KAREN APGAR  
Secretary Candidate  
Statement 1

Describe the experiences that have prepared you to serve as NASP Secretary.

Greetings! Allow me to introduce myself: I am a district-level school psychologist, and occasional adjunct professor, from the great state of Oregon, where I’ve lived for over 25 years. Prior to landing in the Pacific Northwest, I was born and raised on the East Coast, living in Georgia, Massachusetts, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New York. Back in the 20th century, I completed my school psychology degree at Tufts University and, many years later, earned my doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Portland. I am your current NASP Secretary.

I believe I am particularly well-prepared and well-suited to continue to serve as Secretary for this next term. In addition to serving as Secretary for the past several years, I also completed six years as the NASP Delegate for Oregon, three of which were also spent serving on the NASP Board of Directors as a Delegate Representative for the Western Region. Over the past few years, I have consistently crafted succinct written descriptions of complicated discussions for NASP meetings, which is the primary role of the Secretary. This skilled word-craft is essential, as the meeting minutes become the legal record of the actions and decisions of our association.

In addition to my NASP Secretary experience, my years on the Board of Directors have led to a nuanced understanding of the professional and procedural workings of the association, which immensely informs my ability to efficiently analyze and record the deliberations and decisions of the rapid-fire interactions of the group. In my Secretary role, I create minutes for multi-day Board meetings, multi-day Leadership Assembly meetings, and several virtual meetings of the Board and the Leadership Assembly. I also compile and submit the virtual voting reports required for our association's annual tax audit.

I am a psychologist who has always taken pride in the quality of my written work, and I also have been told I take meeting notes like a court reporter – which means I can type what I hear while continuing to follow and participate in the conversation. This serves me well in multiple settings, including on the NASP Board, because the Secretary is an active and contributing member of the Board whose voice and vote are just as critical as those of other Board members. Having served on my state association Board in multiple roles for my first 20 years in Oregon, I am proud of my profession and take my leadership responsibilities seriously. I would be honored by the opportunity to serve the profession by the continuing in the role of NASP Secretary.