Name: Serena Sacks-Mandel
Organization: Microsoft
Title: Global Chief Technology/Transformation Officer, Education

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Briefly describe your professional background and experience in education technology
25 years F100 corp IT. 15 years EDU industry (10 as CIO of large, innovative districts), 2+ years Microsoft. Led large, impactful, successful transformation in EDU industry. Currently Global thought leader for transforming education with technology at Microsoft.

What are the two most important priorities for CoSN to focus on in the next three years?
Equity and Access. Providing access for all students to a quality education is critical for the future workforce and world economy. This includes helping students catch up, accelerate, and develop skills for the future technology rich world. It also includes supporting social, emotional, and behavioral health and wellness for students and educators.

Please explain how your diverse background, personal and professional, will help impact the CoSN Board.
The depth and breadth of my experience is an asset to COSN as it is to all learning organizations globally. My discussions include the post-pandemic top 5 concerns and how to overcome them. I'm involved with the latest developments with emerging technologies for education and the most innovative organizations who are using them. I have been recognized with awards in GA, nationally, and internationally for mentoring women in technology, supporting diverse learners and educators, implementing personalized learning at scale, leveraging data and analytics to turn around failing students and schools, leading the first large district in pivoting to remote learning at the start of the pandemic, and visionary leadership in education technology. .

Describe your relevant experience in providing leadership to nonprofit organizations (e.g. service on boards, events, fundraising), with particular emphasis on any experience working with state or national education and/or ed tech associations.
I am currently a founding member of the Computer Museum of America and have been a Board Member and Chair of several other non-profit organizations including TechBridge (eliminating poverty), Aspire Partners (Behavioral and Mental Health), GA WIT, and several others.

CoSN has identified diversity as a priority for both the CTO profession and the CoSN organization. As a CoSN Board nominee, how would you help to broaden diversity and/or what experience have you had in evaluating or managing organizational diversity?
I am passionate about diversity in all its forms and venues; especially helping under-served populations access a quality education leading to employment. I joined Fulton County Schools and stayed there for 6 years because it is highly diverse. It provided the ideal environment to prove the effectiveness of technology enabled personalized learning.
One of Microsoft's core tenants is Diversity and Inclusion. As a leader, I am proud to work for an organization that reflects my values. I have personally helped six diverse individuals find roles and on-board.

Describe your past involvement in CoSN and/or our state chapters
I have been involved with COSN and its programs for more than a decade as an institutional leader and an industry supply leader. Our products and services support our "Equity Framework" which mirrors COSN values and area of focus.