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## Lionsgate Academy Nomination Biography

Thank you for your interest in running for an elected position on the Board of Directors of Lionsgate Academy. The Nomination Committee, in accordance with Lionsgate Academy By-Laws, Policies and Procedures, requires all nominees to provide the following information. Nominee Names, Connections with the School, and Position Statements will be made public to the Lionsgate Community.

*Please return this form to the Nomination Committee by March 13, 2011.*

Name: Todd Schwartzberg

**Contact Information:**

Address:

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Connections with School (i.e., employee, current board member, past board member, parent, community member): past board member and community member

**Position Statements:**

*Please limit your responses to the following questions to 150 words (maximum) per question.*

1. Why do you want to be on the Board of Directors of Lionsgate Academy?

I am deeply committed and interested in returning to the Board of Directors of Lionsgate Academy. I believe a school such as this, is one of many essential keys to successful futures for our children. We are stewards to both our community and families whom we get to work with and thus, LGA needs to have board members who are dedicated, knowledgeable and can think outside the box in order to work collaboratively with the staff, parents and students to insure that the school is providing the highest quality education. I am confident, excited and committed to working with my fellow board members, staff, family, students and community at making sure this school remains financially viable, the education and transition preparation is at its highest level possible and that we are a best-practice model for other schools in our state, region and nation.

2. What strengths do you bring to the Board of Directors of Lionsgate Academy?

I view myself as one who listens well to others ideas and concerns and then responds with an approach that is collaborative as we move towards a solution. I believe as a

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board member one must embody the qualities of a leader, follower and doer in order to continue to propel the development of the organization forward. While I understand that I have much to still learn, I am confident in my knowledge and experience in working with children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder. I have been working with children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder for nearly 10 years, through both my clinical work as well as through my experiences through the Autism Society of Minnesota's summer camps. Through these experiences I have observed, implemented, created and lectured on various teaching and therapy modalities for children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder (and other Pervasive Developmental Disabilities) both in the state of Minnesota as well as nationally.

3. On what other boards/committees have you served?

I have served on the Lionsgate Board of Directors since its inception and currently chair the Governance Committee at Lionsgate Academy. I also sit on the Board of Directors of the Autism Society of Minnesota and have done so, since 2004. I am also the Editor for the newsletter of the Great Lakes Region of the American Music Therapy Association.