

# So, You Want to be a School Board Member?

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**Kenai Peninsula Borough School District**  
148 N. Binkley  
Soldotna, Alaska 99669  
Phone: 907-714-8888 Fax: 907-262-9645  
[www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us](http://www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us)

## PREFACE

This brochure is written to assist you in your decision to run for the Board of Education. It answers the basic questions that are frequently asked. After the filing deadline, the superintendent and/or the board president will hold a brief orientation session for the candidates. You are invited to attend. You will be provided with additional information about the school district that will make you better informed during your campaigning.

## WHO IS ELEGIBLE TO RUN?

Alaska Statute 14.12.080 states, "To be eligible to be a member of a school board, a person must have the same qualifications as are necessary to be a municipal voter in the school district." That simply means you must be 18 years of age and maintain legal residence within the boundaries of the appropriate election district and the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

## WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT?

Board members are elected for staggered three-year terms and meet approximately 14 times a year, generally on the first Monday of each month. The meetings normally last one to three hours. In addition, special meetings are called as needed and worksessions are usually held prior to each regular meeting lasting from two to four hours. When the Board is considering the budget or high priority needs, additional meetings may be necessary. Special school activities often require the attendance of a board member.

The Board packet, which contains materials to be considered/acted on during the formal business meeting, is posted on the District website at [http://www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/school\\_board.aspx](http://www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/school_board.aspx) on the Wednesday prior to each meeting. The time necessary to read this material can take from one to four hours. Additional time will be spent reading email messages and listening to constituent concerns.

In short, a significant time commitment is made when an individual becomes a Board of Education member.

## WHAT IS THE TRAVEL COMMITMENT?

Most regular board meetings are held at the Borough Building in Soldotna. The Board does travel to Seward and Homer once each year for board meetings. Board members are encouraged to visit each school in their district once during the school year.

## WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES?

1. Select a district superintendent and appoint all school employees upon the recommendation of the superintendent or designee.
2. Develop and adopt policies that govern the operation of the schools.
3. Provide leadership in establishing current and long-range educational plans and programs.
4. Adopt an annual budget.
5. Serve as the citizen's link to the school district.

## WHAT IS THE COMPENSATION?

Board members receive a salary of \$300 per month. The board president receives a salary of \$400 per month. Travel is reimbursed at the rate of \$.51 per mile and is based on the government standard rate.

Board members are eligible for coverage by the school district health and accident insurance.

Travel expenses are provided for travel to and from Board meetings and for professional meetings that are attended at the request of the Board.

## WHAT ARE THE REWARDS?

The rewards for serving in an elected position probably differ from person-to-person. However, the following might pertain to you:

1. The enjoyment of working for children.
2. The service provided for your community.
3. The sense of accomplishment when District schools receive outstanding recognition.
4. The experience of making decisions that have a positive impact on the education of thousands of students.
5. And much, much more.

## WHAT ARE THE FRUSTRATIONS?

1. The pressures that are placed on you by special interest groups.
2. The impossibility of being all things to all people.
3. The necessity of make decisions that may be unpopular.

## WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISTRICT?

The KPBSD is comprised of 44 school programs in 21 communities, including 4 charter schools and a home school program. School size varies from the small school at Hope to the 500 plus students at Soldotna High School. The district encompasses 25,600 square miles and services approximately 9,500 students. The schools are as follows:

### **SCHOOLS**

#### **CHAPMAN ELEMENTARY (*District 9*)**

Conrad Woodhead, Principal/Teacher  
Box 1109, Anchor Point, AK 99556

235-8671

#### **COOPER LANDING ELEMENTARY (*District 6*)**

Christine Ermold, Administrator  
Box 990, Cooper Landing, AK 99572

595-1244

#### **HOMER FLEX (*District 8*)**

Karen Wessel, Principal/Teacher  
4122 Ben Walters Lane, Homer, AK 99603

235-5558

#### **HOMER HIGH (*District 8*)**

Allan Gee, Principal  
600 East Fairview Ave., Homer, AK 99603

235-8186

#### **HOMER MIDDLE (*District 8*)**

Dave Larson, Principal  
500 Sterling Hwy., Homer, AK 99603

235-5291

#### **HOPE ELEMENTARY/HIGH (*District 6*)**

Monica Hinders, Administrator  
Box 47, Hope, AK 99605

782-3202

#### **KACHEMAK SELO SCHOOL (*District 9*)**

Andy Rothenberger, Principal/Teacher  
Box 15007 Fritz Creek, Homer, AK 99603

235-5552

KALIFORNSKY BEACH ELEMENTARY ( <i>District 4</i> ) Melissa Linton, Principal 1049 Poppy Lane, Soldotna, AK 99669	262-1463
KENAI ALTERNATIVE ( <i>District 2</i> ) Loren Reese, Principal/Teacher 705 Frontage Road, Suite C, Kenai, AK 99611	283-7844
KENAI CENTRAL HIGH ( <i>District 2</i> ) Alan Fields, Principal 9583 Spur Hwy., Kenai, AK 99611	283-7524
KENAI MIDDLE ( <i>District 2</i> ) Vaughn Dosko, Principal 201 Tinker Lane, Kenai, AK 99611	283-4896
MARATHON SCHOOL ( <i>District 2</i> ) Tim Vlasak, Administrator 405 Marathon Road, Kenai, AK 99611	335-3343
McNEIL CANYON ELEMENTARY ( <i>District 9</i> ) Peter Swanson, Principal/Teacher 52188 East End Road, Homer, AK 99603	235-8181
MOOSE PASS ELEMENTARY ( <i>District 6</i> ) Jason Bickling, Administrator Box 46, Moose Pass, AK 99631	288-3183
MOUNTAIN VIEW ELEMENTARY ( <i>District 2</i> ) Norma Holmgaard, Principal 315 Swires Road, Kenai, AK 99611	283-6148
NANWALEK ELEMENTARY/HIGH ( <i>District 9</i> ) Scott Handley, Principal/Teacher Box 8007, Nanwalek, AK 99603	281-2210
NIKISKI MIDDLE/SENIOR HIGH ( <i>District 3</i> ) Dan Carstens, Principal Box 7112, Nikiski, AK 99635	776-3456
NIKISKI NORTH STAR ELEMENTARY ( <i>District 3</i> ) Lisa Callahan, Principal Box 8629, Nikiski, AK 99635	776-5575
NIKOLAEVSK ELEMENTARY/HIGH ( <i>District 7</i> ) Mike Sellers, Principal Box 5129, Anchor Point, AK 99556	235-8972

NINILCHIK ELEMENTARY/HIGH <b>(District 7)</b> Jeff Ambrosier, Principal Box 39010, Ninilchik, AK 99639	567-3301
PAUL BANKS ELEMENTARY <b>(District 8)</b> Benny Abraham, Principal 1340 East Road, Homer, AK 99603	235-8161
PORT GRAHAM ELEMENTARY/HIGH <b>(District 9)</b> Shane Hill, Principal/Teacher Box 5550, Port Graham, AK 99603-5550	284-2210
RAZDOLNA SCHOOL <b>(District 9)</b> Timothy Whip, Principal/Teacher Box 15098 - FCB, Homer, AK 99603	235-6870
REDOUBT ELEMENTARY <b>(District 4)</b> John Pothast, Principal 486 W. Redoubt Ave., Soldotna, AK 99669	262-9006
RIVER CITY ACADEMY <b>(District 5)</b> Dawn Edwards-Smith, Principal/Teacher 46188 Sterling Highway, Soldotna, AK 99669	714-8945
SEWARD ELEMENTARY <b>(District 6)</b> David Kingsland, Principal Box 247, Seward, AK 99664	224-3356
SEWARD MIDDLE <b>(District 6)</b> Jason Bickling, Principal Box 1049, Seward, AK 99664	224-3351
SEWARD HIGH <b>(District 6)</b> Trevan Walker, Principal Box 1049, Seward, AK 99664	224-3351
SKYVIEW HIGH <b>(District 5)</b> Randy Neill, Principal 46188 Sterling Highway, Soldotna, AK 99669	262-7675
SOLDOTNA ELEMENTARY <b>(District 4)</b> Teri Diamond, Principal 162 Park Ave., Soldotna, AK 99669	262-4919
SOLDOTNA HIGH <b>(District 4)</b> Todd Syverson, Principal 425 W. Marydale Ave., Soldotna, AK 99669	262-7411

SOLDOTNA MIDDLE (*District 4*)  
Sarge Truesdell, Principal  
426 W. Redoubt Ave., Soldotna, AK 99669 262-4344

SPRING CREEK (*District 6*)  
Monica Hinders, Administrator  
P.O. Box 2822, Seward, AK 99664-2822 224-8200

STERLING ELEMENTARY (*District 5*)  
Christine Ermold, Principal  
Drawer 89, Sterling, AK 99672 262-4944

SUSAN B. ENGLISH ELEMENTARY/HIGH (*District 9*)  
Sheryl Hingley, Principal  
Box 171, Seldovia, AK 99663 234-7616

TEBUGHNA ELEMENTARY/HIGH (*District 3*)  
Marilyn Johnson, Principal/Teacher  
Box 82010, Tyonek, AK 99682 583-2291

TUSTUMENA ELEMENTARY (*District 7*)  
Bob VanDerWege, Principal  
P.O. Box 749, Kasilof, AK 99610 262-4844

VOZNESENKA SCHOOL (*District 9*)  
Michael Wojciak, Principal/Teacher  
Box 15336, Fritz Creek, AK 99603 235-8549

WEST HOMER ELEMENTARY (*District 8*)  
Raymond Marshall, Principal  
3719 Soundview Ave., Homer, AK 99603 235-5660

#### **CORRESPONDENCE/HOME SCHOOL**

CONNECTIONS PROGRAM (*District 4*)  
Lee Young, Principal  
143 E. Park, Soldotna, AK 99669 262-6315

#### **CHARTER SCHOOLS**

AURORA BOREALIS (*District 2*)  
Larry Nauta, Administrator  
705 Frontage Road, Suite A, Soldotna, AK 99669 262-0292

FIREWEED ACADEMY (*District 8*)  
Kiki Abrahamson, Lead Teacher  
Box 474, Homer, AK 99603 235-9728

**CHARTER SCHOOLS** (continued)

**KALEIDOSCOPE SCHOOL (District 2)**

Robin Dahlman, Administrator  
549 N. Forest Drive, Kenai, AK 99611 283-0804

**SOLDOTNA MONTESSORI CHARTER (District 4)**

Mo Sanders, Administrator  
162 Park Avenue, Soldotna, AK 99669 260-9221

**WHO ARE THE PRESENT BOARD MEMBERS?**

Mr. Joe Arness, President	776-8089
Mrs. Liz Downing, Vice President	235-8555
Mrs. Sammy Crawford, Clerk	283-9271
Mrs. Sunni Hilts, Treasurer	234-7692
Mr. Marty Anderson	260-7500
Ms. Lynn Hohl	224-7300
Mr. Bill Holt	283-7260
Mr. Tim Navarre	394-2303
Mrs. Penny Vadla	262-7249
Miss Julie Rang, Student Representative	

**WHAT STAFF MEMBER WILL WORK WITH YOU?**



Steve Atwater, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools  
Phone: 714-8836  
Email: [satwater@kpbsd.k12.ak.us](mailto:satwater@kpbsd.k12.ak.us)



Sean Dusek  
Assistant Superintendent  
Phone: 714-8858  
Email: [sdusek@kpbsd.k12.ak.us](mailto:sdusek@kpbsd.k12.ak.us)



Dave Jones  
Assistant Superintendent  
Phone: 714-8838  
Email: [djones2@kpbsd.k12.ak.us](mailto:djones2@kpbsd.k12.ak.us)

**DECISION TIME**

Having read this brochure, hopefully you have more information upon which to base your decision. If it sounds reasonable, “go for it.” We will be happy to see your name on the election ballot.