



MY COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF NEVADA

(Modified from BoardWalk Consulting)

As a member of the board of directors of Communities In Schools of Nevada, I am fully committed and dedicated to the mission of Communities In Schools of Nevada:

To surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

I pledge to help carry out this mission, consistent with the functions of a board member, as stated in the bylaws.

The Role of the Board

As a board member, I have both the opportunity and the obligation to help establish strategic direction, set broad policy, steward the assets, and hire and evaluate the CEO/executive director, all in support of the organization's stated mission. I commit to fulfilling these obligations with my time, talent, treasure and relationships.

The Role of Management

I understand that the CEO/executive director is responsible, under the board's direction, for developing the long-range plan for board approval, devising short- and medium-term objectives in pursuit of that plan, and then managing the organization's resources to meet those objectives.

Preparation

I will work diligently to understand the mission, purpose, goals and programs of the organization, and I will prepare for all board and committee meetings by reviewing all related documents and materials in advance.

Fiscal and Program Oversight

Together with my fellow board members, I am responsible for the fiscal oversight of the organization. Regardless of whether I am a member of the finance or audit committee, I will know what our budget is and take an active part in reviewing and approving the budget and monitoring our performance against that budget. If I do not understand an element of the fiscal health, I will reach out to the appropriate board members, committees or staff for clarification.

Active Participation in Board Meetings

I will attend regularly scheduled board meetings, be available for consultation by phone and e-mail, and serve on at least one committee of the board where I can apply my special skills and perspective. I will come prepared to discuss the issues and business at hand, and I will help prepare for and participate in the annual board-staff retreat, typically scheduled on an annual basis. If I miss without proper notice three consecutive board meetings or one committee meeting, or am otherwise unable to fulfill my obligations as a board member, I will offer my resignation or request a leave of absence.

Active Participation in Major Events

I will attend Communities In Schools of Nevada's major public events and fund-raisers and will actively encourage support and attendance by my friends and colleagues as well.

Public Representation

As a board member, I know that I am a de facto ambassador for the organization, and I will strive to represent the organization in the best possible ways. I will never offer myself as an official spokesperson for the organization without proper authority from the board or CEO/executive director.

Financial Support

Overall fund-raising efforts. I expect to be actively involved throughout the year in some aspect of Communities In Schools of Nevada's fund-raising efforts. More particularly, I will help identify and cultivate potential supporters, and I agree to make a limited number of calls on potential supporters.

Annual campaigns. I will make a personal financial donation to Communities In Schools of Nevada each year to signify that the organization is a personal philanthropic priority. Additionally, at a minimum, I will make an annual commitment to give/get at least \$10,000. I will also work with the board chair, CEO/executive director or development director to come up with a giving plan that is reasonable for my personal situation, and I will leverage the organization's staff to help me secure sources for this level of funding.

Capital campaigns. As plans for capital or endowment fund raising are developed and approved by the board, I understand that board members are typically expected to make leadership gifts to demonstrate the board's collective commitment to achieving these goals. Although I am not making a specific capital pledge at this point, I will participate to the extent possible in any capital campaign.

Planned gifts. I understand that each trustee is encouraged to make provision for Communities In Schools of Nevada in his or her estate plan, and I agree to do so for at least as long as I am a member of the organization's board.

Staff Support

I recognize the significant obligations of the staff in carrying out the organization's work, and I will do my best not to interfere with the staff's operating responsibilities.

Confidentiality and Bylaws

I understand that the board must speak with one voice, and therefore I agree not to divulge board-level discussions to others unless the board has adopted a different policy for a specific instance or issue. I have read and understand the organization's bylaws, and I agree to operate in conformity with them.

Communities In Schools of Nevada's Commitment to Me

As part of the organization's execution of its mission, CIS makes the following commitment to its board members:

- We will provide you the opportunity for meaningful and rewarding service to our mission and our community;
- We will provide you in a timely way with the information you need to be an effective board

member;

- We will be diligent in making the best possible use of the assets you make available to us, whether those be assets of time, wisdom, experience, relationships or money;
- We will schedule meetings in advance, and we will start and end meetings on time, unless a majority of those present at the time elect otherwise;
- We will make every effort to keep our meetings brief, relevant, interesting and productive;
- We will respond to the best of our ability to your questions and concerns;
- We will encourage your feedback and criticism; and
- We will do our utmost to be an organization of which all stakeholders can be proud.

Our Agreement

By signing this document, we acknowledge that board service implies a three-way commitment: from board members individually, board members collectively and the organization as a whole. Even though this commitment letter is non-binding in a legal sense, we understand that the organization will rely on the collective commitments of its board members in formulating its plans and executing its strategy. Furthermore, we request that the commitments in this letter be made part of our annual governance evaluation.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Board Member

Signed:  _____ Date: _____
Raymond Specht, *Board Chair*

Signed:  _____ Date: _____
Tami Hance-Lehr, CEO/State Director