Applicant
Jeremy Beckman

Why do you want to be on the Board of Education for Academy District 20?
To further my service to the students, families, taxpayers, and staff of Academy District 20 by joining the team of the Board of Education. I have a unique set of experiences and perspectives that can lend expertise and wisdom to complement the existing members of the Academy District 20 Board. From data-driven board leadership to budget expertise in conservative fiscal management and decades of award-winning classroom leadership at both the collegiate and secondary level, I bring wisdom, experience, and a service mindset to the D20 School Board.

I will work tirelessly to ensure every student in D20 has access to a world-class education, with options that help them realize and fulfill their potential and find their passions in life. I will ensure every student in Academy District 20 has the most qualified staff possible. Research in education continually finds that the best service a school board can do for students is enacting and updating policy to ensure every student has an outstanding teacher leading their classroom. I also look forward to working with fellow board members to achieve these ends through policies that guide D20 in maintaining a culture of excellence in this new season for our district.

Second, I will ensure D20 serves our families exceptionally well. Every D20 family has chosen us to serve their children. Staff must be held to the highest standards to keep that trust. I will advocate for our parents to have both voice and choice in their child's education. Parents are the first teachers of every student, and we as a district need to both hear and honor parents' wisdom as we guide policy. We also need to give parents opportunities for input at their schools to ensure their voices are heard, to the greatest extent possible, in the decision-making process.

Finally, I will champion fiscally conservative financial management. D20 has an excellent reputation as a sound steward of taxpayer dollars, which is a great service we provide our students. On previous boards, I have served on and led, and we have ensured responsible use of taxpayer dollars, even reducing property tax rates by 31.5% (Mill rate of 47.067 to Mill rate of 32.708) and annual fees by 83% while increasing the quality of services. I will serve both the board and D20 constituents by digging deep into financial reports and engaging stakeholders to find potential savings and advocate for additional funding for our District at the State level. I will also address the challenge of ever-expanding PERA costs, which are constraining D20 resources as we make up for poor fiscal choices at the State level. PERA, directly and indirectly, is eating 32.4 cents of every D20 payroll dollar, and this is far too great an ask of D20 taxpayers. The bottom line is that Colorado is out of proportion with pension costs and our students pay the price. District 20 would also greatly benefit if

spouses of service members were able to opt out of PERA. Asking a service member's spouse to contribute 11% of their salary, with no benefits payable for less than 5 years of service, deters spouses from taking a job while here in D20.
In closing, I want to serve our district, and I have a unique perspective that will complement existing board members as we work together. As a current math instructor and D20 parent, I will lend wisdom and expertise from years of teaching in a variety of settings: from the dad at the kitchen table to my current role in post-secondary education. I bring extensive service and leadership experience in the district, from the classroom to advocating for our 2022 Mill Levy Override. I am very familiar with Academy District 20, our Policy Governance Model, and the challenges facing D20. Lastly, our Board desires to use data to better guide decisions, and as a Mathematics Instructor, I believe I bring a unique set of skills to facilitate data review as a service to the D20 Board of Education.

What would be your top 3 priorities if you joined the ASD20 Board of Education?
As a member of the ASD20 Board of Education, my top three priorities would be maximizing student achievement, fiscally responsible management of district resources, and staff retention.
Maximizing student results is a critical goal of any high-performing district, and our board should be laser-focused on the policy adjustments we can make to improve outcomes for students in Academy District 20. Strong results open doors for our students' future and deliver on the expectations residents have when they choose to move to D20. And moreover, this is what our community has told our Board over and over in recent elections: they want academic excellence.
My second priority is fiscally responsible management of district resources. D20 faces challenges because of state funding levels; we need to use every dollar responsibly. In addition, with changes to the state funding formula that are a yearly topic in the Colorado Legislature, none of the proposed funding formula changes would have a net benefit to D20 funding. In addition, using district resources well is the right and just thing to do for our students.
My third priority is staff retention. D20 has experienced high turnover at every level of staffing: administration, certified, staff specialists, and paraprofessionals. Turnover isn't just expensive; it also represents a loss of institutional knowledge and challenges our ability to meet our board ends. With the work going on in D20 around PLC and MTSS, turnover requires retraining and realignment to continue meeting our students' needs. In addition, student-facing positions have too often gone unfilled for long enough to affect student learning. This is especially true in hard-to-fill positions where an opening can go unfilled for an entire school year. I can lend a voice and propose unique solutions to

address this challenge while maintaining our dedication to fiscal responsibility to our taxpayers.

Which Board policy do you believe should be changed/removed/updated and why?
I greatly appreciate the Board hearing my position on EL 2.7 and updating this policy to remove the professional market for administrative positions in August 2024. This decision was brave by our Board and reflects the current fiscal reality and educational needs of students to meet our board's ends. This was the most fiscally conservative action our Board has taken in decades.
I would propose three updates to our Board Policies:
1. EL 2.02, #2, add in line#3
Allow parents, community, or various other stakeholders to be unaware of opportunities to participate in their school committees or site planning opportunities.
I propose this update to reflect the need for parental input in the decision-making process at the school they chose to send their children to. While listening to parents as I explored applying for the Board, I have heard parent after parent frustrated about major decisions made at their school without any chance for parental input. Many parents even shared that they purchased a house because a school offered a program, only to find out the program was removed at site planning, with no opportunity for their input. This would strengthen relationships between our community and our district.
2. Add a new policy outlining procedures for deciding when and how to close a school.
The board needs to work at the 50,000-foot level for the benefit of every student in District 20 and anticipate challenges that will arise in the next 3-5 years, so we have policies to address these future challenges. Based on birth rates and the demographic trends presented to the Board, there is a high probability D20 will need to address this challenging issue in the medium term. D20's School Board would be exercising great wisdom by addressing procedures for when this day comes, far in advance, to lay out a solid policy framework for if this issue ever comes to pass. While this is challenging work, the Board needs to protect our fiscal position and maximize resources for the 26,000 students in D20.
3. EL 2.07 Line #2, change wording to:
Fail to solicit nor ignore the opinions of affected parties when determining benefit plans.
I propose this change to require the Superintendent to solicit opinions in the benefit planning process from those who will be using those benefits. Teachers entering the profession desire a very different set of benefits than those approaching retirement. Classified employees have different needs than staff specialists. We need to commit to data to make sound decisions. We need to offer a benefits package that appeals to all employees at different stages of their careers. Not knowing the benefits our staff find

desirable represents an unacceptable risk to accomplishing our Board ends, and this policy would mitigate that risk for our stakeholders.

Please list any committees, associations or other roles you have had within school is ASD20, or schools outside of our District.

As a parent, at the district level, I was the Treasurer for the Citizens for D20 Students Campaign for the 2022 Mill Levy Override. I am also currently the Treasurer of the [redacted] (Marching Band Boosters). I taught in District 20 for 11 years at Discovery Canyon Campus High School. During my time as a teacher in Academy District 20, I served on several district-level committees: Benefits Committee, Teacher Communication Council, Math Instructional Improvement Committee, Math Task Force, PTO Liaison to DCCHS, and as the teacher representative to the DCC School Accountability Committee. In addition, on behalf of Academy District 20, I served as the regional representative to the CHSAA Speech and Debate Activities Committee, was the Congressional Debate State Chair, and was a member of the Colorado Grande Local Committee to facilitate speech and debate in Southern Colorado. Locally, I also served as interim Speech and Debate Coach for Colorado College while their team was between permanent coaches. Lastly, I am currently a Mathematics Instructor at The United States Air Force Academy Preparatory School. (Note: I am applying for this vacancy in my personal capacity. The appearance of the U.S. Department of War or Department of the Air Force does not imply or constitute DOW or DAF endorsement) I currently teach online mathematics for Colorado Digital Learning. I also serve as a .01 FTE Assistant Speech and Debate Coach at Air Academy High School. I understand that, if selected, I would need to resign from this position to join the board of education.

If you have students in the district, which school(s) do they attend?

I have a [redacted], [redacted], who attends [redacted] High School and plays [redacted] for [redacted] High School, and an [redacted] who attends [redacted] Middle School. [redacted] and I are both proud that our children have attended D20 schools for their entire educational career.

Outside of education, what are you most passionate about/what motivates you?

My primary passion outside of education is my family. I have been married to my wife, [redacted], for 22 years last June. We have two children whose passions we actively support, including [redacted]. If you are looking for the voice of a parent who is actively involved in many spheres of D20 and stretches as wide as our geographic footprint, I actively hear the voices of parents all across D20 from [redacted] to [redacted].

Outside of family, I'm passionate about developing students' communication skills, which is why I dedicate time to Speech and Debate in Colorado. I believe strong communication is a differentiating skill when it comes to opportunity in life. When students are required to communicate in front of a group, they must articulate their thoughts in a way to persuade others. This is a skill they will need for job interviews and possibly running for office one day. I was the head Speech and Debate Coach for the DCCHS team for 11 years, and now I am helping with my [redacted] at [redacted] High School as an Assistant Coach.
And lastly, I am passionate about showing our amazing World to my children. My wife and I love taking our kids to different parts of the world to show them different geography, experiences, and the amazing food around the World (Morocco was amazing this summer!). We love to travel and try to travel every chance we get since our time with our kids at home is so short (and is flying by quickly!).

Jeremy Milton Beckman

[redacted] Colorado Springs, CO 80921
[redacted]
[redacted]

Objective:

To further my service to the students, families, taxpayers, and staff of Academy District 20 by joining the team of the Board of Education.

Professional Experience:

United States Air Force Academy Preparatory School-Mathematics Instructor

Supervisor: [redacted], Math Department Chair [redacted] Dates: July 2024-Current
Responsibilities: Instruct mathematical courses of Algebra, Trigonometry, and Calculus to prepare Cadet Candidates for study at the United States Air Force Academy. Mentor Cadet Candidates on study skills and provide extra instruction on mathematical topics. Course directing for mathematics courses to ensure standards and expectations of Cadet Candidate performance are maintained. Assist in developing course material and curriculum.
Committees: Innovation and Refurbishment Committee, Mathematics Curriculum Committee.
Course Director: Math 121-Trigonometry (Q4 2025), Math 134 Differential Calculus II (Q2 2026)
Awards: USAFA Cadet Wing Cat II Civilian of the Quarter (Q4 2025), USAFA Prep School Cat II Civilian of the Quarter (Q4 2025).
Note: I am applying for this position in my personal capacity. The appearance of U.S. Department of War or Department of Air Force information does not imply or constitute DOW or DAF endorsement.

Discovery Canyon Campus High School-Mathematics Department Chair/Speech Teacher
Supervisor: [redacted] [redacted] Dates: August 2013-June 2024
Responsibilities: Teach, inspire, assess, and develop a challenging and engaging mathematics and speech curriculum for students. Oversee the mathematics department to ensure students are successful in a rigorous and aligned curriculum. Teach and prepare forensics students for competitions at the local, state, and national level in National Speech and Debate Association.
Awards from Team Leadership: Team of the Year, 2021; Thomas Crawford Team of the Year, 2019;
Individual Awards: CHSAA Sharon Wilch Lifetime Achievement Award-Speech and Debate 2025; Finalist, Colorado State Teacher of the Year, 2017; John Asbury Teacher of the Year, 2018; Boettcher Foundation Teacher Recognition Award from Student Arjun Kudinoor, 2019;
STEM Inspire Award 2022; Regional Coach of the Year, 2022.
Courses Taught: Algebra 1, Co-Taught Algebra 1, Geometry, Honors Algebra 2, Honors Pre-Calculus I, Honors Functions, Statistics, and Trigonometry, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Mathematics in the Modern World.
Other Positions Held: Varsity Debate Coach, Math Olympiad Coach, PLC Leader, Building Leadership Team, Congressional Debate State Chair, State Tournament Host.
Committees: Mathematics PLC, PTO Liaison, School Accountability, National Speech and Debate Association Colorado Grande Regional Board Member.

Colorado College-Interim Speech and Debate Coach

Supervisor: [redacted] Dates: Oct 2022-Feb 2023
Responsibilities: Train, give feedback, and prepare students for competition at the University level for speech and debate competitions. Assist in transition between permanent coaches.

Colorado Digital Learning-Mathematics Instructor

Supervisor: [redacted] Dates: Aug 2020-Present
Responsibilities: Teach, inspire, and assess asynchronous online Geometry, Pre-Algebra, Algebra 2, and Credit Recovery Algebra 2 courses. Pilot using AI for feedback on formative or summative assessments

Professional Experience:

Naches Valley High School-Mathematics Teacher

Central Washington University-Adjunct Faculty, College in the Schools Cornerstone Program
Approved to teach Math 101, 102, 130, 153, 154, 172, and 173

Supervisor: [redacted] Dates: August 2007-June 2013
Responsibilities: Design, teach, and assess a rigorous, engaging program to meet the needs of the diverse learners. Incorporate 1:1 iPad program into a challenging, problem-solving based curriculum. Communicate with parents about the progress of their student learners.
Courses Taught: Core 1, Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, CIS Pre-Calculus I and II, CIS Calculus I, CIS Math in the Modern World, CIS Math Decision Making, CIS Finite Math.
Other Positions Held: Technology Support Specialist, C/JV Boys Basketball Coach Committees: Mathematics PLC, School Environment PLC, District Technology Committee, 1:1 Technology Selection Team Chair (iPad selection and implementation team).

Richfield High School-Mathematics Teacher

Supervisor: [redacted] Dates: June 2005-June 2007
Responsibilities: Design, teach, and assess a challenging, engaging program for 5 sections of Integrated Mathematics 1,2,3 in a diverse setting. Differentiate lessons to allow students multiple representations for assessment. Communicate with parents about the progress of their learner. Pilot technology-enhanced classroom with Smartboard and document camera in classroom.
Teaching Awards: Golden Apple Award-Richfield School Board December, 2006; TIES Teacher of the Year-2006.
Other Positions: Knowledge Bowl team coach.
Committees: Technology Committee, Technology Enhanced Classroom.

Clifton Strengths:

Learner, Achiever, Communication, Strategic, Adaptability

Education:

M.Ed. –**University of Minnesota(October 2012)- Major: Mathematics Education**
Thesis Project : Using Formative Assessment and Electronic Gradebook to Increase Achievement in Pre-Requisite Skills of Students in Algebra 1 using Mastery Learning Techniques. -

B.S –University of Idaho(May 2004)
Major: Mathematics

Awards and Professional Training:

CHSAA-**Sharon Wilch Lifetime Achievement Award**-Speech and Debate, 2025
Colorado Dept. of Education-**Finalist-Colorado State Teacher of the Year**-2017
John Asbury Teacher of the Year-Discovery Canyon High School-2018
Mathematics Department-**Team of the Year** 2021
Mathematics Department-**Thomas S Crawford Team of the Year**-2019
Boettcher Foundation Teacher Recognition Award-From Student Arjun Kudinoor-2019
United States Air Force Academy Cadet Wing-**Cat II Civilian of the Quarter**-Q4 2025
United States Air Force Academy Preparatory School- **Cat II Civilian of the Quarter**-Q4 2025
STEM Inspire Teacher Award-2021
Golden Apple Award-Richfield School Board December 2006
TIES Teacher of the Year-2006
AP Calculus Summer Institute, Metro State University, 2015
United States Air Force Academy New Calculus Instructor-2015
National Speech and Debate Association Educators Conference-2017, 2019

Community Service:

Morningview Metropolitan District, Colorado Springs, CO

President of the Board of Directors-2019-2025
Member of Board of Directors-2018-2025
Elected by fellow residents of my community to serve in leadership for our Metropolitan District. During this time, our Board has **reduced operational spending**, **reduced homeowner annual fees** by 83% and **lowered property tax mill levy by 31%** through intentional fiscal management and strong board leadership. Led the transition from full developer control to full resident control.