

Katherine Ajk, MBA, CSSBB, PMP, CSM

1. *Introduce yourself and explain what motivates you to serve on the PMI Board, including the unique perspective or contributions you would bring to the role.*

I'm Katherine Ajk, and I've spent over 20 years leading transformation and operations work across life sciences, tech, and nonprofit organizations. At the core of my work is helping teams execute: bringing clarity, structure, and alignment so strategy turns into real results.

What motivates me to serve on the PMI Board is the impact this discipline truly has on organizations. When done well, project management isn't just about delivery. It drives alignment, enables better decisions, and ensures that investments translate into real business value. I've seen firsthand how strong project management practices can transform how teams operate and how leaders lead.

I bring a practical, execution-focused perspective. I've built PMOs, led Agile transformations in regulated environments, and developed a model centered on value delivery and decision-making not just reporting.

I'd bring a forward-looking, real-world lens to the Board focused on helping PMI continue to elevate the discipline and support practitioners in delivering meaningful outcomes.

2. *How would you use a Board position to lead PMI into the future?*

If given the opportunity to serve on the Board, I would focus on helping PMI continue to evolve in a way that reflects how work is getting done today, while strengthening the discipline that makes project management so impactful.

Project management plays a critical role in today's fast-paced, ever-changing environment. It brings structure, clarity, and alignment, enabling organizations to move with confidence and deliver meaningful results. I believe PMI has an opportunity to further elevate this by continuing to highlight how strong project management drives value, supports better decision-making, and connects strategy to outcomes.

A key priority would be ensuring this discipline scales globally. That requires cultural awareness and adaptability, recognizing that while core principles remain consistent, how they are applied must resonate across different regions, industries, and teams. PMI can continue to lead by providing guidance that is both globally relevant and locally applicable.

I would also prioritize growing and supporting the community, ensuring practitioners everywhere see PMI as a trusted resource throughout their careers.

My goal would be to help PMI remain modern, inclusive, and deeply valued worldwide.

3. *Is there anything else you would like members to know as they consider your candidacy?*

What I would want members to know is that I bring both depth of experience and a very practical, real-world perspective. I've spent my career not just learning frameworks, but applying them in complex, high-stakes environments where outcomes matter. I understand what it takes to translate strategy into execution, especially across functions, industries, and levels of an organization.

What makes me unique is that I focus on value and clarity. I've seen how powerful this discipline can be when it is done well, and I'm passionate about helping organizations and practitioners get to that point. I don't see project management as a process to follow, but as a capability that drives alignment, enables better decisions, and delivers real results.

I also bring a perspective that spans corporate, nonprofit, and entrepreneurial work, which allows me to understand the challenges practitioners face in different environments.

If selected, I would show up with a strong point of view, a willingness to listen, and a commitment to helping PMI continue to grow in a way that supports its members and the evolving needs of organizations.