

## SPCSA Application

**First Name:** Ismail

**Last Name:** Kocabiyik

**Reason to Serve:** I do believe that every student has a right to quality education regardless of who they are. Charter schools are a great opportunity for the students in Nevada and we are doing a great public service to those 55000 students that we have at our schools. State Charter School Authority is not only sponsoring these schools but also it ensures that all schools provide the best possible education to these students. Being a strong supporter of the Charter School Movement, I believe I can make a bigger difference by being part of the SPCSA Board and serve our students and their families better. Though we are doing great as the charter school community our state still is one of the lowest ranking states when it comes to education and I believe I can make a difference to change this.

**Qualifications:** I have worked at a charter school, Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas, setting in the last 10 years in Nevada as a College Counselor and as a Principal. I have seen the growth of the charter schools in the state during this time. Additionally, I have been part of the admin team at my school during this whole time and I was the part of the decision making processes for improvement, growth and crisis response.

**Summary of Experience, education, achievements:** I took part in creating the rigorous college prep program at CASLV Sandy Ridge Campus and promoted college education to the students, parents and fellow educators. I also helped create a robust counseling department at CASLV Sandy Ridge and eventually have several ivy league and other competitive college admissions consistently every year. For 2021-2022 school year, I was promoted to be the principal of our Windmill Campus last year, which I started a week before school started with nine of the 24 teaching positions vacant. I was able to create a brand new schedule within one weekend, eliminate four positions with the new schedule and fill the remaining five throughout the year ending the year with great success.

**County of Residence:** Clark

**Highest Level of Education Completed:** Master's Degree

**Current Employer:** Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas

**Job Title:** Principal

**Professional Licenses:** Secondary English as a Second Language Professional License active until 8/12/2026 Secondary Linguistics Professional License active until 8/12/2026 Secondary School Administrator Professional License active until 8/12/2026

**Served on other Board, Commission, etc.:** No

**Registered to Vote:** Yes

**Registered Lobbyist:** No

**Gender Identity:** Male

**Identify as Hispanic and/or Latino/a:** No

**Ethnic Identity:** Caucasian/White

**Tribal Heritage:**

**Languages:** English Turkish

**Veteran Status:** No

**Disability Status:** No

**Accurate Information:** Yes

**No Conflict of Interest:** None

# Ismail Kocabiyik

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Passionate college counselor with 9 year experience at Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas. During my years as a college counselor and then as the Head College Counselor, CASLV has achieved a 100% graduation rate, had extremely high AP passing rates with about 60% of the entire HS population being in the AP program. Many CASLV graduates were admitted to selective public and private universities including Yale, MIT, Stanford, USC, Brown, UC Berkeley, UCLA and many others in addition to many students being placed to the Honors College at both UNLV and UNR with the guidance and motivation I provide to my students.

As the head College Counselor at Coral Academy of Science, Las Vegas. I have extensive experience in the college admission process thanks to the diversity of the students I serve. I have served high achieving students from humble backgrounds, written recommendation letters, followed up their applications and coordinated with their colleges. I have given many presentations, have been teaching a college readiness curriculum to HS Juniors and help students with scholarship applications. I have also had other duties like AP Coordinator, Dual Enrollment Coordinator, Test Coordinator, Department Head, Master Schedule creator, etc.

## EXPERIENCE

### **Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas, Henderson, NV – *Principal***

August 2021 - Present

- Leads a diverse staff, parent and student body
- Leads supervision and evaluation of school staff with NEPF system
- Model and establish clear and high expectations
- Establish a school climate that promotes equal opportunities for all students
- Analyze and interpret school-level data and make data driven decisions.
- Work cooperatively with all stakeholders including students, staff, parents and the larger community.

### **Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas, Henderson, NV – *Head College Counselor***

August 2017 - August 2021

- Head Counselor managing a team of 3-5 professionals.
- Advanced Placement Program Coordinator
- College Counselor for High School Seniors
- Help students with FAFSA and scholarship applications
- Write Recommendation Letters
- Guide students toward college applications
- Organize and present at College nights, financial aid nights
- Organize career fairs
- Organize college trips

### **Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas, Henderson, NV— College Counselor**

January 2013 - June 2017

Served as the sole college counselor having multiple roles simultaneously including but not limited to: College Counselor, College Prep Teacher, Test Coordinator, AP Coordinator, Dual Enrollment Coordinator, Event organizer, Scheduler, etc.

### **Magnolia Science Academy, Los Angeles, CA—College Counselor**

August 2011 - January 2013

Served as the sole college counselor having multiple roles simultaneously including but not limited to: College Counselor, College Prep Teacher, Test Coordinator, AP Coordinator, Event organizer, Scheduler.

## **EDUCATION**

### **American College of Education, Indianapolis, IN— M.Ed in *Educational Leadership***

October 2015 - May 2017

Completed this program with a 4.0 GPA and currently working on getting Admin License for Nevada.

### **Bogazici University, Istanbul— B.A. *Education (English)***

September 2000 - August 2006

Graduated as an English as a Second Language Teacher

## **OTHER ROLES**

### **Evaluating Administrator - Specials Department**

August 2016 - June 2019

Oversee the Specials/Electives department and evaluate the teachers in this department. This includes conducting walk in and formal evaluations. Also, help teachers with their logistic needs, book orders and any administrative needs.

### **College Mentorship and Leadership Program Coordinator/ Mentor**

August 2014 - June 2016

Have created and developed a program for high school students to help them create a strong resume and establish leadership skills to be competitive in the college admissions process. This program aims to help students get Congressional Gold Medal. 5 of the 7 Congressional Gold Medal recipients in Nevada's history are my students thanks to this program.

### **Course Catalog/Academic Policy Creator**

August 2014 - Present

Have created and developed academic policies for the school in line with new legislatures and

mission/vision of the school. Currently working on updates for the policies.

### **Grant Writer**

August 2015 - Present

Took part in writing a comprehensive College and Career Readiness grant, implementing programs with the money awarded and preparation of the reports for the allocated money. Applications have been awarded more than \$ 500k so far.

### **AP Coordinator**

August 2011 - Present

Manage Course Audit Portal and get the AP courses approved by College Board, order and coordinate AP exams, supervise and manage AP subject teachers, develop and new programs for AP success, coordinate AP teacher professional developments.

### **Master Schedule Creator**

August 2012 - Present

Create a high school master schedule for a school of +800 students and 41 teachers with another administrator.