

Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Witness Disclosure Requirement - "Truth in Testimony"
Required by House Rule XI, Clause 2(g)(5)

1. Your Name: <u>DEBRA SOCIA</u>		
2. Your Title: <u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</u>		
3. The Entity(ies) You are Representing: <u>NEXT CENTURY CITIES</u>		
4. Are you testifying on behalf of the Federal, or a State or local government entity?	Yes	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5. Please list any Federal grants or contracts, or contracts or payments originating with a foreign government, that you or the entity(ies) you represent have received on or after January 1, 2013. Only grants, contracts, or payments related to the subject matter of the hearing must be listed. <p style="text-align: center;"><u>N/A</u></p>		
6. Please attach your curriculum vitae to your completed disclosure form.		

Signature: 

Date: 7/20/15

DEBRA J. SOCIA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

NEXT CENTURY CITIES

Washington, DC

Executive Director

July 2014 to present

- Founding Executive Director of [Next Century Cities](#), a non-profit dedicated to supporting cities and their leadership as they seek to ensure all have fast, affordable, reliable Internet access
- Secured over 100 member cities and counties in the first eight months
- Coordinated multiple events – national and regional – to support local leader collaboration and information sharing
- Collaborated in the creation of [“Connecting 21st Century Communities: A Policy Agenda for Broadband Stakeholders”](#)
- Moderated webinars and panels, shared expertise via speaking engagements/keynote addresses

BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Boston, Massachusetts

Principal on Assignment, Executive Director, Tech Goes Home

June 2010 – July 2014

- Revised, reorganized, and grew [Tech Goes Home](#) – a project designed to eliminate the digital divide, supporting 13K residents in less than 4 years
- Increased access across Boston, grew partnerships to 120 sites
- Co-created National Tech Goes Home with Intel
- Managed small wifi deployments within Boston
- Developed and supported national partnerships, including Google, Intel, Comcast, Connect2Compete/EveryoneOn, NSF, MIT, Berkman Center for Internet and Society, BTOP, NTIA, Department of Commerce, TracFone, Mobile Citizen, NetGear
- Initiated, facilitated “Connecting Boston” city-wide campaign to improve digital equity

Principal, Frederick Middle School

April 2003 – June 2010

- Founding Principal of 650 student middle school
- Worked with 40 community partners to create programming 12 hours/day weekdays, Saturday Scholars every weekend
- Facilitated the implementation of a 1:1 laptop program beginning in 2006
- Named a Trauma Sensitive school and a “safe haven” from neighborhood violence
- School awarded multiple international, national, and local awards including: Apple Distinguished School (multiple years), Verizon Visionary Award, Crispus Attucks Award, Recognition by Intel, Robert Wood Johnson, State Department of Ed, and Boston Public Schools

CAMBRIDGE RINDGE & LATIN SCHOOL

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dean of Curriculum and Program

August 2000 – June 2003

- Responsible for the personnel, budget, professional development, partnerships and all other aspects of school leadership for a small school of 500 high school students.

OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mattapoisett, Massachusetts

Curriculum Coordinator, Central Office

August 1999 – August 2000

- Responsible for creation of curriculum teams, facilitation of curriculum development in all K – 12 curriculum areas, co-director of the extensive summer arts-based academic program, data based decision making (Test Wiz, CLASP, other programs), supporting the district-based and school-based professional development, managing mentor program for district, co-taught graduate course on peer mentoring.

CENTER FOR COLLABORATIVE EDUCATION

Boston, Massachusetts

Program Director, Coalition of Essential Schools

June 1998 – August 1999

- Responsible for coordination and significant growth (from 20 to over 200 schools) of the statewide network of CES schools (whole school change initiative), initiating and coordinating

state-wide conference, coaching schools in whole school change, facilitating as well as coordinating professional development opportunities for the network, leadership coaching, supporting school decision-making based on data, establishing and facilitating Critical Friends Groups, preparing for the successful accreditation of CCE as the regional provider for CES

WAREHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Wareham, Massachusetts

Middle School Educator

August 1995 – June 1998

- Taught mathematics (Algebra for All) and integrated algebra and physical science, District-Wide Mentor Teacher Leader, Odyssey of the Mind Coordinator, National Junior Honor Society Advisor, PALMS Leadership, Critical Friends Leadership, Community Service Learning Committee, cooperating teacher, grant writer.

Speaker/Educational Consultant

September 1993 – Present

- Includes Keynotes, “Ed-Talks” and presentations – international, national, state, and local conferences – variety of topics

FRIENDS ACADEMY

Dartmouth Massachusetts

Middle School Educator

August 1986 – August 1995

- Mathematics teacher (grades 5 to 9), advisor, member of Board level committees, Math Club Advisor, created and led Professional Development

NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SERVICES, INC.

New Bedford, Massachusetts

Program Coordinator

January 1983 – August 1986

- All aspects of administration of a community based residential program that supported developmentally delayed adults

EDUCATION

Lesley University, M.Ed.	1993
Bridgewater State College, B.S. Ed.	1981
Boston University	1997 – 1980

Additional 60+ credits in a variety of education related courses.

AWARDS

MassCUE Pathfinder Award	2013
NATOA Community Broadband Hero of the Year	2013
Public Technology Institute Solutions Award	2012
ComputerWorld Laureate	2011
CRSTE Leadership and Vision Award	2010
Lilla G. Frederick Courage Award + Quincy Geneva Community Advocate Award	2008

CERTIFICATIONS

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education:

- Principal (6 – 8) and (9 – 12)
- Generalist Teacher (K – 8), Special Education (K – 8) Pending
- Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent

Certified Mentor Teacher and Mentor Teacher Trainer

NON-PROFIT BOARD MEMBERSHIP

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- | | |
|---|----------------|
| • Project RIGHT, Inc – Governing Board President | 2013 – 2014 |
| • Alliance for Inclusion and Prevention, Inc – Board Member | 2012 – Present |

VOLUNTEER WORK

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- Advisory Committee Wheelock’s Parent Engagement Team – Aspire Institute
 - Educational Advocate, Tutor, Guest Speaker/Host, Storyteller