

Justin Mayhall's Responses to Candidate Questionnaire

Number and grade of children in your family enrolled at BFA: 2 children enrolled in BFA - 2nd grade & 6th grade

Number of years your family has been at BFA: 8 years - Since my oldest was in preschool

Brief biography, including any charter school experience:

Justin Mayhall is a US Navy veteran who has lived in Colorado since 2010. After his enlistment, Justin studied biology at the University of Colorado Denver before making a career transition and opening a successful marketing firm with his wife. Justin has served on various non-profit boards across the country focussing on veteran education and lobbying Congress to enhance offering to the Post 9/11 GI Bill. Justin has two children who attend Ben Franklin Academy and was most recently Co-Chair of Ben's Brigade for the 2023-2024 school year.

Number of BFA Board meetings and events have you attended this school year (identify by type of event - Board meetings 4; PTO meetings 6; Committee meetings 7 (Ben's Brigade); Community events 2; Other 0)

Describe the ideal relationship between the BFA Board and the BFA community:

A charter school board member's ideal relationship with the community is built on transparency, collaboration, and responsiveness. They actively engage with diverse community stakeholders, fostering open communication channels. By understanding needs, values, and aspirations, board members can better make informed decisions that align with the community's educational goals.

What are the current challenges facing charter school boards?

Charter school boards are faced with ensuring financial sustainability, navigating complex regulatory landscapes, and ensuring academic accountability. Balancing autonomy with compliance poses a persistent challenge, while recruiting qualified personnel and addressing diverse student needs strain limited resources. Engaging parents and the community, fostering transparent communication, and adapting to evolving educational trends demand constant attention. These boards must also address equity concerns and cultivate a resilient governance structure amid political and educational uncertainties, all within a dynamic and competitive educational landscape.

What motivated you to accept a nomination for a seat on the BFA Board?

I was motivated to seek and accept this nomination because of the tremendous work put forth by previous board members and the BFA Mission that states, "Our students, teachers, parents, staff, and leaders will be held accountable for the success of our school."

Share any personal aspirations you would like to achieve by serving on the BFA Board, as well as aspirations for the BFA Board itself during your term.

I believe it is the responsibility of each board member to leave an indelible mark on BFA and the community during their term. My aspiration for serving on the BFA Board of Directors is to help BFA foster a better climate of learning for our future leaders by attracting and retaining top-tier staff.

Describe a moment when you knew BFA was the right school for your family and what you love most about BFA.

I remember the first Sweetheart Ball that I attended with my then first-grade daughter. I was astounded at the number of fathers who were attending the dance and realized what a tremendous sense of family and community that BFA had built. This sense of collaboration between BFA and the families that make up our community is what sets BFA apart from other schools and why it is the best choice for our family.