# STATE OF MINNESOTA

Executive Department



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MAR 08 2021

# Governor Tim Walz President of the Senate

# NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

# **May Thor**

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment, and ability, I have appointed you to the office of:

# Teacher - Related Services Category Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board

Effective: March 8, 2021 Expires: January 1, 2024

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

Signed and sealed March 3, 2021.

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Replacing: Anne Lindgren

Tim Walz

Governor

**Steve Simon** 

Secretary of State

Filed on March 3, 2021 Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State, Steve Simon

## rbbucation for the hosition reached

#### art I: Position Sought

gency Name: Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board

os' : Teacher

### art II: Applicant Information

ame: May Lia Thor hone: (651) 226-7404 ounty: Anoka

In House District: 38A S House District: 6

ecommended by the Appointing Authority: False

## art III: Appending Documentation

#### over Letter and Resume

Type

File Type

cover Letter application/vnd.openxmlformats-officedocument.wordprocessingml.document application/vnd.openxmlformats-officedocument.wordprocessingml.document

#### dditional Documents (.doc, .docx, .pdf, .txt)

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etr n: No Answer

art V: Signature

ignature: May Lia Thor ate: 12/7/2020 11:04:01 AM

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President of the Senate

May Lia Thor 6417 Langer Circle Lino Lakes, MN 55038 (651) 226.7404 Maythor3@gmail.com

December 1, 2020

Minnesota Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board 1021 Bandana Blvd. E, Suite 222 Saint Paul, MN 55108

To Whom It May Concern:

I am interested in applying for the Teacher Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board/Related Service Area position. I hope you will find my education, professional certifications, and work experiences to meet the requirements of this position.

I am prepared to provide and contribute to the decisions made by board members at the state level that will have significant impacts on schools, teachers, and ultimately students across Minnesota. I have a Master of Social Work degree from the University of MN. My K-12 School Social Work Certification from the MN Department of Education is in good standing. Additionally, I continue to maintain my Licensed Graduate Social Work - LGSW from the MN Board of Social Work. I am also currently working towards my Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership through Mankato State University.

Currently, I am working as a School Social Worker for both Como Senior High School and Global Arts Plus Upper Middle School for the past two years. Additionally, I have worked for Farnsworth Aerospace Upper Middle School for four years. I have gained considerable experiences and acquired a great understanding of school practices, as well as how related services play a role in the school. I am knowledgeable about Special Education Due Process including evaluations, interventions, third party billing, and writing IEP goals and objectives. I also work with multidisciplinary teams and have developed good working relationships with students, parents, teachers, administrators, and other professionals in the community.

In my capacity as a School Social Worker, I have served as a member of the Child Study Team, Attendance Team, Behavioral Team, Check and Connect, Social Work and Counselor Collaboration, and GSA. I have also served as the coordinator of Farnsworth's School Linked Mental Health Services to make sure that students with mental health needs have access to mental health services in the school.

I am confident that I can be a great addition to the existing board member team. I am excited and looking forward to discuss with you more about this opportunity.

Sincerely,

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May Lia Thor

President of the Senate

## May Lia Thor, Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board

6417 Langer Circle Lino Lakes, MN 55038 Work) 651-744-7381 cell) 651-226-7404 <u>maythor3@gmail.com</u>

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2020-Present Mankato State University, Edina, MN

Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership, in progress

2008-2009 University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN

Master of Social Work

2005-2008 Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, MN

Bachelor of Social Work

1997-1998 Century Community College, White Bear Lake, MN

General courses toward the transferring program

#### **Work Experience**

2014-Present

St. Paul Public Schools, St. Paul, MN

School Social Worker

- Conduct special education evaluations in the areas of adaptive skills and social, emotional, and behavioral functioning.
- Provide individual and group counseling/therapy to students.
- Consult with parents, teachers, and administrators to develop intervention strategies to enhance students' success in school.
- Identify, mobilize, and coordinate family, school, community resources to enable students to receive maximum benefit from their educational program.
- Consult and collaborate with community agencies and other mental health professionals to coordinate services.
- Participate in multidisciplinary teams and team meetings.

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 Provide other school-related services such as crisis intervention, identification of child neglect and abuse, truancy intervention, and suicidal assessment.

2009-2014

MN Dept. of Employment and Economic Development, St. Paul, MN Disability Examiner

- Investigated, collected, and analyzed evidence to adjudicate initial and reconsideration claims for social security benefits.
- Acquired and evaluated medical and non-medical evidence for all alleged physical and mental impairments and resolved any discrepancies noted.
- Maintained ongoing communication with claimants to update case status.
- Consulted with physicians and other members of the medical communities, ordered physical and psychological consultative examination as needed.
- Analyzed and evaluated claimant's adaptive skills in the areas of work and related skills and daily living skills to determine the severity of the medical impairment to make eligibility determination based on SSA regulations.
- Evaluated eligibility for reopening(s) of prior claims when claimant was adjudicated as disabled.
- Evaluated the probability of medical improvements to determine the appropriate disability review diary.
- Rendered a formal disability decision, including preparation of all necessary formal rationales and personalized denial notices for all denials of disability benefits.

2001-2009

MN Dept. of Human Service, St. Paul MinnesotaCare Enrollment Representative

- Served as a bilingual representative, but provided services to the both English-speaking and non-English speaking populations.
- Reviewed and processed client applications to determine eligibility for MinnesotaCare.
- Provided case management to qualified individuals and families enrolled into the state subsidized health care program.
- Made simple and complex decisions to meet production standards and deadlines.
- Conducted extensive face-to face and phone contacts with applicants and enrollees, their families, advocates, and the general public.
- Reviewed and updated clients with changes impacting their application.
- Resolved or facilitated resolution of caller concerns and systems-related problems.
- Identified and obtained data and verifications required to document eligibility and premium determinations.
- Interpreted insurance, tax and other income-related documents used for making determination on a case.
- Possessed a general knowledge of the different county programs.
- Provided training to new staff, and supervisory support.

2001-2003

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#### **Professional Certifications**

2014-Present

State of Minnesota

K-12 School Social worker

File Folder #483079

2015-Present

State of Minnesota Board of Social Work

Licensed Graduate Social Worker (LGSW)

License Number 19594

#### Languages

Fluent in Hmong and English

#### **Professional Activities**

2014-present

Member, Special Education Child Study Team

2014-2019

Member, Farnsworth Aerospace Upper Campus

Student Assistant Team (SAT)
Pupil Problem Committee (PPC)

**Student Attendance Team** 

Restorative Practice Circle Keeper Hmong New Year Celebration Team

Gay Straight and Alliance (GSA) Coordinator

Mental Health Linked Coordinator



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#### **Volunteer Activities**

2000-Present

Good News Hmong Baptist Church, Fridley, MN

An active member, as well as served in many capacities including having served as a Sunday School Director, Sunday School Teacher, Finance, Treasurer, Outreach Coordinator, and

Chairperson of the Women's Fellowship Group.

2002-2004

Hmong Baptist National Association, Oakdale, MN

Served as the Secretary for the women's ministry team.

#### References

Available Upon Request