

December 2020

Dear Members of Magnet Schools of America,

It has been my great pleasure and honor to serve as the treasurer of Magnet Schools of America (MSA) for the last four years. This letter of intent serves to convey my sincere interest in serving our organization for another two-year term.

For those not familiar with my experience, prior to serving as treasurer, I also served as the executive director of MSA and understand the fiscal operations at the granular level. I have been principal of two incredible magnet schools (one of them a nationally certified demonstration school) and currently work as the director of education services in a large intermediate school district that provides choice and opportunity through a wide-range of programming and schools. Most importantly, I believe and am committed to magnet schools' mission and purpose and what our organization stands for. I have a deep understanding of what this work looks like at the school and district level, and at the national level, and the fiscal experience to support it.

As we close out FY2020 and begin a new, hopefully, post-COVID era, MSA needs consistent and focused fiscal leadership. While I have been treasurer, we have had clean audits or reviews each year, and have not had to utilize our line of credit or reserves for the last two years. Under these current circumstances, this is remarkable, and I am proud to have supported our team at MSA through this challenging time when many nonprofits are no longer viable. In collaboration with stakeholders, I also developed a fiscal policy structure, approved by the board, that spells out fiscal goals, how and when to utilize our investments, and how those decisions align to our mission, reinvestment, infrastructure, sustainability, and program development. I bring an understanding of our relationships with our financial institutions and businesses, talented staff, and the ebbs and flows of the fiscal cycle. Part of my role is to make our complex financial information clear and digestible to the board to make informed choices and clear to our membership at annual meetings. As principal, I also understand the realities and priorities of tight school budgets and always try to make our events accessible given these limitations.

Serving as treasurer also means also serving on the executive committee. This collaborative relationship and partnership with our president, president-elect, past-president, and secretary, address and support MSA's day-to-day operations. We're a great team, and with your support, I will work with diligence to keep MSA moving in the right direction and financially viable in the years to come.

I am and continue to be humbled and appreciative of your trust and support in this important role within MSA. I hope I will earn your vote.

Sincerely,



Scott Thomas