

Steve Grove

Department of Employment & Economic Development

St. Paul, MN

Commissioner (January 2019 - Present)

- Lead Minnesota's economic and workforce development agency, composed of 1300 people in several divisions, including: business & community development, employment and training programs, state services for the blind, broadband development, Minnesota Trade Office, CareerForce, vocational rehabilitation services, unemployment insurance, and more.
- Led agency's strategic planning process, including a shift to metrics-driven goal setting under the OKR system.
- Focused on re-energizing DEED's culture, with new mission, visions, values; new approach to performance management and upward feedback; and regular agency-wide town halls and a multitude of employee engagement programs.
- Rebuilt DEED's grant-making process to increase efficiency and performance measurement; grants issued five months faster under new operating system.
- Some other examples of my responsibilities: Managing the administration's COVID-19 economic security response, including unemployment insurance, small business loan expansions, and the safe re-opening of our economy; chair the Minnesota Business Vitality Council, a new interagency group that tackles specific economic development issues like growing our hemp economy or building more continuing technical education (CTE) programs; in collaboration with the legislature, developed Launch Minnesota, a new program to grow Minnesota's startup ecosystem.

Google, Inc. CA

Mountain View,

Senior Director, Google News Lab and Civic Engagement Team (September 2013 – January 2017)

Founding director of the Google News Lab, a division that partners with news orgs and media innovators to address the biggest challenges that face journalism today. Hired and led a global team in 13 countries. Also led Civic Engagement Team, managing GOTV efforts and partnerships to engage citizens in democracies around the world.

- Developed the Google News Initiative, a \$300M company-wide initiative to help publishing thrive in the digital age. Drove multi-stakeholder development process with buy-in from CEO and coordinated global launch.
- Built coalitions of hundreds of newsrooms to fight misinformation in key elections in France, the UK, Brazil, Mexico, and the U.S. Deployed technology and training that debunked hundreds of rising fake news memes and stopped the rise of misinformation campaigns.
- Scaled global media training efforts to train over 500,000 journalists in person and online every year since 2015.
- Founded the *First Draft* coalition, an international consortium of 80+ social journalism orgs focused on developing standards and practices to encourage eyewitness media verification and combat fake news.
- Ran Google's nonpartisan GOTV campaigns in 2016 and 2018, driving over 250,000 voter registrations per cycle.

Google, Inc.

Mountain View, CA

Director of Community Partnerships (September 2011 - September 2014)

Developed a global effort to grow our social media platform, hiring 85 people to create partnerships with organizations, celebrities, and community groups. Executed thousands of initiatives that onboarded millions of users.

YouTube

San Bruno, CA, and New York City

Head of News and Politics (Feb 2007 - September 2011)

Directed YouTube's news and political strategy - including partner onboarding, product growth, and programming.

- Developed and produced five nationally-televised presidential debates with CNN, Fox, and NBC - starting with the first-ever web-to-TV debate, the *CNN/YouTube Debates*, in 2007. Reached tens of millions of eyeballs and broke several youth viewership records with each debate.
- Developed and moderated the *YouTube Interview with President Obama*, an annual program that brought top YouTube Creators and users to the White House for an in-person interview with President Obama for seven straight years. See series recap here: <https://goo.gl/N3sLOL>

- Executed deals with TV networks and cable outlets for YouTube Direct, our citizen journalism platform; negotiated with the U.S. Government to bring Congress and the Federal Govt. to YouTube for the first time; founded YouTube's nonprofit program for U.S.-based 501c3s.
- International content development and acquisition on visits to Iraq, Pakistan, Australia, Russia, Europe.

Silicon North Stars

Minneapolis, MN

Co-founder (2013 - Present)

Co-founded a nonprofit with my wife, Mary, which selects 16 high-performing rising ninth graders from under-represented communities in the Twin Cities to take one-week field trip to Silicon Valley every summer. The students meet with executives at top tech companies, participate in a mentorship program, and create their own startup ideas. Back in Minnesota, we provide year-round support and mentorship throughout high school. Have graduated 80 students and raised over \$200K in funding from individual, philanthropic, and corporate donors.

The Boston Globe, and ABC News (2004-05)

Boston and New York City

Wrote for the Boston Globe and ABCnews.com on breaking news, technology, sports, culture, and politics. Also a lead investigative reporter for 20/20 documentary on nuclear security on college campuses in summer of 2005.

Bhartiya Agro-Industries Foundation (2002)

Pune, India

Program Analyst Produced case studies on performance of a rural development projects. Worked in several rural villages for two months of reporting on 16 different families using cross-bred cattle and cashew farms to get above poverty line.

Kohgakusha, Ltd. (2000-01)

Tokyo, Japan

English Instructor. Taught English to Japanese students; managed three other teachers. Delivered keynote address (in Japanese) at annual company convention on, "How to Teach English Conversation."

Education

Harvard Kennedy School (2006)

Cambridge, MA

Master in Public Policy

Thesis: "Engaging the Private Sector in U.S. Public Diplomacy." Examined importance of broadcasting in public diplomacy and argued for the creation of a 'PBS-international' based loosely on the BBC.

Claremont McKenna College (2000)

Claremont, CA

BA degree: Philosophy, Politics, and Economics. *Magna Cum Laude.* Wrote 400 pg novel for senior thesis.

All-American and Team Captain in NCAA Track and Field; also played Football. Awarded "Bill Dickenson Award" - given to student-athlete who best exemplifies sportsmanship. Set several school records as sprinter and kick returner.

School for International Training (1998)

Arusha, Tanzania

Study abroad semester in Wildlife Ecology & Conservation. Wrote final project on a two-week experience living with hunter-gatherer tribe called the *Wahadza* in the Lake Eyasi Basin. Learned intermediate Swahili.

Policy and Political Work

Tim Walz for Congress (2006) and **Walz/Flanagan for Governor** (2018)

Mankato and Minneapolis, MN

Developed policy positions on tech policy, workforce development, and the future of work. Organized candidate meetup with tech community and participated in GOTV.

The White House (2015)

Washington, D.C.

Advised President Obama and his national security team on countering violent extremism online. Served on 3-week intensive consulting team and built framework for Global Engagement Center at State Dept., which the President created with an Executive Order.

Office of Senator Edward M. Kennedy (January 2005)

Washington, DC.

Education Committee: Executed a financial analysis of a pilot program to deliver federal grants for higher education to high school students in North Carolina.

Awards & Leadership

- **Tekne Award for Public Service, 2019.** Awarded for development of Launch Minnesota and advocacy for Angel Tax Credit
- **New America Foundation International Security Fellow (2018-19), and Truman National Security Fellow**
- **Nonprofit Board Member:** Witness.org, MinnPost, Matter.VC, Report for America, and the Glen Nelson Center.
- **Northfield High School “Alumni of the Year” award** in 2016.
- **“Rising Star Award”** from Campaigns & Elections Magazine, June 2009, for top individuals in politics under 35.
- **The Mirror Award.** From Newhouse Journalism School; recognized for “impact, innovation, and influence” for the CNN/YouTube Debates
- **Golden Dot Award.** “Poli-Tech Innovator of the Year” from George Washington University, 2008.
- **“Best Social Issues Series of 2003”** Minnesota Newspaper Association, for seven-part series on Hispanic immigration for the Northfield News.
- **Volunteer: Habitat for Humanity** in Guatemala (2004) and **Mother Teresa’s Missionaries of Charity** (2002)
- Worked as forman of Dad’s landscaping company for eight summers.