Sue Murphy, State Director

Washington Science Olympiad   
15112 W 3rd Addition Rd.

Cheney, WA 99004

April 21, 2022

Dear Ms. Murphy, Science Olympiad Board members:

As a parent, coach, and an enthusiastic supporter for the Science Olympiad, I would like to serve on the Washington Science Olympiad board. Compared to the distinguished services by current board members, my involvement with Science Olympiad is rather short. Nonetheless, in the last 6-7 years of engagement, I am inspired by the educators and volunteers for their tireless work in STEM and the impact of Science Olympiad in student’s lives. I am confident I can bring perspective from my personal and industry experience to help with the missions of WA Science Olympiad Board.

I am a Principal Engineer at Intel Corp. and work on semiconductor design R&D for last 24 years. In my spare time, I served as a coordinator and assistant coach for Camas Science Olympiad teams, and this year coached the Skyridge Middle School teams. It was a special experience. For many students, Science Olympiad is the single most influential part of their life. However, the workload on teachers can become very exhausting, with significant growth of our student interest. So a few similar-minded parents volunteered to work with students and help make the endeavor more sustainable. I find working with kids and proctoring tests very rewarding as it gives me a window to the amazing growth of students through the high and lows of each season. I also devote time and my organization skill to hosting Camas Invitational tournaments. Last year at Camas B, we had 80+ volunteers, including many graduated students who simply want to give back, and we all were so proud to see how it went smoothly for the 30-plus teams.

Traveling to each tournament in the state allowed me to get to know other coaches and volunteers. Several of them served on the board and most were involved in organizing activities at regional and State levels. I saw first-hand how their service contributed to STEM education in S.W. region and the State. Some of them shared with me their experience helping students from a wide range of backgrounds. The tremendous impact by these educators and volunteers motivated me to apply for this position. For all the things I learned from other volunteers and from coaches here in Camas, I felt like a graduate myself. It would be an honor for me to give back as well.

Here I included my resume and a no-conflict affidavit as required by Intel Corporation. If chosen, I will be eager to learn from the board, helping out at regional and state tournaments, improving visibility and sustainability across regions, and collaborating with other volunteers. I also see opportunities to get more student alumni involved at all levels and build a stronger presence of WA nationally. I look forward to hearing your feedback soon.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely



Lei Jiang, Ph. D.

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