



# Andalusia School Board for 2015-2019 Of Muslim American Society of Upper New York



## A Message from School Board Director

### Maher El Jamal

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Br. Maher is a businessman and has been in the service of the Muslim community for 30 years. He is currently a Doctoral Candidate in Executive Leadership at St. John Fisher College. He is a BOT member of MAS National. He has initiated and fostered several Islamic Centers in the Upper New York area.

#### Goals for 2015:

1. Raise student count
2. Provide staff training and replace underperforming staff with more qualified teachers
3. Improve Arabic and Quran curriculum
4. Form financial aid committee with continuous incoming funds
5. Arrange better transportation system for students
6. Improve lunch menu and services
7. Improve registration process
8. Enhance the Islamic environment of the school
9. Improve computer curriculum
10. Improve building maintenance
11. Develop ESL program

May Allah grant us all success and help us achieve our goals in light of the MAS Mission:

*"To move people to strive for God consciousness, liberty, and justice, and to convey Islam with utmost clarity."*

### Dr. Alaa Youssef

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Dr. Alaa Youssef joined the Andalusia school board this year. Dr. Youssef is a computer scientist. He has experience in university teaching and research. He received his Ph.D. in computer science from Old Dominion University, Virginia, in 1998. He had served previously on the Andalusia school board in 2005. He is keen on providing quality education to the students of Andalusia school.

### Nader Nassar

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Br. Nader Nassar is the ex-president of Andalusia (2006-10) and a co-founder of the High School. Under his leadership, our community celebrated two history making milestones; the accreditation of Andalusia School and the first cohort ever to graduate from Andalusia high school into college. Br. Nassar is also an ex-president and a current BoT member of HVICC where he piloted (2012-14) a new Islamic School in the Hudson valley area, Qurdoba Academy. Br. Nader is no stranger to academia. He is an adjunct professor in the Computer Science Dep. of both Fairleigh Dickinson and Pace Universities. He is proudly serving his their term on the school board.

### Abdul Nassar Nofal

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Br. Abdul Nassar has a masters degree in Computer Information Science. He is self Employed and well respected MAS-UNY Member. Masha Allah he has been tirelessly serving the community as School Board member since 2002. He is currently Member of the BoT. and a member of the Finance Committee. Br. Abdul Nassar is a proud parent of 5 Andalusia Students.

## Tasneem Aljayyousi

### Secretary

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Tasneem Aljayyousi is a Skadden Arps Honors Program in Legal Studies Scholar. She majored in Political Science at the City College of New York and co-founded The Immigrant Advocacy Alliance. Tasneem is passionate about an array of social justice issues and has advocated for the rights of immigrants, women, and victims of racial and religious discrimination. She has interned with the Council on American-Islamic Relations and is currently the assistant business administrator at Auto Sports. As secretary of the school board at Andalusia School, Tasneem hopes to combine her love for education with her knowledge of community organizing to take Andalusia School to the next level.

## Abdelwahab Abdelghany

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Br. Abdelwahab has a Bachelor's Degree in World Politics and Economics from Hamilton College and a Master's in Education with a concentration in Mathematics from Relay Graduate School of Education. He is currently a middle school math teacher at a NYC public school. As an active MAS member, he has served in a variety of roles including as a board member of the BMC, and outreach director of the Bronx.

## Neema Gaisi

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Sr Neema received a Bachelor's Degree in Biology from NYU. She went on to obtain certification and a Master's Degree in Childhood Education from Lehman College. For several years, she thoroughly enjoyed teaching third grade at Andalusia School. Currently, she is an active MAS member and serving her second term on the school board.

## Fawzi Ibrahim Al Jamal

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Br Fawzi Ibrahim Al Jamal is an entrepreneur and a parent of three Andalusia students. Fawzi served for two terms as a director of HVICC, and is currently a BOT member at HVICC. He has contributed towards the advancement of Islamic work in our area. We are honored to have him as an Andalusia School Board member.

## Sheikh Saad Gewida

Sheikh Saad Gewida received his bachelors degree from Al-Azhar University in Education with a concentration in the Arabic language. He has his masters degree in theology, and currently working on pursuing his PhD. Sheikh Saad has a passion in improving the quality of Islamic schools in the United States by focusing mainly on improving the curriculum and the enhancement of teacher schools relations. His main goal is to have students graduate with a strong Islamic overview and be able to strengthen their communities as a whole

## Eman Gewida

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Eman Gewida graduated with her bachelors in biology and minor in chemistry sciences. She has memorized the Quran, and has served in teaching Islamic studies for over the past six years. She has a passion for improving the quality of education and wishes to take Andalusia to great measures.

## Kinza Sarwer

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Sister Kinza completed her High School in Albany and earned her Bachelor's & Master's Degree in Computer Science in Pakistan. She has served the community in the Outreach Committee, and is currently the secretary of Muslim American Advisory Council of Yonkers. She has also served as part of the Andalusia PTA for the last three years and has contributed tremendously to the overall school projects.