a successful board member of Magnet Schools of America. Some of these responsibilities include: regularly attending and preparing for board meeting, reviewing and commenting on minutes, staying informed about committee matters and reporting to stakeholders the organization's goals and performance. I am staunch in my commitment, an informed decision-maker, articulate and financially literate.

Nothing would please me more than to be given the opportunity to serve as director for the Region I MSA Schools for the 2019-2021 term. The opportunity would allow me to give back to an entity that gave me the opportunity to change education for children in my city and have a greater impact on children across the region. I am a steadfast believer and champion for Magnet Schools of America and as such will be an asset to the MSA board. My enclosed resume will provide you with more details regarding my qualifications and experiences.

Respectfully,



Victor Black, Ed.D
Principal
Information Technology & Software Engineering High School
Fairchild Wheeler Interdistrict Magnet Campus

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-If a child can't learn the way we teach, maybe we should teach the way they learn." (Ignacio Estrada)