

B. Jason Brooks

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EXPERIENCE

Foundation for Education Reform & Accountability

Clifton Park, NY

Senior Research Associate

January 2003–Present

- Conduct research, write policy papers, Op-Eds, and press releases on a wide array of educational policy issues, including charter schools, education funding, strategies to raise student achievement for disadvantaged student populations, and the implementation of the federal No Child Left Behind Act. Research has been used by numerous national television, radio and print media.
- Assist in determining policy agenda and monitor the work of research associates and interns.
- Research for grants available to education reform and policy organizations and write grant applications.
- Make local and national media appearances and do public speaking.
- Represent organization at conferences for state policy think tanks.
- Monitor state legislation and proposed education regulations.

KIPP Tech Valley Charter School

Albany, NY

Founder and Vice President

April 2003–Present

Chairman, Board Development Committee

June 2006–Present

- Worked with a team of community members and business leaders to found a KIPP (Knowledge Is Power Program) college-preparatory public charter middle school for disadvantaged students in Albany, which opened in 2005.
- Worked with the national KIPP Foundation staff in writing an application submitted to charter school authorizer, participated in principal search and candidate interviews, and assist with teacher and staff recruitment.
- Chair Board Development Committee, which includes ensuring that all skill needs and areas of expertise on the board are met, recruiting and conducting orientation for new board members, arranging for board training, and conducting an annual assessment of the board's governance.
- Overseeing the implementation of KIPP to College/High School Placement program, including hiring of program's staff, establishing and maintaining relationships with independent schools, identifying strategies to assist students for the admissions process of competitive high schools, and planning visits and escorting KIPP students to area universities.
- Serve on the Finance Committee, which includes developing annual and five-year budgets, reviewing periodic statements, and setting goals relating to the board's fiduciary responsibility, including reports and procedures.

Empire Foundation for Policy Research

Clifton Park, NY

Senior Research Associate

April 2001–December 2002

Research Associate

August 1998–March 2000

- Conducted research on a wide array of public policy issues, including state budget and taxation, economic trends, and K-12 education policy issues such as charter schools, education tax credits, school funding, teacher salaries, and the teaching of American history and civics.
- Researched issues on New York's public higher education system, including general education requirements, charter colleges, student assessment, colleges of teacher education, and remedial education.
- Analyzed pending legislation and policy proposals, drafted press releases, made media appearances, and made presentations at academic conferences and to community groups.

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Albany, NY

Consultant

January 2000–September 2002

- Assisted school founders in developing a school design for a pair of innovative charter schools for students located in the poorest section of Albany, which opened in 2002.
- Selected curricular programs and textbooks for all subjects, and aligned the school's curriculum with state standards. U.S. Undersecretary of Education identified the school as "a national model" and, since its first year of administering state assessments, has been the top performing school in the district in English language arts, math, and science.
- Wrote applications for federal discretionary grants.
- Designed and maintained school's website.

New York Charter School Resource Center

New York, NY

Consultant

January 1999–September 2000

- Selected recipients of competitive charter school startup planning grants.
- Provided technical assistance to charter school applicants on components of their operations, structuring financial models, developing administrative policies, academic curricula, learning standards, student assessment models, programs for non-English speaking students, admissions policies, and qualifications for teachers, administrators, and other employees.

CHANGE-NY

Albany, NY

Lobbyist

Sept. 1999–December 2002

Statewide Coordinator

July 1999–December 2002

Chairman, Saratoga County Chapter

August 1998–June 1999

- Conducted membership recruitment, which assisted in organization's growth to include more than 100,000 members from every county in the state, which made it the largest taxpayers advocacy group in New York.
- Lobbied for pro-growth economic policies and education reform in New York State. Accomplishments included successfully defeating a state bond act, the approval of a systemwide core curriculum for the State University, and the enactment of the state's charter-school law.
- Made local and national media appearances and spoke at public events.
- Wrote Op-Eds and letters to the editor. Acted as an "equal-opportunity critic" of legislators who advocated increased government spending and higher taxes.

EDUCATION**Syracuse University**

Syracuse, NY

Bachelor of Arts, May 1998, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs; The College of Arts & Science
Triple Major: Religion, Political Science, History

ACTIVITIES**National Association for Single Sex Public Education**

Poolsville, MD

*Member, Advisory Board (July 2003-December 2004)***Seminar on Democracy and Good Government**

Albany, NY

*Founder and Organizer (January 2007-Present)***Princeton University James Madison Program Executive Precepts Initiative**

New York, NY and Princeton, NJ

*Preceptor (January 2004-May 2006)***National Syracuse University Alumni Association**

Syracuse, NY

*Director (July 2004-Present); Chairman, Communications Committee (July 2005-Present);
Member, Executive Committee (July 2005-Present)*

Syracuse University Alumni Club of the Capital District

Albany, NY

*Director (December 1999-Present), Vice President (July 2001-June 2002), President (July 2002-June 2005)***COMPUTER SKILLS**

Proficient in Microsoft Word, Outlook, Excel, PowerPoint, FrontPage, Adobe Acrobat, LexisNexis, and website development.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

2007 Pioneer Institute Better Government Competition Special Recognition Winner for *Transforming Urban School Districts Through Choice*, a plan to attain scale and uniformly high quality in urban public schools of choice.

Identified as "someone making a difference" and one of the youngest professionals in state government ever featured in the Albany *Times Union's* "New York State Capitol Profile" (July 5, 2004).

2003 Syracuse University Outstanding Young Alumni Award for work in public policy and advocating for all children to have the opportunity to receive a high-quality education.

Listed in the Heritage Foundation's *Insider Guide to Public Policy Experts*.