



MANITOU SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 14

GO MUSTANGS!

MANITOU SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • UTE PASS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • MANITOU SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL • MANITOU SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

Meet the newest members of our Board of Education!



Gus Moen,
Director

Why am I on the BOE?

As a student, I was always enrolled in public institutions, attending my neighborhood schools and participating in

extracurricular activities such as baseball, football, basketball and band. Along with the academic and administrative skills I was taught, the character development these activities provided would not have been financially feasible without being part of a free public education.

As baseball continued to be a passion of mine and a means to afford post-secondary education, I became interested in psychology. I am now the proud owner/operator of a developing psychotherapy practice, and am a certified trainer for trauma-informed organizations. I wish to bring

these skillsets and practices to the community.

Why do I love MSSD14?

Manitou Springs called to me — this town provided a feeling of peace and safety, and along with its location, is why we moved here. I truly believe that MSSD14 has the opportunity to become a national example of how a school district can and should be run.

What are my best hopes for the BOE?

My hopes for the BOE is that we continue to humbly and mindfully serve, with stewardship, this school district and all which that entails. My hopes are that each policy, practice, and procedure holds the lens of a trauma-informed organization, allowing our students the most fertile ground for learning and developing their minds and bodies.

A little about me...

With over 25 years in the corporate setting, I've seen the impact of quality and comprehensive general education on the workforce. I am eager to develop my role to champion for the current and future needs of the staff, students, and community. I am honored and excited to serve my community.



Dr. Jack Sharon,
Treasurer

Why am I on the BOE?

I have three children currently in the district and two that have graduated. I am the product of public education through college. My goal is

to help in any way that I can to support a quality education that will contribute to the success of our students.

Why do I love MSSD14?

I love the size and diversity of the district. It is a microcosm of our community and an excellent place to learn how to collaborate with others. There are innovations in education, and with our size and diversity, I believe that we can optimize the opportunities for our students. I appreciate and share the core values of relationships, deep learning and opportunity.

What are my best hopes for the BOE?

The school board has a range of different experiences and perspectives. We have already spent significant time together and we are 100 percent committed to the support of the superintendent and the well-being of the students.

A little about me...

I was born and raised in Los Angeles to parents that immigrated from Canada. I went to public school in one of the largest districts in the country and was fortunate to receive an excellent education. I moved to Colorado Springs 25 years ago after completing my residency in Fresno, California. I've worked at both Memorial and Penrose St. Francis, and have held multiple administrative roles including medical director of emergency services and president of an 800-member staff. I recently left the Emergency Department at Penrose; though I remain on the Hospital Board in order to practice in smaller, more rural emergency departments. I hope to spend more time with my family and to pursue some short-term opportunities overseas that revolve around medicine, compassion and kindness to those less fortunate.



Gary Smith, *Director*

Why am I on the BOE?

I want to be a part improving, in any way, the educational opportunities of our children.

Why do I love MSSD14?

I'm a graduate of Manitou schools, my daughter is a graduate and my granddaughter currently attends Manitou Springs High School. I like the small-town culture!

What are my best hopes for the BOE?

That we become a strong team.

A little about me...

I love the small-town, community feeling of being in Manitou! I'm a member of the Manitou Springs Kiwanis Club and I currently work for Colorado Springs Utilities. I love to watch Manitou sports and play golf!

Career and Technical Education Corner

The graduating class of 2024 will be attending a rising freshman event at Manitou Springs High School on Feb. 11. What will the world of work look like for this generation of graduates? We wonder this all the time, but yesterday afternoon, NPR covered the global economic summit in Switzerland. What's on the mind of CEOs of the world's biggest companies? Technological advancements and its effects on the workforce, i.e., needing less workers, and the environment. We spend a great deal of time thinking about shaping learners and workers for the next 100-plus years, and how best to do that. We add and expand on what has worked and what we see the needs being. We rely on research, best practices and conversations with those in the field. One aspect that is a constant: creative and innovative thinking. Being able to make something out of nothing, seeing how pieces come together and imagining how those pieces can solve a problem. These skills, added with the communication, mathematical and scientific thinking abilities, make Manitou Springs students unique. One program that illustrates this is our high school Metalsmithing class. Teacher Erin Gocinski uses creative thinking in her class along with the communication, math and science skills needed to create something out of nothing. The added bonus is that something is a beautiful piece of art.



New MSSD14 Facebook page!

Please follow us on Facebook @ **manitouschools**.

We'll post announcements and events to this page regularly and it will be a great way to stay up-to-date! We'll be looking forward to seeing your "likes."



No school Monday, Feb. 17 – President's Day



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