



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of Superintendent

Dr. Donna Peterson, Superintendent of Schools
148 North Binkley Street Soldotna, Alaska 99669-7553
Phone (907) 714-8888 Fax (907) 262-9132

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: November 24, 2008
TO: Members, Board of Education
FROM: Donna Peterson, Ed.D. *Donna Peterson*
Superintendent of Schools
RE: School Board Seat 2 Replacement Process

A worksession has been scheduled on December 1 to interview the applicants for the School Board seat vacated by Bill Hatch's resignation. Five candidates have applied. Ten minutes has been allotted per candidate as well as time for deliberation by the Board.

The applicant information is attached. A form will be provided for the public to provide written input on the candidates. Interviews will be held in the afternoon during the public worksession using the following format:

Each candidate will have two minutes for introduction

Vice president Hilts will ask each candidate the same five questions; all candidates will answer each question before moving to the next question. Each candidate will have a one-minute response time for answers; timed by Mrs. Tachick.

Each candidate will have two minutes for a closing statement

At the conclusion of the interviews and after collecting written public input, Mrs. Hilts will conduct deliberations by the Board members in a public worksession format. During the regular board meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m., there will be an appointment of the successful candidate listed as an agenda action item.

**Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
Board of Education Vacancy Applicants
Kenai – Seat 2**

Name	Kathy East
Phone Number	283-3862
Phone Alt	907-830-7885
Phone Alt 2	283-2000
Address Line 1	1610 Silver Pines Rd.
Address Line 2	
City	Kenai
Zip Code	99611
Email Address	mukluckathy@yahoo.com
Qualifications	I have raised 3 children in public schools, taught in public and private schools for 15 years, am familiar with national and state GLE's, and am currently an educator at the Challenge Learning Center of Alaska. I have had experience as a parent and a teacher in the public school system, so I feel I am able to look at issues from both perspectives.
Service	I have lived in Kenai for two years, and want to be more involved in the community. I think that the school board is an area where I could contribute to the community in a meaningful way since I have been a part of the public education system for so long. I also feel strongly about working to provide students with the materials, resources, and education they need to be successful in the "real" world. With the latest downward trends in the economy, the issue of education becomes more as we prepare our students for the job force of the future.
Accomplish	1. Provide support to teachers and parents in the area of preparing students for testing (whether we agree with testing or not, it is the current mode of assessment and students need to be successful in that arena). 2. Help to insure that the schools have the money and the programs to address the needs of all students, whether they be IEP, ESL, or others. All need access to a system in which they can be successful and obtain a diploma. 3. Work towards fair evaluations for teachers, based on performance rather than the number of years they have taught.
Budget, goals, objectives	1. Realistic cost analysis, so that the money available is the same as the money spent (balancing the budget). 2. Prioritizing needs so that money spent will benefit the most student, and based on input from the community. 3. Making sure that our students are able to keep up with national standards and expectations and not cut short on instruction or materials needed for adequate academic advancement. 4. Adding Science and Technology to the basics of reading, writing and math and making up-to-date technology available to the students.

Kathy East Application
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<p>Parents and patrons</p>	<p>1. Input from surveys, perhaps sent home or given to parents at school events. 2. Input from parents on the internet, perhaps through the district website or through an email system. 3. Read the editorials....people love to vent there and sometimes you can find out what their concerns are! 4. Being available for community members to give input to me directly as a school board member; being accessible to the community.</p>
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Name	Janine Espy
Phone Number	283-5621
Phone Alt	
Phone Alt 2	
Address Line 1	403 McCollum Drive
Address Line 2	
City	Kenai
Zip Code	99611
Email Address	Dialapraye@yahoo.com
Qualifications	<p>1. Past Experience: Employment with KPBSD included "After the Bell" Site Coordinator at Redoubt Elementary for one year (2004-2005), and Volunteer Coordinator at Sears Elementary three years(1992-1996) funded through a grant to lower PTR by involving parents and community volunteers in the classroom. Helping to write a volunteer handbook for KPBSD (1996). I took an active role in school emergency preparedness at my children's schools, raising money and equipping each classroom with emergency supplies at KMS while my children attended that school. Community employment included Executive Director of Love INC (1995-2003) which involved hearing the needs of the community and finding ways to meet those needs, for example, the need presented by a school nurse was that children were coming to school hungry, making it difficult for them to sit and learn. This resulted in starting a free breakfast program in 5 elementary schools. I later volunteered at Sears as the Breakfast Program Site Coordinator from 2004-2006. Another community need presented was lack of community transportation resulting in my being one of the three original incorporators of CARTS (Central Area Rural Transportaiton System)and serving as Vice President of that Board for 2+ years. These and the every day needs of people for day to day issues were addressed. I served on the Board of Directors of the ABC Crisis Pregnancy Center in the 1980's as President where a strong emphasis was given to a program to educate high school students on sexual abstinence. This program was developed and implemented. 2. I enjoy communicating with people and have good written, verbal, and listening skills. 3. I am a thinker and problem solver. 4. My husband and I have four adult children (Army Sergaint, Registered Nurse, School Teacher, and a Police Officer) that we have raised in this community with the fifth currently in high school. Three of these were adopted, special needs children. Now we are the proud grandparents of five granddaughters and one grandson being raised in this community.</p>

<p>Service</p>	<p>I love seeing our community come together to meet the needs of each other, a large portion of which are children, then seeing those children turn into valuable, community, contributors. I believe everyone has something to offer and contribute, so when I was asked to consider this position, I thought this to be an excellent way for me to be back in the public arena, after taking a break. I also like the fact that our administration uses inovative ways and methods of educating our students and meeting their needs. I want to see this continue and to support these initiatives.</p>
<p>Accomplish</p>	<p>1. Continuing to persue the fare and equitable full funding of educating students of KPBSD, 2. Community involvement in educating our students, 3. Personally learning how the KPBSD School Board works and interacts with the administration, school community and community at large in the short time that remains in this position (fall of 2009).</p>
<p>Budget, goals, objectives</p>	<p>Asking, "What is in the best interest of the children being served?" and "What needs do the children and their families have that interfere with the students receiving the best education available?". I also believe there are things that can be accomplished by using volunteers instead of paid positions.</p>
<p>Parents and patrons</p>	<p>Listen, listen, listen, at the schools, work, church, on the phone, at social events, community programs.... without judgement. When people know that their thoughts, concerns, likes are heard and validated, they will trust the listener with what they are thinking.</p>

Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
148 N. Binkley
Soldotna, Alaska 99669
Phone: 714-8888
Fax: 262-9132



Board of Education Vacancy
Application for
District 2 (Kenai)

Name: Gregory R. Gabriel, Jr Phone Numbers: 283-7167 W
394-4604 cell
Address: 108 Haider
City: Kenai State: Alaska Zip: 99611
Email Address: gabriel.greg@gmail.com

Please address the questions on a separate sheet of paper, attach to this application, and return to:

School Board President
C/O Sally Tachick, Board Secretary
KPBSD Board of Education
148 North Binkley Street
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

prior to the vacancy deadline of 12:00 PM on Friday, November 21, 2008. Interviews with the Board of Education will occur on the afternoon of Monday, December 1, 2008 during a public worksession. Successful applicants will be officially seated at the December 1 Board meeting which begins at 7:00 p.m.

1. What qualifications do you have that will assist you in this position?
2. Why do you want to serve on the School Board?
3. What are three priorities you would hope to accomplish if you are appointed to the School Board?
4. In the development of a budget, what goals and objectives would guide your decision making?
5. How should the Board go about finding out and knowing what the parents and patrons in our district are thinking?

School Board Application
Gregory R. Gabriel, Jr.
P.O. Box 3392
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

Physical Address
108 Haida
Kenai, Alaska 9966

Telephone Numbers
283-7167 daytime
394-4604 cell

1. What qualifications do you have that will assist you in this position?

I have a B.A. in Economics from the University of Alaska and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Washington School of Law. I currently practice law in Kenai at the law firm of Baldwin and Butler, LLC.

I am a former electrical contractor and electrical superintendent with experience in logistics, payroll, budgeting, business planning, and human resources.

I also own and operate the F/V Miss Michelle, a fifty foot commercial fishing vessel that employs three crewmembers who must work in close proximity to each other.

I have gained, through education and experience, the ability to critically examine issues at both the micro and macro levels and to anticipate both known and unintended consequences for a particular course of action.

2. Why do you want to serve on the School Board?

I graduated from Kenai Central High School in 1978, my wife Michelle is the secretary at Soldotna Elementary School, and our son James graduated valedictorian from Kenai Central High School in 2003. I have nieces and nephews who are currently attending local schools. I think it is important to give back to the community, and our schools are the backbone of our local communities.

I want to see our local schools provide a wide range of educational opportunities for our students. I realize that budget constraints necessitate prioritizing programs to optimize those opportunities; however, it is also important that all students in the district have access to the best education available. I think that my education and experience will be an asset to the district in establishing and maintaining those programs that optimize our students' educational experiences.

3. What are three priorities you would hope to accomplish if you are appointed to the School Board?

My three priorities would be:

1. Examine the budget to ensure we are providing the optimal types and numbers of programs for our children given our budget constraints.
2. Ensure that those programs are administered in a manner that is fair and equitable to all students.
3. Seek sources of additional funding to expand the types and number of programs that the district makes available to our students.

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

My first goal in development of a budget would be to look at those areas academically that need improvement, whether at the district level or school level, and attempt to achieve improvement in those areas. Reasonable benchmarks must be established to measure whether improvement is being made, and consensus must be reached in determining how best to achieve the desired improvement. All of our students should graduate with at least the minimum qualifications for admission into postsecondary education, regardless of socio-economic standing or ethnicity.

My second goal would be to see how we can expand opportunity for those students who will seek alternative educational choices. For example, what can we do as a district to provide greater opportunity to those students who may be better suited to a career in the oil industry or construction trades? Recent trends show that female high school graduates are more likely to attend college than male high school graduates. Perhaps the district can provide better service to our students by recognizing and embracing vocational career choices and providing enhanced opportunity to those students who may be inclined to follow that path.

5. How should the Board go about finding out and knowing what the parents and patrons in our district are thinking.

The simplistic answer is to just ask them. Answers from parents and the community tend to come from those parents who actively participate in the education process, and perhaps over represent certain socio-economic segments of our society, so more must be done. Perhaps a solution is to have individual School Board members available at parent-teacher conferences in the schools. This would provide an opportunity for Board members to interact in a one-on-one or small group setting, to find out the particular concerns related to individual schools.

Passively receiving feedback, while serving a valuable purpose, probably does not result in a true cross-section of our school district patrons' thought on the district's educational system. A method to encourage participation by those who are not engaged in the process should be sought and implemented.

Name	Ryan Marquis
Phone Number	907-283-7405
Phone Alt	907-398-8058
Phone Alt 2	907-262-1661
Address Line 1	305 Linwood Ln.
Address Line 2	
City	Kenai
Zip Code	99611
Email Address	ryanm@acsalaska.net
Qualifications	<p>I attended public schools within the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District from Kindergarten through High School, as early as less than 10 years ago. I still have fresh memories of what went well for the students, teachers, and families, as well as areas that could use improvement. I also work as an employee for the Kenai Peninsula Borough's Purchasing Department, specifically as the Lead Maintenance Supply Specialist. I am very familiar with the types of repair, maintenance, and new projects that go on in all of our educational facilities. I work on a daily basis with the director of the Maintenance department, and all of the employees that make up that department. Because of this, I have a fair amount of insight into the maintenance policies and procedures. I also have a child currently attending Kaleidoscope Elementary. My wife serves as PTA President for that school, and her involvement has seeded an interest with me in all issues affecting our public education system.</p>
Service	<p>Foremost, my desire to serve on the School Board coincides with my desire to give back to my community. I love the current job I have as a public servant and I have always looked to expand my role in my community. I care deeply for the future of our public education system, and I would love the opportunity to be a part of a School Board working towards a positive future for our students, teachers, and parents.</p>

Accomplish	<p>I would like to ensure that all efforts are exerted to secure adequate funding for our School District. As I understand The No Child Left Behind Act, it is an unfunded mandate and doesn't effectively gauge all schools accurately and thus, I would encourage an exploration into the Act and solutions to the negative aspects it carries. I would also like to accomplish an expanded system of communication between the School Board, the public, and everyone else who has a stake in our public education system. I would encourage transparency and efficient communication. Also, I would appreciate the chance to not only educate myself on the functions of the School Board, but to branch out to all members of our community to ensure that they feel they can participate in our public processes. I feel that there are many members of the community that are apathetic to our local politics, not because they don't want to participate, but because they aren't sure where to begin. I would make every effort to make myself available to the public for any questions or comments on issues affecting the School Board.</p>
Budget, goals, objectives	<p>I would begin by examining the history of the budgeting process. I would want to investigate which areas are most adequately funded, and which lack in funding. Overall, I think my main goal would be to make every effort to strive for efficiency in the budget. Again, I think public input could be very beneficial during the budget construction process. I would let open ears and an open mind guide input in the budgeting process.</p>
Parents and patrons	<p>I strongly advocate for communication between Board members and their constituency, as well as the School Board and the public as a whole. Fortunately, we live in an era that is technologically conducive to these efforts. I would encourage the use of the internet in establishing contact with the public to notify as well as receive information and opinions. As a board member, I would do my best to reach out and encourage participation in School Board processes.</p>

Name	Tim Navarre
Phone Number	
Phone Alt	(907)394-2303
Phone Alt 2	
Address Line 1	P.O. Box 92
Address Line 2	608 Ponderosa St.
City	Kenai
Zip Code	99611
Email Address	timnavarre@gmail.com
Qualifications	Former Borough assembly member and borough Chief of staff. Understanding of both borough and school budgets.
Service	I think I can be of help, and also I know my way around Juneau, to help continue to make sure are district is treated fair.
Accomplish	Maintain class size or lower. Continue to expand Voc. Ed. opportunities at high school level. Continue to provide educational choices for all.
Budget, goals, objectives	All of the items mentioned in number 3 and any budget would have to be sustainable.
Parents and patrons	By continuing to inform parents as to what the board and district are doing and respond to any questions. Take the opportunity to speak at as many public forums as possible.