

Name of Nominee

Stephanie Ortiz

Nominee's Company

Lockheed Martin

Nominee's Job Title

Project Manager and Software Developer Sr Stf

Nominee's Email Address

stephanie.m.ortiz@gmail.com

Nominee's Phone Number

303-929-4393

Nominee Qualifications**Tell us why your nominee should serve on Ben Franklin Academy's Board of Directors.**

I believe I should serve on the Ben Franklin Board of Directors, because I play a very active role in supporting education and extracurricular activities for my children and others. I have a well-rounded skillset and background that supports the vision of the Ben Franklin Academy Board of Directors. My children are early in their educational journey, which is the foundation for their future, so I would like to take an active role at the school. I believe this would be a good time to lend my extensive STEAM background from my occupation, education, and performance journey. I also believe my creative and artistic abilities with regards to the Arts could offer some fantastic opportunities for the school.

Nominee's Biography, include other charter school experience.

Stephanie Ortiz has 18+ years of a very diverse background with many valuable skills, achievements, and leadership abilities at Lockheed Martin. She is also very creative and has an innovative mind. She is constantly seeking intriguing and exciting opportunities to leverage her technical, management, and creative background. She is organized, productive, efficient, interacts well with others, and communicates effectively. In addition, she is driven and has exceptional problem-solving and organizational, effective task coordination, and good time-management skills.

Stephanie's educational background consists of a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Colorado at Denver with a major in Biology and a minor in Math and Chemistry. She completed a second Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science at Regis University. In addition, she graduated from the University of Colorado at Boulder with a Master of Engineering in Electrical and Computer Engineering and finally she completed a PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering with an emphasis in Computer Vision from the University of Denver. She does not have other charter school experience, but education in general is extremely important to her.

What role do you see the nominee playing on Ben Franklin Academy's Board of Directors?

Education is always my number one priority, but I feel as though Ben Franklin Academy does an amazing job with regards to education in general on a day-to-day basis. Therefore, I would like to focus on the extracurricular aspects, such as the STEAM activities, events, etc. All of these areas are extremely important focus areas beyond the everyday education, because they allow children to apply their knowledge, learn and become exposed to new things, and interact with others. My technical background can be helpful with science, technology, engineering, and math, but I can also be of value with my artsy side to help improve and/or support

the music, theater, and art programs. Ben Franklin Academy has a strong vision and mission, as well as, an amazing support team from the staff and parents, so I am willing to help wherever needed though.

What strengths/experience do they bring to the Board?

I believe I have a very diverse background with my experience in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math. Growing up as a child myself, I was actively involved in Odyssey of the Mind, which I believe is now called Destination Imagination, Science Olympiad, and other STEM-related activities/events. In addition, I have always been very actively involved with the arts. I have danced, sung, played multiple instruments, and have been in several musicals throughout the years. Matter of fact, I was the Co-Owner of Sundance Entertainment, which was a production company where I produced and performed in several shows at various venues. I have an extensive dance background on competition teams, including ballet, tap, jazz, ballroom, and latin. Finally, I have participated in choirs, including the Colorado Chorale, church choirs, school choirs, clubs, and quartets. I feel as though with my diverse background, I can offer a unique perspective to the board with regards to all aspects of STEAM.

Is the nominee willing to commit to attend board meetings each month and events each year, in addition to spending some time on committee work?

Yes, absolutely!