



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

Date 11/22/2019

Name	Heather	A	Lindquist	Redacted
	First	MI	Last	DOB
Residence Address	37154 Hannisford Dr.		Moose Pass	AK 99631
	Physical		City	Zip
Phone	Home	Redacted		
	Cell	Redacted		Email Redacted
	Work	Redacted		

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>
Seward Schools' Site-Based Mgmt. Council (SBMC)	elected member	2009-2011
Moose Pass School SBMC	elected member	2007-2009
Moose Pass Chamber of Commerce & Visitors' Bureau	secretary	2003-2006
Moose Pass Summer Solstice Festival Committee	chairperson: kids' activities/ advertising/tee-shirts	'95-'96/'04-'06 2013-2015
Moose Pass United Methodist Seward High School Booster Club	secretary	2004-2006
concession committee	inventory & procurement	2018-2019
Moose Pass Tot Time	treasurer & coordinator	2003-2008
Moose Pass Library Expansion Design committee	member	2012-2015
KPBSD Analytical Writing Assessment Committee	scorer	1998-2000
Kappa Alpha Theta: Beta Sigma Chapter	corresponding secretary	1991-1992

Education/Training/Certificates/Awards/Honors

B.A. w/Honors from SMU in Dallas, TX (1992) major-political science, minor-French

B.Ed. from UAA (1995), Chancellor's List; 4.0 GPA all semesters

State of Alaska Professional Teacher Certificate for Grades K-8; expires 11/2024

Continuing education coursework (24 upper-level credits) from UAF, APU, and UAA

ETS Recognition of Excellence Award for Outstanding Performance on Elementary Education Content Knowledge, 2013 (National Highly-Qualified Exam)

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

I believe that the KPBSD would benefit from my involvement on the School Board because I am an experienced K-8 teacher who has taught for several years. However, I bring something else to the table: a unique understanding of all 4 schools--Seward, Moose Pass, Hope, and Cooper Landing--that are represented in this particular seat's district.

I have lived in Moose Pass for 23 of the last 28 years and have been highly involved in both the community and the school. I taught at Moose Pass School in the "boom" years when we had three teachers, an on-site administrator, and a student body of fifty; and I have taught there recently as the only teacher instructing 12 children in 6 different grade levels.

I have lived in SEWARD for a total of five of the last nine years, two of which I spent teaching at Seward Elementary, and three years as a stay-at-home mom involved in all sorts of child-oriented local activities, including serving as the elected parent-member of the SBMC.

I spent many days substitute teaching in Hope when I first began my career. I taught so many days there that I got to know most of the community. I was even invited to attend the first high school graduation ceremony at Hope when they transitioned to a K-12 school.

I have a familiarity with Cooper Landing as well, based on many years as either a teacher or a parent-volunteer in nearby Moose Pass School. The three small schools of Moose Pass, Cooper Landing, and Hope have a long history of collaboration: sports, science & geography fairs, special events, and shared end-of-the-year field days.

Besides the obvious benefit of my teaching experience, having intimate knowledge of the lifestyles and perspectives of the constituents of a district is an essential part of representation. I believe that I possess that vital insight.

If you are appointed to the Board, what are the three top priorities you would hope to accomplish?

If appointed to the School Board, the top three priorities that I would hope to accomplish are as follows:

1. Move away from a focus on proficiency to a focus on excellence.
2. Promote rigorous, relevant teacher hiring practices that include auditions.
3. Encourage highly-qualified individuals to apply for support staff positions.

In the development of a budget, what goals and objectives would guide your decision making?

The goal of academic excellence for this district would guide all my decision-making in the development of a budget. After learning how much funding we can expect and what we can afford as a school district, I would prioritize all the expenditures according to the objective of improving the quality of each student's education. I would try hard to find ways to incentivize cutting costs in the schools and in the district central office, such as saving energy and resources to cut utility bills. I would focus on what actions and items bring the most direct dollars to creating quality classroom environments, where students can excel. I would also discourage the practice of "use it or lose it" budget stipulations.

How would you suggest the Board improve communications with all District stakeholders?

The School Board could improve communication with all District stakeholders by sending a synopsis of each meeting's highlights to all school webpages and local print and online newspapers. School board members could host informal "town hall" meetings in their represented communities, encouraging residents to come with issues, ideas, problems, and suggestions for the member to bring back to the Board. The School Board could provide incentives for more people to attend meetings, such as door prizes or refreshments, if these are within the regulations.

Please tell us anything else you'd like to share.

I am passionate about educational excellence. My favorite professor told us, "Children will rise to the level of your expectations." I have carried that philosophy with me throughout my career as a teacher and in my role as a parent. I believe that every child can succeed. The greatest gift we can give them is our highest expectations for them. We need to teach students NOT to be afraid of hard work; that through hard work and perseverance they will receive a sense of fulfillment and pride in their accomplishments that will carry them down the road to success.

As a young person, I traveled behind the Iron Curtain to the Former Soviet Union,

Communist Russia and Georgia, through the People-to-People American-Soviet Youth Exchange Program. As a student diplomat, I dreamed of one day working for the United Nations to bring people together to solve the world's big problems. Later, when I visited Alaska and then decided to stay, I chose a different course. I became a teacher and a mother and an outspoken advocate for educational excellence. I hope that if I am appointed to the School Board, I can serve as a kind of diplomat and help foster positive change to improve the level of excellence in KPBSD schools.

Interviews with the Board of Education will occur on Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2019. The successful applicant will take the Oath of Office and be seated during the meeting.