

HIGH POINT ACADEMY

2021 Board Applicant

Eduardo Chen

Email: chene@sccsc.edu

Resident: Spartanburg

Occupation: College Instructor & USSF Licensed
Soccer Coach

Education: B.S. Industrial Engineering, MBA



1. Please describe any non-profit Board experience that you have.

- Spartanburg Community College (SCC)- Management Advisory Board- Current
- Spartanburg Preparatory School (SPS)- Board of Directors 2012-14
- SCC- Faculty Senate Board- 2010-11
- American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO)- 2010-11
- Strayer University, Washington, D.C. - Advisory Board

2. Why do you want to serve on the High Point Academy Board of Directors, and how will you help advance the mission of the school?

I truly enjoy working with a team to advance an organization's goals, especially involving youth (e.g., current work with Spartanburg High School, YMCA, and Carolina Football Club). I would like to be a part of the common bond within this Board to support the school's mission for academic excellence, STEAM education, and project-based, applied learning instruction.

My interpersonal skills, engineering background, teaching and coaching credentials could help contribute to the variety of skill sets and experiences of fellow Board members to advance the mission of HPA.

3. Describe your work and volunteer background and how it prepares you to be a member of the Board.

The following lists represent work experiences and volunteer background to help prepare to be a member of the Board. Volunteer Background (in addition to non-profit Board experience):

- Chamber of Commerce- Leadership Spartanburg Alumnus-Class of 2015-16
- Purdue Alumni Association of the Upstate
- Bausch & Lomb - Latino Employee Network • U.S. Navy Morale & Recreation Association Current work as an educator:
 - Instructor – School of Business at Spartanburg Community College
 - Providing online and classroom instruction for various business courses
 - Acting as an advisor for support in enrollment, curriculum, development, course delivery, career coaching

Current work as a coach and trainer:

- Spartanburg High School - Spartanburg, SC – District 7 -acting as head coach for the JV girls' soccer team (7th-10th graders)
- Carolina Football Club (CFC) - Spartanburg, SC - United States Soccer Federation (USSF) licensed coach

Current and recent work with YMCA Spartanburg:

- Experience as director of the Fitness & Wellness Dept (staff of 40); Livestrong, an evidence-based physical activity program designed with the goal of getting cancer survivors back on their feet; RISE program – Recreation, Inspiration, Service & Exercise– for adults 21 years and older who have learning differences or physical limitations.

Previous work as an engineer, project manager, director and consultant:

- Process improvement, quality and cost control
- Data analysis and resource planning
- Strategic planning, policy and procedures development• Bilingual ability in Spanish for business and communication support

4. What do you see as the differences between the responsibilities of a Board member and the responsibilities of the school's administration?

The Board and its members govern while the principals, faculty and staff administer the academic institution. The Board acts as a group and communicates with collaborative effort to the school's administration to implement policies and run the day-to-day operations of the school.

In other words, the Board acts as a voice and support for the school's administration – safety, proper resource allocation, operations, maintenance, financial management, staffing, training, strategic planning, to name a few - while the administration executes the mission, goals and activities on a day-to-day basis. This supportive relationship promotes a balance and ensures the students' and families' needs and experiences are best met.

5. What do you consider to be the most important issue for the school and the Board to focus on in the upcoming years?

Continued growth in cultural and socioeconomic diversity awareness in addition to measurable improvement and growth in academic and athletic programs through quality staff and resources.