



# SPECIAL DISTRICT OFFICE DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

RECEIVED 331

Idaho Code 34-701(2) now requires phone numbers to be provided. Idaho Code 34-704(4) states that all information in declarations of candidacy shall be made publicly available upon request.

WBCSD #83 Admin Office

**CANDIDATE FILING DEADLINES** (I.C. 34-1404)  
As specified by WBCSD:

**OFFICE INFORMATION**

Filing for the Office of: SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE

**CANDIDATE WITHDRAWAL DEADLINES** (I.C. 34-1405A)

District Name: WBCSD # 83

Term length, sub-district, zone, seat or position (if applicable): ZONE #2

N/A

## CANDIDATE INFORMATION

**Candidate Name** (As it appears on your voter registration record.)

**Candidate Phone**

First PAUL MI J Last TURCO Suffix \_\_\_\_\_

**Residence Address** (As it appears on your voter registration record.)

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City PRIEST RIVER State ID Zip Code 83856 County BONNER

## BALLOT NAME

Write your name exactly as you would like it to appear on the ballot

N/A

## HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

 (I.C. 34-107(2), 34-701(3))

Have you, or your spouse, claimed a homestead exemption?  Yes  No

If Yes, Please List the Address

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

## CAMPAIGN FINANCE INFORMATION

\_\_\_\_\_  
N/A

## CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, being a resident of the State of Idaho and of the District, and, if applicable, the sub-district or zone listed above, do hereby declare myself a candidate for the office entered above to be voted on at the Election to be held on the N/A day of N/A, 2023 and I certify that the information on this Declaration is true and accurate.

I further certify that I possess the legal qualifications to hold said office. I submit herewith the nominating petition containing the five (5) signatures of qualified electors as statutorily required.

Dated: 10/4/2023

Candidate Signature: [Signature]

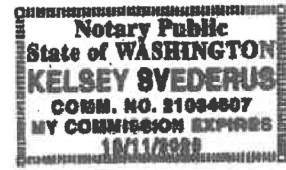
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023.

Signature: [Signature]

Notary Public in and for the State of Idaho, residing at

Pond Oreille

My Commission Expires: 10/11/25





# SPECIAL DISTRICT OFFICE PETITION FOR CANDIDACY

RECEIVED

331

OCT 1 2023

WBCSD #88-Admin/Office

### CANDIDATE FILING DEADLINES (I.C. 34-1404)

As specified by WBCSD.

### OFFICE INFORMATION

Filing for the Office of: SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE

### CANDIDATE WITHDRAWAL DEADLINES (I.C. 34-1405A)

N/A

District Name: WBCSD #83

Term length, sub-district, zone, seat or position (if applicable):

ZONE #2

### CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Candidate Name (As it will appear on the ballot.)

PAUL TURCO

This petition must be filed in the office of the appropriate political sub-division filing office with the Declaration of Candidacy on or before 5:00 p.m. on the last day of filing for the Election at which you are desiring to participate in. The submitted petition must have affixed thereto the names of at least five (5) qualified electors which reside within the appropriate district or zone.

### SIGNERS STATEMENT

I, the undersigned, being a qualified elector of the district and if applicable the sub-district or zone listed above in the State of Idaho, do hereby certify and declare that I reside at the place set opposite my name, and that I join in the petition of the candidate for the office listed above, to be voted for at the election to be held on the N/A day of N/A, 2023, and that each for himself says: I have personally signed this petition; I am a qualified elector of the State of Idaho and my residence address is correctly written after my name.

Signature of Petitioner

Printed Name

Residence Address

Date Signed

OK 1. <u>[Signature]</u>	<u>Tamaral Hirst</u>	[Redacted]	<u>10-6-23</u>
OK 2. <u>[Signature]</u>	<u>Kylie Hoepfer</u>	[Redacted]	<u>10-6-23</u>
OK 3. <u>[Signature]</u>	<u>Jacob Hirst</u>	[Redacted]	<u>10-6-23</u>
OK 4. <u>[Signature]</u>	<u>Joseph Hoepfer</u>	[Redacted]	<u>10-6-2023</u>
OK 5. <u>[Signature]</u>	<u>Sean Schneider</u>	[Redacted]	<u>10-9-2023</u>
OK 6. <u>[Signature]</u>	<u>Tabitha Nelson</u>	[Redacted]	<u>10-9-2023</u>
OK 7. <u>[Signature]</u>	<u>Shaun Deller</u>	[Redacted]	<u>10-11/2023</u>

### CERTIFICATION

State of Idaho  
County of BONNER

I, PAUL TURCO, being first duly sworn say: That I am a resident of the State of Idaho and at least eighteen (18) years of age; that every person who signed this sheet of the foregoing petition signed his or her name thereto in my presence; I believe that each has stated his or her name address and residence correctly, that each signer is a qualified elector of the State of Idaho, and a resident of the county of BONNER.

Circulator Signature: [Signature]

Address: [Redacted] PREST RIVER, ID

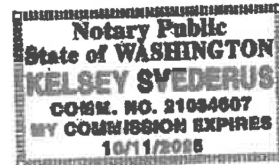
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11th day of October, 2023.

Notary Signature: [Signature]

Notary Public in and for the State of Idaho, residing at

Pend Oreille

My Commission Expires: 10/11/25



**WBCSD Zone: 2**

**Date: 9/28/2023**

**Name: Paul Turco**

**Day Phone:** [REDACTED]

**Evening Phone:** [REDACTED]

**Address:** [REDACTED] Priest River, ID 83856

**APPLICATION QUESTIONS.**

**1. Briefly explain your background: education, employment, community service, etc.**

I attended a private school in kindergarten, then was enrolled in public education from first grade through my senior year of high school. I went on to attend the University of Wyoming, University of Nebraska – Kearney and then Regis University in Denver, Colorado. Regis is a private Jesuit University, like Gonzaga University. In addition, I attended Front Range Community College in the HVAC trade-school. I have held many different positions from blue collar to suit and tie office jobs. I am currently self-employed for the last 10 years. I have extensive volunteer experience in multiple Gulf Coast communities from Hurricane Katrina and the EF-5 tornado that rocked Greenburg, Kansas. I have past and current volunteer experience for youth sports as a mentor and coach.

**2. Briefly explain your philosophy toward public education.**

I believe public education is one of the oldest traditions in our country. I feel it is the best way to support the future of any community. It is a crucial entity that educates the workforce of the future. It also creates jobs and opportunities for the current local community and families. I also respect and cherish the freedom of choice for alternative education models. My wife and I feel the public education setting is what is going to best prepare our children for their future.

**3. What do you believe the Board of Trustees' role should be in leading the district?**

The School Board of Trustees is the tip of the spear for the community. The Board holds the responsibility to be educated on every topic and aspect that we find in the public school setting today. This is a giant responsibility to both make decisions based on community input but also to communicate accurate information to the public. This is not a task to be taken lightly. Ultimately the school board is faced with the responsibility to give direction and represent all community members, students, and staff while following federal, state, and local policy and guidelines.

**4. In your estimation, how much time do you believe is required to accomplish this role?**

**How much time are you willing to commit to serving on the Board of Trustees?**

This is an endless task that will constantly require attention. I am aware that it is more than showing up to meetings. There will be a giant workload of reading policies and Idaho education law. I can only imagine the communication the community in the form of emails and phone calls will require. I am approaching this with the expectation that it is taking on another full-time job. While working full-time at Regis University in the Physical Plant department, I attended night classes full-time in the College of

Professional Studies at Regis as well as enrolled full-time in the trades school at Front Range Community College. I did this for two years. It was extremely challenging to balance schedules, but I know I am capable of this. I understand the responsibility will demand my best efforts to represent West Bonner County and I intend to give my best effort.

**5. Do you have business dealing with the West Bonner County School District?**

I have two children attending PRE, in the third and fifth grades. I volunteer to coach the youth at WBCSD facilities in a volunteer capacity. My income is not at all associated with WBCSD and no immediate family is employed by WBCSD.

**6. Do you have relatives that work for the West Bonner County School District?**

No

**7. If there is other information you would like the Board to consider in reviewing your application, please include it below.**

Please see attached resume and letters for more information.

# Paul J Turco

Priest River, ID 83856

## OBJECTIVE

Appointment to Zone 2 vacated board seat.

## UNIVERSITY —

Regis University, CPS, Denver, CO

Regis University, CPS, Denver, CO

University of Nebraska  
University of Wyoming

## EDUCATION

**2006 to 2008**

Master in Non-Profit Management (May 2008) "Benediction Honors"  
33 of 36 credits

**2004 to 2005**

Bachelor in Social Sciences (December 2005)  
186 total combined earned credit hours

**1998 to 2004**

Keamey Secondary Physical Education  
Laramie Secondary Social Studies

## EMPLOYER —

Premier Merchants Group, LLC/  
PMNW, LLC (Priest River, ID)

City Service Valcon, LLC (Spokane,  
WA)

Baker Hughes, Pressure Pumping  
Services (Rock Springs, WY)

ICS, Infinite Collaborative Solutions  
(Denver, CO)

Regis University, University Relations  
(Denver, CO)

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**April 2015 to Present**

Regional Director – Automated Teller Machines (ATM) processing

**March 2014 to April 2015**

Transport Driver – Petroleum Supply Specialist

**October 2010 to March 2014**

Technical Mobile Vehicle Operator – Hydraulic Frac.

**May 2008 to December 2010**

Business Owner, Operator and Consultant

**August 2004 to April 2008**

Assistant Director for Annual Support Programs

## ACHIEVEMENTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Service Award

St. John Francis Service Award – Organizing and leading relief efforts. May 2006

Champion

Omaha's National Tournament of Champions. April 2004

Honorary Captain

NCAA Division II National Dual Championship Team, UNK. 2002-2003 Season

Commitment

NCAA Division I Three Year Letterman, 3.5 GPA, UW. 1999-2002 Seasons

August 30, 2023

Dear Board of Trustees:

Thank you for taking the time to consider my application for board appointment. I feel that my experience and background make me an exceptional candidate for West Bonner County School District's zone 2 vacated board seat.

My wife Jessica and I have lived in Idaho for the last 10 years and we are the parents of a 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grader at Priest River Elementary School. I have volunteered in coaching youth baseball and wrestling and I look forward to helping this upcoming season with football as well. My wife Jessica, maiden name Curry, is a Spartan alumna and coaches youth volleyball and basketball for PRYS. She was born and raised in Priest River and her parents are Russ and Lisa Curry and her grandparents are Wally and Gloria Mitchell. To say I won the lottery with my in-laws is an understatement. These people are a big part of why I fell in love with this community and where I want to raise my children.

I was born and raised in Northglenn, Colorado, a suburb of Denver. I was the eldest of 4 children to our wonderful parents Rick and Jan Turco. I attended Northglenn High School with a graduating class of over 600 students and the total enrollment of our high school was over 2,500 students. Growing up I was a three-sport athlete and had a sport for every season. In high school, I directed my attention to the sport that I knew I could excel the furthest to continue my education, which was wrestling.

I attended 3 years at the University of Wyoming, where I was a three-time letterman in a NCAA Division 1 wrestling program. I transferred to the University of Nebraska-Kearney for my senior year to become an honorary team captain when we won the NCAA Division II National Duals Championship. The following season I was a grad-assistant coach.

I then continued my education while working full-time at Regis University in Denver where I completed my BA in Social Sciences and then completed 33 of 36 credit hours of the Masters of Non-profit Management program. I still had the privilege to walk and was given the honor of delivering the Benediction at graduation.

My wife is a successful realtor and I have my own business in the financial and banking industry. We are self-employed entrepreneurs and happy to be here, where we call home, Priest River, Idaho. My wife and I are extremely grateful for the many relationships we have secured and the friendships to be made.

Along with my personal ties to the Priest River community and Priest River schools, my education and experience will only benefit the WBCSD by helping to build partnerships between our schools and community. I wholeheartedly support public education and supporting a public education program that meets the needs of Priest River families and students. The SUCCESS Mission Statement of WBCSD will be in the forefront of my mind as I work to implement the WBCSD Five Year Strategic Plan. Also, one of my top priorities is to develop a long range plan for the PRJH that takes into consideration community input. Attached to my application packet you will find my vision of success and **Rebuild** plan.

I can say with the utmost sincerity that I truly want what is best for all our kids in this community. I look forward to working with the current board and building something great for our schools and community.

Respectfully,

Paul Turco  
Parent, Community Member & Public School Supporter



To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter to wholeheartedly recommend Mr. Paul Turco for the position of a school board member. I have had the distinct pleasure of working with Paul for nearly a decade at Premier Merchants Group, LLC, and during this time, I have witnessed his exceptional dedication, leadership, and ability to navigate complex business challenges.

Paul Turco joined our team at Premier Merchants Group, LLC in 2015, and from the very beginning, it was evident that he possessed a unique blend of creativity, strategic thinking, and a strong work ethic. As the head of our West Coast ATM division, he played a pivotal role in building a flourishing ATM business that has established partnerships with numerous food wholesale companies across five states. Paul's innate understanding of market dynamics and his ability to forge relationships have been instrumental in the remarkable growth of our business.

One of Paul's most commendable attributes is his capacity to manage multifaceted responsibilities with utmost proficiency. Not only has he successfully overseen the day-to-day operations of our ATM business, but he has also orchestrated large-scale trade shows across the country. His meticulous planning, attention to detail, and exceptional communication skills have consistently resulted in successful events that have garnered positive feedback from both attendees and partners.

Paul Turco's contributions extend well beyond his role's technical requirements. His leadership has fostered a culture of collaboration, innovation, and high performance within our organization. He has a natural ability to motivate and guide his team, inspiring them to achieve excellence while maintaining a positive and inclusive work environment.

In addition to his professional achievements, I am confident in Paul's ability to translate his business acumen into meaningful contributions to the school board. His extensive experience in running a successful business has equipped him with the skills necessary to make informed decisions, manage budgets effectively, and drive initiatives that benefit the community.

I am convinced that Paul Turco's exceptional qualities, unwavering dedication, and proven track record of success make him an outstanding candidate for the role of a school board member. I wholeheartedly endorse his candidacy and believe that his insights and perspective will greatly enrich the board's discussions and decisions.

Should you have any further inquiries or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at [kurt@pmgcom.com](mailto:kurt@pmgcom.com) or 308-440-8403. Thank you for considering Paul Turco for this important position.

Sincerely,

Kurt Karjalainen  
President,  
Premier Merchants Group, LLC  
11 E 11th Street  
Kearney, NE 68847

WEST BONNER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ... 9/29/23

DEAR TRUSTEES,

I WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FOR PAUL TURCO AS HE IS SUBMITTING HIS NAME FOR CONSIDERATION TO FILL THE EMPTY SEAT ON THE BOARD FOR ZONE 2.

AS YOU MORE THAN LIKELY DO NOT KNOW ME I THOUGHT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO INTRODUCE MYSELF. I HAVE LIVED IN THE PRIEST RIVER AREA FOR 53 YEARS. MY CHILDREN WENT TO PR SCHOOLS AS DID THEIR CHILDREN I HAVE SUPPORTED PR SCHOOLS FOR ALL THOSE YEARS AND HAVE VOLUNTEERED FOR VARIOUS THINGS FOR MOST OF THOSE YEARS. I BELIEVE IN PUBLIC EDUCATION BUT ALSO BELIEVE THAT PARENTS AND STUDENTS SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE OTHER OPTIONS.

I AM CONFIDENT IN PAUL'S ABILITY TO FULFILL THE OPEN POSITION. HE IS VERY CAPABLE AS HIS KNOWLEDGE OF BUSINESS IS EXCEPTIONAL. HE IS VERY INTELLIGENT AND KNOWS THE POSITION OF BEING A TRUSTEE IS DEMANDING AND WILL TAKE COUNTLESS HOURS OF LEARNING ALL THE INS AND OUTS OF THE SEAT. HE IS WILLING TO SPEND THE TIME IT WILL TAKE TO ACCOMPLISH THAT. AND HE WILL DO THAT WELL. HIS INTEGRITY IS OF A HIGH CALIBER. HE IS WELL VERSED IN HIS KNOWLEDGE OF THE BUSINESS WORLD AND ALL ASPECTS OF IT INCLUDING FINANCES.

HE IS A GOOD FAMILY MAN WITH TWO CHILDREN IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. HE IS MARRIED TO A PRLHS GRADUATE WHOSE FAMILY IS STARTING A FIFTH



GENERATION IN PRIEST RIVER SCHOOLS. EACH GENERATION HAS GIVEN US WELL ROUNDED, HONEST AND CONTRIBUTING CITIZENS.

PAUL VOLUNTEERS HIS TIME TO THE DISTRICT IN MENTORING YOUNGSTERS IN YOUTH FOOTBALL AND WRESTLING. I HAVE WATCHED HIM INTERACT WITH THESE YOUNG PEOPLE. HE RESPECTS THEM AND THEY RESPOND TO HIS TEACHING.

HE HAS A VISION FOR OUR DISTRICT. HE WANTS IT TO BECOME A DISTRICT THAT TEACHERS WANT TO COME TO. ONE THAT HAS GOOD GRADE AVERAGES. ONE WITH A HIGH GRADUATION RATE. HE WANTS THE COMMUNITY TO BE INVOLVED. HE IS WILLING TO WORK HARD TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS. HE HAS THE ABILITY TO WORK WITH THE OTHER TRUSTEES. AND HE LISTENS.

SINCERELY  
Ernie Schaeffer

## **Paul Turco's ACTION PLAN**

### **Transparency & Fiscal Responsibility**

- Continue to support the forensic audit
- Adhere to Open Meeting Laws
- Maximize receipt of State funding (hire qualified administrators and teachers)
- Seek to hire qualified Superintendent eligible for salary funding from the state.
- Develop patron committees to increase public involvement
- Create periodic newsletter informing the community about schools
- Support posting financial information on the website in easy-to-understand format
- Assess staffing level and expertise in the district business office
- Support adhering to board and state policies and laws

### **Board Training**

- Attend the Idaho State training for school board members

### **Build Partnerships in the Community**

- Explore apprentice opportunities with local businesses for Sr High Students
- Promote Spartan Booster Club

### **Curriculum**

- Support curriculum that equips students to be successful and represents Priest River Community Values
- Support Trades education and providing- hands on learning opportunities

### **Student Support and Performance**

- Focus on long-term retention of qualified & Certified teachers
- Support retaining the Jr high
- Engage with Teachers to understand root cause of test scores and graduation rate
- Engage with parents to understand the challenges of our students and families
- Develop program to address student absenteeism
- Develop tutoring programs for students School and Community Pride
- Build on the WBCSD STRONG community involvement
- Develop patron committees to increase public involvement
- Increase parent, patron, and community volunteerism in the schools
- Encourage community to attend and support school sports teams