

**Shahryar Khazei**

K12 Education Ambassador

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**Provide an overview of your professional background and expertise in the field of education technology.**

Shahryar Khazei is a seasoned IT executive with over 36 years of experience in the private and public education sector. He has held senior leadership positions at the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), where he directed over 700 employees and managed a budget of over \$350 million. While at LAUSD, he successfully completed a large portfolio of IT projects, including the District's network and systems infrastructure modernization, enterprise reporting and dashboards, student information system, and the SAP enterprise resource planning system.

After retiring from LAUSD, Khazei founded Macaw Consulting, which provides strategic and management consulting services to school districts, non-profit organizations, and for-profit companies in the education sector across the United States. His expertise encompasses all facets of IT organization, including strategy, infrastructure, budgeting, human resources, customer support, and training.

Since June 2022, Khazei has been representing Infosys as their K12 Education Ambassador. In this role, he has been assisting Infosys in developing their K12 Education strategic plan and participating in various related panels and podcasts.

Khazei was named CTO of the Year by the Council of Great City Schools in 2014 and a Peer Review and Federal Funds Optimization Task Force Member for the organization. In 2021, he joined the Board of Directors at the Consortium for School Networking (CoSN).

**Identify the top two priorities that you believe CoSN should prioritize over the next three years.**

Artificial intelligence (AI) and generative AI have become top priorities for school districts across the nation. School districts must be organizationally and technically prepared to adopt and implement AI and Gen AI-enabled solutions in school district operations and instruction. The Consortium for School Networking (CoSN) is well positioned to provide the necessary guidance and direction to school districts to take advantage of this opportunity.

Equity and access in the classroom continues to be a challenge for our school districts. Technology plays a major role in narrowing the achievement gap and provides the environment where every student has the opportunity to achieve. CoSN, through its professional development and mentorship programs, and its partnership with national organizations, can support and develop effective technology leaders in our school districts to leverage technology to provide students with access to resources, provide personalized learning, and provide opportunities for communication and collaboration.

By supporting and developing effective technology leaders in our school districts, CoSN can help to ensure that all students have the opportunity to succeed.

**Please explain how your diverse background, personal and professional, will help impact the CoSN Board.**

I am a first generation immigrant. I worked 34 years for the second largest school district in the nation, with one of the most diverse communities of families, students, and faculty.

During my tenure as the CIO of LAUSD, the IT division was recognized for exceeding LAUSD's gender equity goals.

**Outline your pertinent leadership experience within nonprofit entities (e.g. board involvement, event management, and fundraising). Highlight any notable engagement with state or national education and/or educational technology associations.**

I have been a CoSN board member for the last three years.

I currently manage a three year Interoperability Cohort program for the Council of Great City Schools (CGCS). I developed the plan and the budget for this \$3.3 Million grant which was funded by the MSDF, CZI, and Gates foundations. The grant is implemented in partnership with CCSSO and ISTE. I am a member of the CGCS Information Technology Review team and have performed over 20 technical reviews at CGCS member school districts over the last ten years.

**CoSN places a strong emphasis on promoting diversity within the CTO profession and our organization as a whole. As a nominee for the CoSN Board, please elaborate on your strategies for enhancing diversity and share any instances where you have been involved in assessing or overseeing organizational diversity.**

In my leadership roles at LAUSD, I have mentored leaders who have been or are currently serving as CTO/CIOs at large urban school districts or County Offices of Education.

My leadership team at LAUSD Information Technology Divisions was over 55% female.

I have and will continue as a volunteer mentor for the CoSN Early Career K-12 CTO Academy.

**Detail your prior engagement with CoSN and/or our state chapters.**

Cosn board member for the last three years.

Currently co-chair of the CoSN Finance Committee.

Member of various CoSN committees over the last three years.