

**Jessica Bender, PT, EdD**

Board-Certified Clinical Specialist in Pediatric Physical Therapy

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**Candidate Statement**

Despite my early career stage in academia, my passion for pediatric physical therapy is undeniable. With a recently earned Board-Certified Pediatric Clinical Specialist and my ongoing pursuit of further education in pediatric care, I am committed to growing my expertise and contributing to the Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy. I am qualified for the Secretary of the APTA Pediatrics Board of Directors role due to my extensive background in pediatric physical therapy and organizational experience. With 23 years of clinical practice, I possess a deep understanding of the field's challenges and opportunities. My eagerness to learn ensures that I will bring a fresh perspective and an eagerness to absorb knowledge from seasoned professionals involved at the Academy.

In the role of Secretary, I would carry out responsibilities with unwavering enthusiasm. I am an adept communicator and an organized individual. I will diligently document meetings and facilitate open lines of communication among members. Looking ahead, my vision for APTA Pediatrics is one of inclusivity and mentorship. By fostering these connections, we can create an environment where passion and eagerness for pediatric physical therapy are nurtured. In conclusion, while my experience may be limited, my unwavering passion for pediatric physical therapy and my commitment to personal growth position me to contribute effectively as the Secretary of the APTA Pediatrics Board of Directors. I am dedicated to learning from experienced professionals and working collaboratively to advance the field, ultimately shaping a vibrant future for pediatric physical therapy.

**Service to the APTA Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy**

- APTA Online Education Committee

**Service to the American Physical Therapy Association****Service to Your Community**

- I have served as secretary on my local Education Foundation (2 years)