Name: J. Todd Chasteen

**Occupation**: Corporate Counsel for Samaritan’s Purse, an international crisis relief organization serving those in need in over 100 countries worldwide with medical assistance, food, shelter, water, sanitation and education.

**Education and Training:**  Attended public elementary, middle, and high school in Prince Georges County, Maryland. Obtained a Bachelor of Business Administration – Accounting from James Madison University. Received a Degree of Juris Doctor (J.D.) from the University of Florida and a Masters of Laws in Taxation (LL.M.) from the University of Florida.

Teaching experience in Higher Ed at University of Florida, Liberty University, and Florida Gateway College.

**Current Residence**: Blowing Rock, NC

**From**: Born in Gastonia, NC

**Family**: Married to wife Kim for over 23 years. This August we will have four in college at the same time. My children participated in public, private and home education.

**Hobbies**: Reading, conditioning, road biking, backpacking, finding mountain waterfalls and mountain lake rope swings, spending as much time as possible with wife and children.

**Why he is interested in serving on the NCBOE**: I serve full-time with a charity that exists because of incredibly passionate, generous donors and over a hundred thousand volunteers around the world that help further our charitable mission. The Board role is a volunteer role and an opportunity to contribute. I have been connected to nonprofits, volunteerism and education throughout most of my career although most of my teaching experiences are in Higher Education.

**Major issues facing public education**: Teacher pay and teacher retention appear to remain on the radar. Amount and forms of testing for measurable objectives. My understanding is that there is a committee reviewing curriculum and that issue has substance. I will support any policy that responsibly allows students to flourish, become productive citizens, and persons of character. I will need to be a sponge, a student, to gain a greater understanding of the most pressing needs and issues.

Positions –

**Online Virtual Charter Schools**: Understand some micro tests of this feature are being evaluated. This strikes me as a creative concept with flexibility for parents and students which can be a positive and may be a way to leverage technology. Such a concept and initiative would need financing so determining if that is the best use of funds as compared to other important programs and needs would be necessary.

**Vouchers**: Supportive of parental choice and options that can enhance student achievement. Assisting low-income students with an option that may fit their learning style and environment leanings definitely has appealing characteristics and features.

**Public Funding of Education**: Fiscal responsibility is important to me and should be important to most. If you have your financial house in order, you are better able to be in a financial position to address critical needs, such as teacher pay. The legislature and Governor have a difficult task to accomplish which requires balancing many interests. This takes hard work, spending time in the details, and persistence. In my past life I was a CPA so financing and budgets are interesting to me and part of the reality of life we all face.

**Governance:** Regarding voting and issue advocacy, I am an independent thinker. I take one issue at a time and prefer to dig deep to gain understanding if time allows. Being informed takes diligence and hard work.

**Something most people do not know**: My father sang the National Anthem for nearly a decade at NFL football games and I was generation-skipped on the voice gene. I love to sing and unfortunately have little talent.