

Jacob B. Kuper

Objective: Provide strategic leadership with humility, loyalty, and collaboration that will drive performance and accountability.

Education: **Pacific Lutheran University:** Masters of Business Administration (2007)
Oregon State University: B.S. Political Science/Business Administration (2002)
International Education: Charles Sturt University; Bathurst, Australia (2001)

Employment:

July of 2022 **Yakima School District- Yakima, WA**

Assistant Superintendent of Finance (CFO):

Direct, review, analyze a variety of financial and management Information; make recommendations in matters of fiscal impact such as budget, revenues, expenditures, enrollment projections, collective bargaining, school construction, levy and bond issues, legal issues, and risk management. Serve on the Superintendent's Cabinet, providing over-all leadership and direction to the district. Direct and implement the district budget process.

Consult, advise, develop, prepare, recommend, and implement fiscal policies and procedures. Determine system methods for financing major expenditures, bond sales, and spending priorities. Supervise the Finance, Payroll and District Data Center Departments which consists of Budgeting, Payroll, Employee Safety, Accounting, Accounts Payable/Receivable, Purchasing, Grants, ASB and Finance/HR Skyward Support.

Oversee approximately \$400 million in funds annually with a total work force of 2000 staff. Manage and direct multiple district operational departments such as technology, food services and transportation.

2006 to 2022 **Issaquah School District- Issaquah, WA**

Chief of Finance and Operations (CFO/COO):

Led the budgeting, financial management, and operations of a \$600 million municipal corporation with 3,400 employees and over 21,000 students. Have sustained the District's Aaa Moody's rating during the global financial crisis (*less than 0.5% of all school systems across the USA currently hold a Aaa rating from Moodys*).

Under my management we have received an upgrade in our Standard and Poor's Rating to AA+, which is the highest of any school district in the state of

Washington. Additionally, the District has received 20 consecutive “clean” financial and accountability audits.

Direct the operational departments of the district; which includes; pupil transportation (150 school buses), food service (26 locations 10,000 meals per day), maintenance (120 staff and 28 sites), capital projects (\$350M over the past 3 years & over \$1 billion over the last 15 years) and technology infrastructure (\$12M + annually).

Drive and negotiate real estate acquisitions, recently completing the purchase of 5 school sites for nearly \$100M.

Act as the districts legislative/legal leader on key policy issues that have financial impact on Issaquah School District and education funding in Washington State as a whole. My policy efforts and concepts have driven billions of dollars to K-12 students in the state of Washington. Additionally, present at annual industry conferences and monthly board meetings in the areas of school district finance and operations.

Negotiate all labor contracts (8 Unions Groups) and manage high-profile employee misconduct matters. Chair multiple community finance and operations committees, bringing multiple stakeholders together for decision making opportunities. Work closely with Superintendent and the Board of Directors on strategic planning and mission/visioning for the entire district.

Member of the Superintendent’s Advisory Committee and Cabinet member, assisting in major decisions in instruction, curriculum and direction/creation of educational programs.

Maintained all responsibilities of the CFO position (detailed below) as well as those described for the CFO/COO role.

2013-Current

JBK Consultants- Enumclaw, WA

Principal/Owner: *(My personal firm that I have operated in conjunction with my CFO/COO role at Issaquah School District)*

Provide consulting services to school districts across the state of Washington. This work is focused on finance, operations, labor negotiations and other human resource matters, including but not limited to; enrollment projections, staffing allocation models, superintendent/board communications, creation of “systems” that serve the superintendent and senior leadership and overall evaluation of financial position.

2014-2016

Cascade Business Group- Bellevue, WA

Senior Consultant:

Provide business consulting services focused on executable strategy and process improvement for industry leaders such as CISCO. Team with other consultants around the United States to ensure value is added to and for our clients.

2006

Issaquah School District- Issaquah, WA

Chief Financial Officer (CFO):

Manage municipal bond financings, calculation of levy/tax authority, and investment portfolio. Direct all aspects of district fiscal and operational technology.

Develop and utilize complex financial models for long term construction and financial planning. Manage multiple departments; Accounting, Payroll, Budget, Risk Management (including all ongoing litigation) and Student Information Systems.

Direct, review, analyze and interpret a variety of financial and management information, negotiate with vendors; make recommendations to the superintendent and board of directors in matters of fiscal impact such as budget, revenues, expenditures, enrollment/demographic projections, real estate, collective bargaining, capital improvements, etc.

2004- 2005

Issaquah School District- Issaquah, WA

Director of Finance/Accounting:

Acted as the district's chief auditing officer, responsible for portions of the budgeting process, and all accounting functions. Led a successful organizational wide financial software conversion. Assisted in district demographics and enrollment projections.

Developed complex financial models for financial planning and audit. Supervised a staff of 18 and provide fiscal technology training to all district support staff. Prepared annual financial statements. Acted as liaison to several other government agencies and aided in negotiation of labor contracts.

2003-2004

Washington State Auditors' Office- Kent, WA

Assistant State Auditor:

Executed audits on various government entities in Washington State; ensured public funds are accounted for and controls were in place to protect public resources from misappropriation and misuse. Performed legal compliance and risk-based auditing; ensuring units of state and local government adhered to required laws and regulations relating to financial matters.

Technical Skills:

Proficient with Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe, Skyward ERP, SPSS, and adept in producing advanced financial and statistical models with extensive knowledge of GAAP, GASB, and FASB.

Past & Present Professional Memberships/Boards:

WASA- Washington Association of School Administrators
WASBO- Washington Association of School Business Officials
ASBO- Association of School Business Officials
Northwest Regional Data Center Executive Committee Chair
Puget Sound School's Coalition Chair
King County Investment Pool Advisory Panel (\$6+ Billion in Assets)

