



**Kenai Peninsula Borough School District**  
**Board of Education Candidate Application**  
 District 6 Eastern Peninsula  
**Application deadline:** Nov. 22, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

Submit application to:

Kenai Peninsula Borough School District  
 Board President Penny Vadla  
 C/O Debbie Tressler, Board Administrative Secretary  
 148 North Binkley Street  
 Soldotna, Alaska 99669  
[dtressler@kpbsd.k12.ak.us](mailto:dtressler@kpbsd.k12.ak.us)

Date 22 Nov 2019

Name Shawn A. Butler Redacted  
 First MI Last DOB

Residence Address 64888 MiddleCreek Cir Hope AK 99605  
 Physical City Zip

Phone Home Redacted  
 Cell Redacted Email Redacted  
 Work \_\_\_\_\_

**Please list boards and committees that you serve on, or have served on**  
 (business, civic, community, fraternal, political, professional, recreational, religious, social).

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Role/Title</u>	<u>Service Dates</u>
<u>Kenai Peninsula Econ Dev District</u>	<u>BOARD MEMBER</u>	<u>2018 - PRESENT</u>
<u>Hope Chamber of Commerce</u>	<u>PRESIDENT</u>	<u>2018 - PRESENT</u>
<u>Anchorage Women's Hockey League</u>	<u>BOARD PRESIDENT</u>	<u>2013 - 2017</u>
<u>HOPE INC</u>	<u>EXEC BOARD PRESIDENT</u>	<u>2005 - 2008</u>

Education/Training/Certificates/Awards/Honors  
BA Linguistics, PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY 1976  
MBA CASE WESTERN UNIVERSITY 1986  
PH.D CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY 2003 (computer science)

How would the KPBSD benefit from your involvement on the School Board?

SEE SECOND PAGE.

**KPBSD benefit from my involvement:**

I have lived in Hope since 2002, which has a school that has often struggled with sustaining enough enrollment to remain open. We have a strong community that supports the school and when I first arrived, I volunteered to tutor a student in math when the school's teacher needed help. Some of our students go on to trade schools and college. I believe that I bring the perspective of a town with a very small school, whose students must be well prepared to transition to their next level of education or training. In addition, I teach at the University of Alaska Anchorage. I have the unique perspective of seeing students from the Kenai High Schools enter UAA. Specifically, our department, Computer Science, is working to allow high school students to receive undergraduate credit for entry level computer programming classes, thus creating an easier bridge from high school to college. I am very dedicated to maintaining the quality of education at UAA while working to achieve greater student success.

**My top three priorities:**

My three top priorities as a Board member would be:

1. Achieve the highest quality education possible for all students in the Borough within the budget constraints imposed on the school district.
2. Increased opportunities with trade schools, such as AVTEC and the University of Alaska
3. Improved outreach to small and/or more remote schools.

**What guides my budget decisions?**

In the development of the budget, I would first need to understand the priorities and the impact of not adequately funding those priorities. I would also need to discuss any alternatives or synergies that might help accomplish the goal without the level of funding requested. I would also like to know what is not being funded and understand how that might affect the schools, students and communities. Finally, it is important for me to understand whether the budget is adequately accomplishing the priorities, so knowing how that is measured is also an element of my decision-making process.

**How can the Board improve communication?**

I find that the best communication is to visit face to face with stakeholders in their communities, be honest and transparent, and listen. Not everyone will have the time, but I believe that it is time well spent. Of course, video teleconferences, social media and other avenues of communication are essential for communicating with stakeholders too.

*Shawn A. Butts*