

# MICHELLE FLORES

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## ***Statement of Interest***

I am excited about the opportunity to serve on the MPSEOC Board and help connect Montana's educational institutions and reach our students. My heart and work align with the mission and values of this organization, and I am passionate about connecting students, families, and the community in to higher education.

I started at the University of Montana as an Admissions Counselor with a desire to connect the local territory with UM in meaningful ways. As I embarked on my role in the local territory, I quickly realized the profound impact that building strong relationships can have. Through these relationships, I discovered that effective communication is the bridge that connects people to higher education. It's within these connections that individuals find the encouragement, resources, and support they need to navigate their educational paths and achieve their dreams. Witnessing students and families recognize and seize opportunities through these relationships has been immensely rewarding.

Joining the MPSEOC Board presents an incredible opportunity to expand this work on a larger scale. I am committed to leveraging my experience and passion to foster a statewide network that enhances the educational experiences of all Montana students. By serving on this Board, I will be contributing to a collaborative environment where state institutions remain connected and focused on our collective mission to promote higher education. This alignment with MPSEOC's vision of changing the world by connecting, educating, and empowering individuals through higher educational opportunities resonates deeply with me. I believe that through our combined efforts, we can make a significant impact on the lives of students and their families across Montana.

I am eager to work with like-minded professionals dedicated to this cause and to help further MPSEOC's mission and vision. Together, we can ensure that all students in Montana have access to the best possible post-secondary educational opportunities, equipping them with the tools and support necessary to succeed—based upon relationships throughout our state. Serving on the MPSEOC Board will allow me to contribute to an organization that shares my passion for education and my commitment to fostering a supportive, inclusive, and collaborative educational environment.