

Elissa Wahl

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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Homeschool mom of 25+ years
- Demonstrated leader with specific expertise in both private and public sectors
- 10+ years' experience in business management and administration
- Extensive background in organizing, leading, and managing community organizations
- Expertise in nonprofit development, governance, and management
- Experience in community outreach, advocacy and support
- Seasoned mentor for parents/families with specific focus on educational setting

EXPERIENCE

HOMESCHOOLING MOTHER

1993-PRESENT

- Developed individualized educations by presenting a variety of topics, utilizing a vast variety of resources
- Evaluated learning styles and educational philosophies, incorporated flexibility to meet each child's individual needs
- Detailed lesson plans and record keeping

NEVADA HOMESCHOOL NETWORK (NHN)

2002-PRESENT

- Co-founder and President of this 501(c)4 organization dedicated to lobbying for educational options
- Worked with the Dept of Education to establish fair guidelines for Nevada homeschoolers
- Negotiated with NIAA for inclusion of homeschooled students in interscholastic activities
- Executed a new homeschooling law encompassing best practices nationwide
- Integrated a federal law into Nevada's statutes regarding training of Child Protective Workers
- Monitor legislation affecting charter schools, private schools, homeschooling and participate in statewide groups and committees to protect/defend these rights and recommend legislative changes, as needed.
- Attend nationwide training and conferences to keep abreast of national trends regarding homeschooling

STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL/SOUTHERN NEVADA HOMESCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

2002-2006

- Influential Board Member
- Influenced Dept of Ed in policies regarding homeschooling
- Influenced Dept of Ed in policies regarding Charter Schools
- Attended board and committee meetings, as required

RISE EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

2009-PRESENT

- Co-founder and President of this 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to being the "one stop shop" for parents to learn more about their educational options
- Work with parents to find best educational setting; specializing in homeschooling
- Schedule and offer supplemental classes and experiences for children learning from the home environment
- Community partner with churches and organizations to advocate for school choice options.
- Essential in promoting charter schools
- Oversees communication on website content, newsletters and marketing materials
- Leads monthly Introduction to Homeschooling workshops
- Liaise with CCSD Homeschool Dept to keep them updated on homeschooling laws
- Consults with hundreds of families a month via phone and social media
- Provide an overview and/or an in depth view of various homeschool laws and policies to various agencies; school districts, district court judges, Department of Youth and Family Services

NEVADA STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY BOARD (SPCSA)**2011-2016**

- Appointed by then Governor Brian Sandoval, elected as the Vice President, and then re-appointed by then Governor Brian Sandoval
- Approved, evaluated and oversaw charter schools in the state of NV
- Authorized high-quality charters and closed down some struggling charters
- Modeled best practices in charter school sponsorship
- Grew to be the third largest school district in Nevada, managing over 40,000 students
- Influenced legislation in two sessions
- Paved the way for charter schools to be broadly acknowledged and accepted as equal in a public-school-district dominated state

DIRECTOR OF NEVADA'S SPOTLIGHT ON SCHOOL CHOICE EVENT**2014-2018**

- Organized and Managed annual events for over 2,500 students, including finances, volunteers, program and transportation
- Promoted school choice to the media, the community, and policy makers.
- Liaise with national organization National School Choice Week
- Attended conferences and meetings, as necessary

AFFILIATIONS

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD) HOMESCHOOL CONTACT

- Recognizes broad knowledge base and refers hundreds of families each year for educational consulting
- Refers school administrators & school counselors for hard to answer and specific questions pertaining to homeschooling

HOMESCHOOL LEGAL DEFENSE ASSOCIATION (HSLDA)

- Partnership in creating best legal atmosphere for Nevada homeschoolers
- Partnership for any legal issues that may be based on homeschooling in Nevada

NEVADA ACTION FOR SCHOOL OPTIONS

- Recognizes specialized knowledge in homeschooling laws for Nevada
- Integral member of stakeholder meetings regarding microschool startups in Nevada

POWER2PARENT

- Recognizes specialized knowledge in homeschooling laws for Nevada
- Consults on issues that may impact homeschooling in Nevada

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

AUTHOR

- [Christian Unschooling: Growing Your Children In The Freedom of Christ](#) This book explores education and learning outside of the box.

SPEAKER

- Homeschool conferences
- Homeschool workshops
- Leadership conferences
- Parenting groups
- Monthly Introduction to Homeschooling workshops

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

- Prominent name in print, TV and radio shows on educational options in Nevada.

CONSULTANT FOR BLOOM ACADEMY**2020-Present**

- Consulted with founders of Las Vegas' first Self-Directed Learning Academy
- Mentored through law requirements
- Involved in workshops for interested parents
- Advised during issues of re-enrollment or withdraw from public schools

CONSULTANT FOR COMMITTEE TO FORM THE SCHOOL FOR LEADERSHIP ACADEMY OF NEVADA **2012-2013**

- Consulted for a team who created a start-up charter school based on an online private school in Utah.
- Mentored through law requirements
- Encourager of their unique philosophy

CONSULTANT FOR COMMITTEE TO FORM THE SCHOOL FOR FOUNDERS ACADEMY **2012-2014**

- Consulted for a team who wanted to bring a classical education model to Las Vegas.
- Assessed their partnership with Hillsdale College and the Barney Institute to help define their philosophy.
- Mentored through law requirements
- Encourager of their unique philosophy

CONSULTANT FOR ZAPPOS **2009**

- Consulted with Zappos about different learning environments for its workers children
- Explained various options and pros and cons of each, specifically in consideration of their needs

CONSULTANT FOR ANGEL VALLEY VILLAGE **2003**

- Advised a group who wanted to create a unique learning environment based on a Dutch democratic free school.
- Explained the state's private school options and what each option would entail
- Summarized options which would or would not work in deference to their philosophy

EDUCATION

Hopewell Valley Central High School

May 1992

Mercer County Community College

Assorted credits in languages, special education and child development

PERSONAL

Homeschooling my children, professional development, volunteer opportunities, lifelong learner, Cub Scout Leader, Boy Scout Leader, Awana Leader