

September 30, 2020

Dear MAATA Members:

I would like to formally state my intent to run for the position of Secretary for the Mid-America Athletic Trainers' Association. I am honored to be recognized as a candidate for this position along with my good friend Sara Bjerke. We have served together on the MAATA Board of Directors as presidents of our state associations and have continued a close friendship to this day. I feel that the district is positioned for a great individual regardless of the individual selected.

Currently I am employed as an athletic trainer at Jenks High School, a suburb of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Along with my teaching and clinical responsibilities, I also serve as the District 5 Secondary School Athletic Trainers' Committee Representative. In addition to working in the secondary school setting, I've worked in the collegiate/university setting as a clinician and as a clinical program director, and I started my career in an outpatient therapy clinic providing athletic training outreach services. I've truly had an opportunity to serve in multiple settings in the athletic training profession and have respect for the similarities and differences in each of those settings.

In addition to my work experience, I have also spent a majority of my professional career serving the athletic training profession. As stated earlier, I served as president of the Oklahoma Athletic Trainers' Association, that allowed me the opportunity to also serve on the MAATA Board of Directors. After my term on the OATA Board expired, I then moved on to the State Association Advisory Committee. And I have continued to serve as evidenced by my term on the SSAT.

I believe that service to the profession is an important aspect of athletic training that often gets overlooked. Many of us are extremely busy in athletic training facilities and clinics and I'm no different than any of you. However, serving on the MAATA Board of Directors gives me a chance to give back to a profession that has given so many opportunities to me. Serving as Secretary of the MAATA I vow to serve as a voice to all athletic trainers on issues at the district level.

In conclusion, I want to reaffirm my intent to serve as the Secretary of the Mid-America Athletic Trainers' Association. I feel that my previous professional and service experience has prepared me for this opportunity. I thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Catterson". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael Catterson, MS, LAT, ATC