

## NVCS BOD Application Questionnaire

Name Brian Hamill

**Please provide a bio with relevant work, volunteer and/or life experience.**

Mechanical Engineer with GE for 21 years. I have a love of numbers and statistics that I think is valuable as Board treasurer, and in reviewing school performance data. As we grow our STEM program, I may be able to leverage connections within GE. I have been NVCS Board Treasurer for the last 4 years. Prior to serving on the board I was secretary of the School Accountability Committee (SAC) for 3 years.

**Please describe your strengths and why you would be an asset to the New Vision Board of Directors**

Having been on the Board for 4 years now, I understand our school policies, board duties and responsibilities and month-by-month schedule. I have built relationships with Admin, teachers, TSD staff and board members, DA Davidson, and other partners of the school that we need to work closely with.

I also bring knowledge of the school's history since it's first year of operation having had children at NVCS since it opened.

**What do you believe are the most important responsibilities of a school board member?**

Board members are responsible for school governance which includes...  
Hiring and managing a successful school principal  
Setting a high level mission and vision for the future of the school  
Establishing near and long term goals and objectives  
Ensuring our school policies are up to date and effective.  
Ensuring we remain financially stable  
Ensuring we adhere to all applicable laws, regulations, and statutes as well as our Charter agreement with TSD.

**Please describe why you are interested in serving as a school board member.**

I have really enjoyed my time on the Board so far. I would like to continue serving to help navigate through the planned growth of our school. It is a very exciting time to be an integral part of the school's future.

I am also passionate about giving our students the best learning/growth opportunities available to them...academic, community service, leadership, athletic...we can continue to improve in all these areas.

**How much time and effort can you contribute to the NVCS Board?**

3-4 hours/week. 12-16 hours per month.

**What skills, knowledge, and attributes should board members have in order to be qualified?**

New Board members should be open-minded, passionate about the school's success, ready to learn, and committed to devote the time required to really contribute to governing the school.

**What skills, knowledge, and attributes should board members have in order to be ongoing, contributing members?**

Ongoing board members should understand our school policies, board duties and responsibilities and month-by-month schedule. They should have built relationships with Admin, teachers, TSD staff and board members, as well as other partners of the school that we need to work closely with.

Ongoing board members should be willing to change with changing conditions and challenges, as well as expand their roles on the Board.

**What do you believe are the most critical issues facing the NVCS Board, and how would you contribute as a board member?**

We need to remain financially stable, continue to improve academic performance, as well as expand course and extracurricular opportunities as we double the size of the school over the next 4 years.

We need to expand our facilities so that we have full use of our own gym and other athletic facilities, cafeteria/auditorium.

We need to continue to attract and then grow the best teachers, administrators and staff we can find.

**In general terms, please describe your experience in dealing with difficult and confidential issues.**

While on the Board, I have dealt with confidential issues in a professional manner. I believe I handle difficult situations by actively listening to and being honest and direct with everyone involved in the situation. I enjoy brainstorming potential solutions to problems with fellow board members and school staff.

**Please describe how you think the board should interact with parents, principal, and staff.**

Board members should always listen to the input of all school constituents, treating everyone with respect and as an important member of the school community.

The principal is the one and only employee of the Board. So, we must work to provide professional development opportunities/challenges, communicate our expectations of the principal's behavior and responsibilities, and provide direct feedback on his/her job performance.

The school staff does NOT report to the board. Any suggestions or observations regarding specific staff member must go through the principal, taking care to provide the feedback through the lens of a Board member, not as a parent.

**Please describe your involvement with NVCS to date. (i.e. committee participation, volunteer activities, etc.)**

I have been NVCS Board Treasurer for the last 4 years. As treasurer, I have run the Finance Committee during that time. Prior to serving on the board I was secretary of the School Accountability Committee (SAC) for 3 years.

I have done some classroom volunteer work, attended 2 Outdoor Ed trips, helped with the set for a school play, run an after school comic-book club, and participated on various other fundraisers.

I have had 2 children graduate from NVCS, attending K-8 and currently have a daughter in 6th grade.

**Please describe your vision of community outreach for the NVCS Board.**

As we begin on our journey to grow the school, the Board should be engaged with TSD staff and board members, staff and parents to help explain our vision for the future of the school, and address their questions/concerns.

I'd like the Board to increase opportunities for parents to engage Board members, perhaps through re-instituting board coffees, and simply attending more school events.