

07Oct2015

Letter of Intent – Janis

Attn: Brian Conlon, Chair, Parent Elect Election Committee

Please accept this letter of intent in consideration for the 2015-2018 parent-elect position at Prairie Crossing Charter School. I am currently the parent of two PCCS students: [REDACTED] 1st grade and [REDACTED] in 4th. We moved to the area in September of 2013, specifically choosing Grayslake after learning about the school and community online. We were thrilled when [REDACTED] received an opening at the end of the 2013-14 academic year and have been very happy with the education of both children and the community that the school provides. Our decision to move back to Illinois was in part to be closer to extended family but also to put down roots in a community where our children would excel. I would like to now play a greater role in ensuring that the center of their community, their school, continues to succeed.

I have been developing medical device technologies for almost twenty years. Most of my innovation has come from blurring the lines between fields of medicine, collaborating for creative solutions to problems, and most importantly having an open mind. I have been successful throughout my career based on my belief that it is through collaboration that we arrive at the best solutions. I have recently become more involved in the development of industry standards through rigorous debate and my work in the heavily regulated medical device field is required to be a cross-functional endeavor yet generate solutions. It is my hope that I would bring the same innovation and approaches towards problem solving to the board and school governance. It is also my hope that improved communication between the board and families will lead to better communication between the families and the broader community. Community members should see PCCS as a benefit rather than a threat to the district. I understand this very well – we moved to the area and subsequently selected our home location to stay within PCCS boundaries.

Last but not least, as a scientist I am passionate about the promotion of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) in education. As a member of the board I would encourage greater incorporation of STEM into the curriculum, as I believe that our common goal of educating natural leaders can be best achieved by providing them with the knowledge to solve tomorrow's problems with environmentally aware and sustainable solutions.

Thank you for your consideration.



Abe Janis

For a complete profile that Abe Janis has supplied please click his [Linked in Profile](#)

October 6, 2015

Ian Valerio, MD, MS, MBA
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Prairie Crossing Charter School
PCCS Board of Directors
1531 Jones Point Rd
Grayslake, IL 60030

RE: PCCS Board of Directors Positions – Letter of Recommendation for Abe Janis, MS
Attn: Brian Conlon, Parent Elect Election Committee

Dear PCCS Board of Directors,

In being notified of the open parent-elected Board position, I am offering this letter of recommendation for Abe Janis, MS for consideration of election and appointment to this position.

I have come to know Mr. Janis over 5 years ago from his dedicated work, research, and clinical scientist endeavors within the health care and bioengineering profession. He has proven to be a committed, bright, and hardworking professional who has skillfully balanced his family interests with his challenging work related duties. His work related duties not only span the above outlined areas, but he also is directly involved in programmatic operations and logistics, financial and budget guidance and oversight of his research teams and programs, as well as marketing research and development for his current and past employers. He has also be instrumental in the education and mentorship of numerous students spanning a variety of secondary and post-secondary students interested in the basic science, clinical translation, biotechnology, technology, and business as well as law areas. He likewise is critically and directly involved with a number of start-up companies or products in which he provides valuable guideline and insight.


Mr. Janis is interested in this position to not only work towards bettering the educational and future professional pursuits of his own children enrolled within PCCS, but he likewise truly wants to extend efforts to all students within the school. His background within the STEM fields can be a complimentary addition to the Board, yet he also possesses a sharp wit and is culturally well rounded which provides a unique individual for consideration of your position. He has proven to be a multitasking, multifunctional team member, with exceptional communication skills and extensive partnerships and relationships within his profession, occupational spaces, companies, and communities he has been involved. Mr. Janis has also been a leader innovator within the area of STEM fields as applied to medical

and biotechnology. I truly believe that Mr. Janis would be a tremendous addition to your Board.

I understand the position to be a 3 year elected or appointed term being this month, October 2015 and concluding at the end of September 2018. I personally believe that Mr. Janis would not only be a great addition to the board over his tenure if elected, but he will likely also be a tremendous contributor who would lead by example, could prove to be a tactful fundraiser with industry support potential, and will be engaged in maximizing the educational opportunities and growth of the PCCS students and community.

If you may wish to speak directly regarding Mr. Janis' candidacy for this position, please contact me via my cell phone [REDACTED] or via email:
[REDACTED]

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian L. Valerio', written in a cursive style.

Ian L. Valerio, MD, MS, MBA

Date: October 6th, 2015

To Whom it May Concern,

I had the pleasure of working along side Abe Janis between the Fall of 2010 and the Spring of 2013; since then we have continued to collaborate on innovated medical device concepts. When I first met Abe, I quickly became aware of his depth of knowledge both in medicine and regenerative sciences. This knowledge was drawn upon as the Manager of Research where he was responsible for demonstrating the safety and effectiveness of a tissue-based medical device implant. Abe also was successful in acquiring over a million dollars in federal grants for human clinical studies with the product; this required an immense amount of dedication (outside of the office) coordinating with clinical sites, regulatory agencies, physicians, analytical labs and federal agencies to ensure the proper precautions were in place ensuring the studies would be both safe to patients and ensure the best outcome.

Abe has a passion for knowledge and science. I've seen him share this with others, be it an entry-level scientist, an orthopedic surgeon, a non-technical executive or his own children. When people walk away from these conversations, they retain not only the specific information but also a more general understanding of the context of that information within a wider field of scientific understanding. In this unique way, Abe is able to awaken the curiosity in others to then explore on their own. I truly believe that Abe's greatest passion as a scientist is not maximizing his own knowledge, but ensuring that others understand and have a passion for exploring science on their own. In this regard, I'm confident that Abe would be a productive and respected member within the school board of Prairie Crossing Charter School.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss Abe's candidacy further, please do not hesitate to contact me; I can be reached at [REDACTED]

Sincerely Yours,
Benjamin Kibalo



Abigail Phipps
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Prairie Crossing Charter School
PCCS Board of Directors
1531 Jones Point Road
Grayslake, IL 60030

Attn: Brian Conlon, Parent Elect Election Committee
RE: Letter of recommendation for Abe Janis

October 7, 2015

Dear PCCS Board of Directors,

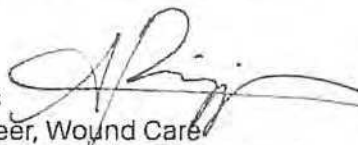
I have known Abe for about 4 years now, having worked with him between Q3 2011 and Q2 2013. I was a product development engineer and we worked together in R&D on numerous R&D studies and company efforts during our time. As research manager, he led the research programs in demonstrating safety and effectiveness of the medical device, as well as leading exploratory studies on new clinical applications. He secured several federal grants for the company and also became known as the go-to person for any key product quality related decisions and activities such as NCRs or complaints from the field. He also managed the R&D group comprising of a senior scientist and several scientists and techs. In addition to this, he served as not only a mentor to me and all the other product development engineers, but a friend who was able to help me through my learning experience as a new engineer. He traveled with me to execute some animal studies on new clinical applications and also served as a technical resource for me during executing key product development studies. He also empowered me to be better and do better than I could. With his help and encouragement, I was very successful at my job and have since moved on to achieve more things in my growing career.

Abe is a generous, smart, kind, knowledgeable, and passionate person. He is able to communicate well to get his point across and is very approachable. He is also someone who values education and family. He makes sure his kids have the best education not only academically but also in life. They are continually learning through extracurricular activities. He has raised kids that are kind, smart, well-mannered, and well-rounded individuals and I think that speaks to who he is as a father, and as a mentor to others.

I am confident that he will be an asset to your board, and will use his perspective and experience to benefit the school.

Please feel free to contact me for any additional questions. My contact number is [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sincerely,
Abigail Phipps
Sr. R&D Engineer, Wound Care
Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation
[REDACTED]

 October 7, 2015