



Responses to candidate questionnaires

Responses are unedited, presented as received up to the allowable word count



Scott Walker

Candidate for Board Vice President/President

1. Describe the leadership experiences you have had. Include significant accomplishments at the local, state, and or/national levels.

In addition to my service to Oregon Thespians, OTEA, and EdTA Boards, I have served on multiple committees for the North Clackamas School District, the most significant being the development of the Certificate of Advanced Mastery program and the Senior Seminar graduation requirement program and the adoption of the current block schedule (in effect for over two decades). Charged by our superintendent, I was part of the team that investigated options to capitalize on our award-winning fine and performing arts program at Milwaukie High School. The outcome was the creation of Milwaukie Academy of the Arts, a hybrid public charter school that has earned national recognition and awards and is currently in its 17th year. I have been awarded the OTEA Rex Rabold Memorial award and Melba Day Sparks award, the 2018 Oregon Regional Teacher of the Year award, and I am an inductee of the EdTA Hall of Fame.

2. Share other information about yourself (education, personal and/or professional experiences, publications, awards, personal strengths, etc.) that you think would make you a qualified candidate and benefit the EdTA Board of Directors.

The only one of five boys in my family to graduate high school and the first to go to college, I wanted to be a teacher since junior high school but I did not see a pathway to that goal. I was recruited into the music education program at Western Oregon State College when I was a senior and pursued my goal of becoming a high school teacher, ultimately settling on Theatre and Language Arts. I served my entire 30-year career as a theatre educator at Milwaukie High School while also involving myself in leadership positions including Chapter Director of Oregon Thespians, President of Oregon Theatre Educators' Association, and Board Director for EdTA. I also found a passion for cultures, food, adventures, and travel, and have led student educational tours to England, France, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, and Greece as well as personal trips to Mexico, Fiji, China, Portugal, and Scotland.



3. The EdTA Governing Board establishes policy guiding the Executive Director, staff and members to develop programs which advance our mission. Explain how you could help the Board forward EdTA's mission and strategic priorities.

Two of my strengths are communication and bringing people together, and I would capitalize on these skills to assist our new Executive Director as she learns about members and members' needs across the diverse community that makes up the EdTA Membership. I bring institutional knowledge of 30 years involvement with EdTA, including 7 as a past Board Director, and I bring perspective from a culturally and racially diverse lower socioeconomic suburban West Coast public high school.

I have been a regular participant in EdTA National Conferences and International Thespian Festivals where I have made many professional connections from a vast array of theatre practitioners. I have assisted with the EdTA Leadership Summits during my time on the EdTA Board. I have also represented EdTA at various Chapter events, including Louisiana, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and China, and have provided guidance to various Chapter boards in their endeavor to grow and evolve.

4. How have you committed yourself to understanding and aiding in the pursuit of equity and inclusion in your professional and/or personal life?

As an older white male who spent 30 years in a school that was impacted by a tremendous demographic change from predominantly white middle class to very multicultural and lower middle class, I learned to use my position of power and privilege to advocate for underrepresented communities, be they racial, socioeconomic, gender or sexual identity, learning or physical ability, or family structure. I have gone to bat to defend casting choices when I cast trans males as romantic leads, when I cast multiracial "family units", when I cast a bi-racial deaf girl in her first ever role on stage, when I encourage Latino males to pursue theatre, and when I select contemporary scripts that address important current issues. I couldn't change who I am, but I did and will continue to use who I am to advocate for equitability and representation for all so that theatre better represents its community.

Scott Allen Walker

Professional Experience

- **North Clackamas School District - Milwaukie High School** **1992 - 2022**
Teacher/Director, Theater Arts and Language Arts
- **North Clackamas School District - Milwaukie Academy of the Arts** **2004 - 2022**
Teacher/Founding Member, Project-based Learning and Language Arts
- **Clackamas Community College/Milwaukie Academy of the Arts** **2011 - 2022**
Advanced College Credit/Dual Credit English
- **International Thespian Society/The Educational Theatre Association** **1992 - 2022**
 - Troupe Director, ITS Troupe #75 1992 - 2022
 - Board of Directors, EdTA 2015 - 2022
 - Board of Directors, Oregon Thespians 1997 - 2001; 2010 - 2012; 2013 - 2016
 - Chapter Director, Oregon Thespians 2001 - 2003
- **Oregon Theatre Educators Association** **1992 - 2003**
President Elect/President/Past President 1999 - 2003

Education

- **University of Portland, Portland, Oregon** **2007**
Master of Fine Arts, Theater - Directing
 - John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Certificate of Meritorious Achievement
 - One semester study-abroad in London - Focus: Shakespeare
- **Western Oregon State College, Monmouth, Oregon** **1988**
Bachelor of Science, Secondary Education - Theater Arts/Language Arts
 - Minor, instrumental music
 - Member Alpha Psi Omega national theatre honor society
 - Member Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia American fraternal music society

Honors

- 2018 Regional Teacher of the Year, Oregon Education Association
- 2014 Induction to the Educational Theatre Association Hall of Fame
- 2007 Inclusion in Marquis Who's Who in America, 61st Edition
- 2003 Recipient of the Melba Day Sparks Award for "Exceptional contributions to the growth of theatre and theatre education in Oregon." (OTEA/Oregon Thespians)
- 2001 Recipient of the Rex Rabold Memorial Award for "an individual who received a substantial portion of his or her education in Oregon and has achieved professional status in acting, writing, directing, or other aspects of theatre arts." (OTEA/Oregon Thespians)