



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact:**

Jonathan Hutchison  
Communications Director  
North Clackamas Schools #12  
[hutchisonj@nclack.k12.or.us](mailto:hutchisonj@nclack.k12.or.us)  
(503) 353-6008 (work)

**Jena Benologa takes seat on North Clackamas School Board**

*Benologa to serve in Position 2 following the resignation of Lee Merrick*

Milwaukie, OR (May 10, 2019)—The North Clackamas Schools (NCSD) Board of Directors welcomed its newest member, Jena Benologa, at Thursday’s regular meeting. Benologa was appointed by the board on April 25 to serve the remaining two months of Position 2’s term following the resignation of former board chair Lee Merrick on March 20. Benologa has two children who graduated from Milwaukie High School. She currently serves as academic director for the non-profit student exchange company Terra Lingua USA. Previously, she ran her own preschool/after-school program for 24 years.

After moving to Milwaukie in 2000, Benologa quickly became involved in NCSD, beginning with the PTA at Campbell Elementary School. Additionally, she has volunteered with the Parent Community Leadership Alliance, two Capital Bond campaigns, and with several NCSD committees, including the Budget Committee.

The board approached Benologa, who is running for Position 2 in the May 21 election, about serving the remainder of Merrick’s term. If elected, her four-year term begins in July.

“I feel I have the experience across the district and through all facets of education to help shape policy,” Benologa said. “With my work with young kids, special needs children, and high school exchange students, I understand the foundation that needs to be in place to ensure all students are successful.”



For more information on NCSD’s School Board, visit [www.nclack.k12.or.us/schoolboard](http://www.nclack.k12.or.us/schoolboard).

*NCSD is an award-winning district that prepares students who are inspired and empowered to strengthen the quality of life in our local and global communities. More information about NCSD is available at [www.nclack.k12.or.us](http://www.nclack.k12.or.us).*