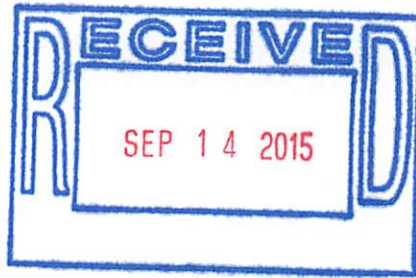


Paul Bahna, MD
Professor of Biology
UAS- Sitka campus
(907) 747-7749
bnbahna@uas.alaska.edu



Dr. Mary Wegner
Superintendent
Sitka School District Office

September 14th, 2015

Dear Dr. Wegner,

It is my pleasure to express my interest in joining the School Board for the one-year vacant position. Living in Sitka for the previous 3 years, my family and I found Sitka to be a great city to live in and to raise our children.

Through my work at UAS as Professor of Biology, I had several encounters with school children, starting from participating in Herring egg day long for Baranof second graders, hosting Mt. Edgecombe students in our science lab, hosting the Adventist Church children at our science lab, and participated in Saturday Science day at Keet Gooshi Heen elementary school.

While my background is a physician, I had developed great interest in teaching and attending to student's needs. I worked as teacher substitute in Virginia and Alabama for almost 4 academic years while getting my credentials certified. My teaching experience developed at Technical/ Community colleges in North Carolina, and for the previous 3 years at University of Alaska, Sitka campus.

My area of interest includes children's health and safety, and equipping the teachers to handle daily challenges.

My experience in governance include Sitka Community Hospital board member for previous 2 ½ years, and presently the Chair of Health Needs and Human Services Commission in Sitka.

At my work, I was elected to join couple of hiring committees. This year I was honored to receive the Outstanding Faculty Award of the year 2015.

My goal of joining the School District Board is to make a difference in the process of planning and decision making process, in service to students, teachers and the community of Sitka.

Thank you for the opportunity, and for taking the time to consider my application. I will be happy to provide any documents required while considering my application.

Kind regards,

Paul Bahna

Paul Bahna
Registered Voter in Alaska



Dr. Mary Jo
Professor of Biology
1001 2nd St
1001 2nd St
1001 2nd St

Dr. Mary Jo
1001 2nd St
1001 2nd St

1001 2nd St

Dr. Mary Jo

It is my pleasure to express my interest in joining the School Board for the one-year vacant position. During the previous 3 years, my family and I found it to be a great experience to have in and to raise our children.

Through my work at LAS as Professor of Biology, I had several opportunities with school children. From participating in various egg donation for breast second grade, hosting the Eggheads program in our science lab, hosting the Adventist Church children at our science lab, and participating in various science day at local schools. I have been elementary school.

While my background is a physician, I have developed a great interest in teaching and standards. I worked as a teacher substitute in Virginia and Alabama for almost 10 years. My teaching experience developed at Technical Community College in North Carolina, and for the previous 3 years at University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

My area of interest includes children's health and safety, and equipping the teachers to provide a safe environment.

My experience in governance includes this Community Hospital Board member for a period of 2 years and presently the Chair of Health Needs and Health Services Commission in Alaska. At my work, I was elected to join the governing committee. This year I was honored to receive the Outstanding Faculty Award of the year 2012.

My goal of joining the School Board is to make a difference in the lives of children and decision making process in service to students, teachers and the community of Seward.

I thank you for the opportunity and for taking the time to consider my application. I will be happy to provide any documents required while considering my application.

Kind regards,
Mary Jo
Registered Nurse in Alaska

September 18, 2015

To whom it may concern,

I would like to submit my name for consideration for the open Sitka School Board seat, recently vacated by Lon Garrison. I have addressed the specific questions provided by the Superintendent's Office below.

- Why do you want to serve on the Board?

I am fortunate to have received a public education that put me in a position to achieve my goals for higher education and professional achievement. As a parent and as someone whose work is directly tied to the well-being of children, I feel strongly that supporting public education is essential for living in any community. Sitka is fortunate to have strong schools and continuing that tradition requires deliberate attention and focused energy. Given my children's ages and my ability to work part-time, serving on the School Board seems like the best way to support Sitka's schools, at present. Our schools face many challenges now (and always), from economic to philosophic ones, and I hope to bring my experience and interest to the decision-making table.

- What are your areas of interest in the District operations?

I am interested in maintaining the quality of education that Sitka's students receive, now, and in the future. I am also interested in addressing those areas that may need strengthening, but I do not have a specific agenda for major changes in curriculum and staffing. I do feel that activities are generally a positive element of public education, and I am interested in continuing to consider the options for funding these programs. Of primary importance, however, is meeting the needs of all students, across the spectrum of ability and socioeconomics.

- Give examples of your involvement within the Sitka School District?

Aside from my professional interactions with Sitka's schools and many of their students, I am the parent of two current students, currently in 8th and 11th grades. I spent time in their classrooms during their elementary school years, and I have been intermittently involved with the Parent Advisory Committees. I have also served twice as the parent representative on teacher hiring committees. This past year I have been involved with the ad hoc committee addressing activities in the middle and high schools. I have also advocated for school support and funding with written and verbal testimony to the City and Borough Assembly and to the Alaska State Legislature, particularly during this last budget cycle.

- What is your experience with governance?

I have served on the boards of directors for Mt. Edgecumbe Preschool (for 4 years, approximately 2002-2006) and the Baranof Barracudas Swim Club (also 4 years, 2011-2015). On both boards I served as Secretary for part of my terms. I also participated in student government throughout my high school years.

- Have you been a resident of Sitka for more than 30 days?

I have lived in Sitka full-time for 19 years, arriving in September 1996.

- Are you a registered voter in Alaska?

Yes.

Thank you for your consideration. I can be contacted most easily via my cell phone: 738-6635, or via e-mail: mcnocco@gmail.com.

Sincerely,



Jennifer McNichol, M.D.

Valorie L Nelson
107 Littlebyrd Way
Sitka, AK 99835
(907) 747-4589

September 18, 2015

To: Sitka School Board

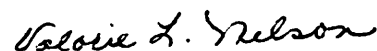
Re: Letter of interest for consideration of vacant board seat

Please consider this letter of my interest in serving on the Sitka School Board. As a taxpayer in our community I'm very concerned about the budget shortfalls that seem to be increasing as state revenue declines. My areas of interest in the district operations are to assist in future planning to insure that all students come out of our school system with a quality education that prepares them for their adult lives. My involvement with the school district has been minimal in most recent times, however I've always maintained an interest in the sporting actives and am an enthusiastic fan.

As a former mayor and assembly member I've garnered quite a bit of experience in local governance and am familiar with the budget process that the school board and assembly engage in.

A resident of Sitka for more than 5 decades, a business owner and a graduate of Sitka High School provide me with a good working knowledge of local challenges we face in many aspects of our students and teachers lives. I've been a registered voter since my senior year of high school and very aware of our local, state and federal issues in relation to education. I'm attaching a copy of my resume and thanking you in advance for your time in reviewing my letter of interest.

Sincerely,



Valorie L Nelson

VALORIE L. NELSON
107 Littlebyrd Way
SITKA, AK 99835
(907) 747-4589
valorie@ablueberryinn.com

SUMMARY OF

QUALIFICATIONS: Many years in Management, Accounting and Construction have provided a strong background in the ability to communicate effectively with all levels of management, co-workers and clients as well as being self-motivated and a quick learner.

**PROFESSIONAL
EXPERIENCE:**

1994 – Present USDA Forest Service, Sitka, AK
Acting Budget Officer/Budget Analyst/Accounting Technician
Budget execution duties; studies, audits & reports on internal controls and use of funds. Monitoring expenditures in relation to planned levels. Processed TOS authorizations, manual and computer processing of payments and adjustments; data entry; filing; accounts receivable; expenditure tracking and budget analysis.

1984 –Present Keystone Associates, Inc., Sitka, AK
Office Manager/Vice President
Management of general contracting business office; processing accounts payable and receivable; processing timesheets and payroll; preparation of quarterly reports, tax returns and financial statements.

1977 – 2004 Rice Bookkeeping Services, Sitka, AK
Owner
Manual and computer processing of timesheets, payroll and union reports; preparation of quarterly federal, state and local tax reports, federal and state income tax forms; financial statements; accounts payable and receivable.

1998 – 2004 City and Borough of Sitka, Sitka, AK
Mayor/Councilmember
Elected Official responsible for protecting the good of the community.

EDUCATION: University of Alaska, Sitka, AK
Sitka High School, Sitka, AK

REFERENCES: Available upon request

Laurie Seehafer

From: ThorC@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 18, 2015 3:05 PM
To: Laurie Seehafer
Subject: school board

Dear Lorie,

Would you please forward the following letter to the school board.

From: Thor Christianson

Dear Sitka School Board.

This letter is to express my interest in the open seat on the Sitka School Board.

I am a life long Sitkan, and yes I am a registered voter here in Sitka. Now, with that out of the way, I would like to talk about why I want to serve on the School board.

First off, I have two girls in the Sitka School district right now. I feel it is my duty and privilege to do what I can to make the schools here the best they can be both for them, and the other students in our town. When I was on the Sitka Fine Arts Camp board years ago, we used to start each meeting by saying "it's about camp". In the same vein, I would approach all decisions with the thought that it is "about the schools". I know it sounds a bit corny, but I think such thoughts help keep things focused.

I have nine years experience on the Sitka Assembly, as I'm sure you know already. This means that I am already aware of the fiscal and political challenges that face the Sitka School board. I think my record on the assembly was consistently supportive of the Sitka School District. I would be willing to work to keep the relationship with the assembly as amicable as possible, while still advocating for the education of our children.

I have been concerned about the anti education tone in popular culture today. One the reasons I would like to serve is to work to be a cheerleader for education. We should be working to make our students the best educated, most creative citizens possible.

I should disclose that my wife works for the school district as a first grade school teacher. While I am aware that there is no legal reason why I can not serve on the School Board, I know that some may be uncomfortable with her working for the district while I am on the school board. All I can say is that I would work hard to not let her employment affect the way I vote. I am aware that I would not be able to vote on issues that effect her directly. If this is too much of an issue for you, I of course would understand.

I know that you have some good people applying for this seat. If you feel that I can contribute I would like to serve, but if you pick on of the others they would have my support just as you do now.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can reached at thorc@aol.com, or at 738-2491.

Thank you for your time.

Thor Christianson

Christy Anderson
511 O'Cain Street
Sitka, AK 99835

September 14, 2015

Sitka School Board & Superintendent Dr. Mary Wegner
300 Kostrometinoff Street
Sitka, AK 99835

RE: Letter of Interest to Fill Temporary School Board Vacancy

Dear Sitka School Board and Superintendent Wegner:

I have the experience, skills and motivation needed to be an effective school board member. Please consider my letter as an expression of sincere interest in filling the board's temporary vacancy. Detailed below are my responses to the candidate questions.

1. Why do I want to serve on the board?
 - a. Most importantly, I am a parent of a child who attends SSD, and it is my intention to do what I can to ensure my son receives an outstanding education.
 - b. My motivation is to be an effectual SSD board member who is ready for work. Since this is a one year position, I believe it is imperative the appointee have an intimate knowledge of education and the teaching profession to reduce transition, orientation and training time. Being a full-time teacher and counselor at Mt. Edgecumbe High School has provided me a respect, understanding and appreciation for our diverse Alaska Native cultures. Additionally, as an Alaska certified teacher and administrator, I have experience in decision making and navigating challenging issues facing Alaska schools. From my work as the MEHS Union President, I understand contractual issues and employee concerns. Further, I am uniquely qualified for the position due to my previous employment as a teacher at Blatchley Middle School; I am no stranger to the district.
2. What are my areas of interest in the Sitka School District operations?
 - a. I am interested in aligning SSD Board goals to positively impact all classrooms and learning for all students and teachers and staff.
 - b. I would appreciate the opportunity to work collaboratively with teachers to utilize my professional experience and training to support the District in selecting and implementing high quality professional development for teachers.
 - c. I am curious about the effectiveness of the new teacher evaluation tool and how that process is manifesting within the schools.

- d. Professionally, I enjoy the curriculum review process and would naturally lend my expertise.
 - e. Family engagement and parent involvement are essential elements to any district's effectiveness. As a parent, I believe the District could improve in these areas.
 - f. Finally, I am interested in the District's collection and analysis process: what data are you collecting, how is that information being used, and why?
3. Examples of my involvement within the Sitka School District:
- a. As stated previously, I was employed by the District as a teacher at Blatchley Middle School. From that experience, I am acquainted with and have an established rapport with most of the administrators, teachers and staff within the district. Since my full-time employment at BMS, I successfully completed my administrative internship at Keet Gooshi Heen and have also worked as a substitute teacher at Sitka High School, Blatchley Middle School and at Keet Gooshi Heen Elementary.
 - b. My son is currently attending Keet Gooshi Heen Elementary school, and I have participated in classroom activities when invited.
4. Yes. I have been a Sitka resident for nineteen consecutive years.
5. Yes. I am a registered voter in Alaska.

In the spirit of collaboration, I look forward to working with you.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Christy R. Anderson

Email: christy.novaconsulting@gmail.com

Cell: 907-738-5505

SITKA SCHOOL BOARD TEMPORARY VACANCY

I am writing to express my interest in filling the recent Sitka School Board vacancy. I have recently moved back to Sitka (I lived here from 1984-1987 and worked at Sheldon Jackson College) and have been here for 6 months and am a registered voter.

My reason for wanting to serve on the board is to help guide the services of the Sitka School District, not only for the students, but for the general public as well. Youth are valuable resources for and to our community. The future success of our community will be based on how well we educate and develop our youth.

Programs and services that meet the need of the broad learning styles and needs of all students must be considered and enhanced. This affects retention and graduation rates. I think my ability to be creative as well as level headed could help in this process. I have been involved in youth development in some way, most of my professional career. My attached resume will give more background related to this.

At this point, my area of interest in District operations is to first get a handle on what the School Board's responsibilities are, how the vision and mission is being carried out and what role it plays in the district's operations. My background has been in working with "at risk" populations and non-traditional learners. I would be interested in this area as well as retention and graduation strategies and student services/assistance issues. I helped develop and coordinated a student assistance program for a school district in Wisconsin. (Again please see attached resume)

At this point, I have not had much involvement in the Sitka School District. I have attended some events at Pacific High School-including the graduation activities. Running for the School Board is my beginning attempt at being involved. Both my wife and I want to be very integrated into the community (She is the new Priest in Charge at St. Peter's By-The-Sea Episcopal Church) and be of service in ways that can make a positive impact. I have had the opportunity to meet and work with Superintendent-Mary Wegner through the Easter Group and have been impressed by her professionalism, energy and effectiveness, which has increased my desire to work in some form with the School District.

With regard to governance, I have served on several boards in the lower 48 as well as having numerous leadership/management positions with various organizations. I was an adjudication officer for one of the University of Wisconsin campuses and dealt with student mis-conduct. I am very level headed, a team player and come from a base of collaboration building and a strong desire to do what is best for our students, youth and community. I would serve out the present term very well and effectively.



THE BOARD OF BOARD TEMPORARY VACANCIES

The Board of Board Temporary Vacancies is pleased to announce the appointment of the following individuals to the Board of Board Temporary Vacancies for the period of 12 months commencing from the date of their appointment.

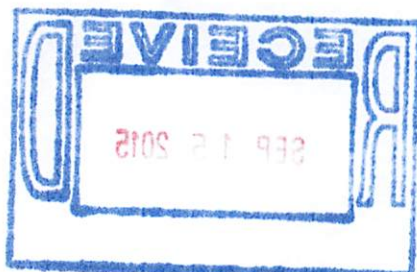
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The Board of Board Temporary Vacancies is pleased to announce the appointment of the following individuals to the Board of Board Temporary Vacancies for the period of 12 months commencing from the date of their appointment.



LOYD E. PLATSON
805 Charles St.
Sitka AK, 99835
lplatson@scpsak.org
907-747-3636 ext 224

HIGHLIGHTS OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Employee Development Coordinator/Coalition Development Coordinator, Sitka Counseling and Prevention Services Inc., Sitka, Alaska, June 2015 to present.

Community Education/Coalition Building/Staff Development/Youth Development Director, NyE Communities Coalition, Pahrump, Nevada, April 2009 to April 2015.

CSAP Fellow-State of Nevada, United States Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, Washington DC, March 2006 to March 2009.

Founder and Executive Director, Wind Raven Edventures, October, 1987 to Present.

Director, Experiential Learning Center, Stevens Point Area Public School District, Stevens Point, Wisconsin. February 1994 to June 1995.

Instructor, Off Campus Graduate Level Coursework, Aurora University, Aurora, Illinois. January 1989 to May 1994.

Prevention and Intervention Specialist, Community Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center, Stevens Point, Wisconsin. August 1990 to April 1992.

Director of Residence Life/Assistant to the Vice President of Student Services, Sheldon Jackson College, Sitka, Alaska. July 1984 to July 1987.

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE (Annotated)

Developed and taught graduate level courses in the areas of: the development and perpetuation of addictive and compulsive behaviors, group development and facilitation, enhancing learning environments, adventure based counseling and education and personal healing. Provided Server/Seller Training to alcohol vendors. Also taught rock climbing, ropes course facilitation and low impact camping. Developed and provided DUI and Traffic Safety Schools for State of Nevada.

Presented at numerous local, state and national conferences including the International Wellness Conference in the areas of student assistance programs, leadership development, group facilitation, adventure based strategies, management enhancement and organizational development.

Provided "Core Team" training, Group Facilitation and "Advanced Core Team" training to School District staff and consultation to school districts wishing to develop and implement AODA and Student Assistance Programs.

Coordinated school and community AODA and Student Assistance Programs. Developed, implemented and facilitated numerous school and community AODA and personal awareness/growth workshops and presentations. Supervised and trained school district psychologists, social workers and school counselors.

Developed and managed all aspects of School District Experiential Learning Center including: budget, scheduling, facilitation, facilities inspection, use documentation and client recruitment as well as directing and facilitating a comprehensive adventure based counseling, activities and programs curriculum.

Designed and provided Management Enhancement, Leadership and Organizational Development programs for major corporations. (Miller Brewing Company, Heines VA, Deloitte and Touche Consulting, Arthur Anderson and Associates, Pennsylvania Energy Company, Commonwealth Edison , First Energy, Blistex, Baxter Health Care and others)

Facilitated programs for diverse student and non-student groups-including Special Education Students (Cognitively Disabled, Attention Deficit/Hyper Active Disorder, Students with physical disabilities and students enrolled in the Alternative High School Program.), Student Leadership, Native American Youth at Risk and more. Provided workforce development programs for at risk youth ages 14-21 through the Workforce Investment Act.

Adjudicated student misconduct cases for the University of Wisconsin System Schools and provided counseling services to students experiencing issues with alcohol and other drugs.

Directed the Residence Life Program for Sheldon Jackson College in Sitka Alaska. Hired, trained and supervised a staff of approximately 10-15 peer and professional staff members. Managed budget for Residence Life Division and College Nurse. Taught mountain hiking/camping and sea kayaking. Facilitated Early College Incentive Program.

EDUCATION

M.S. Guidance and Counseling, Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse and Family Systems Counseling, University of Wisconsin-Stout, Menomonie, Wisconsin. August 1984.

B.S. Sociology and Anthropology, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Stevens Point, Wisconsin. June 1977.

CERTIFICATIONS/SKILLS

Certified Prevention Specialist
Internationally Certified Prevention Specialist
Court Appointed Special Advocate for Children (Nevada)
ServSafe Food Manager Certification
Certified Mental Health First Aid Instructor
Certified DUI School Instructor (Nevada)
Certified Traffic Safety School Instructor (Nevada)
Instructor Alcohol Server/Seller Training
Leadership Development
Organizational Development
Low and High Ropes Course Instructor
Rock Climbing
Kayaking

READY TO GO TRAINING

Mental Health First Aid (8 hours with certificate)
Understanding Addictive/Compulsive Behaviors
Working With At Risk Youth
Conflict Resolution
Group Development/Facilitation

Mary Wegner
Sitka School District
300 Kostrometinoff St
Sitka, AK 99835



Dear Superintendent Mary Wegner (and others whom it may concern):

I am writing to apply for the vacant Board position with the Sitka School District. I have made Sitka my home since August 2013 during which time I have worked with students of all ages and have engaged with SSD in a number of ways.

As a volunteer with Junior Achievement, I delivered experiential lessons in financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurship for one semester each with a second grade class and fifth grade class at Keet Gooshi Heen Elementary School. And, as an AmeriCorps volunteer, I ran a summer camp through Community Schools for 6-8 year old students.

I have worked for Youth Advocates of Sitka in the Community Mental Health Program as a Skills Trainer. My role was to provide rehabilitative services for students with mental and behavioral health disorders at Sitka High School and Blatchley Middle School. Additionally, I have instructed Life Skills classes at Pacific High School for three semesters. These classes focus on developing job skills, building a support system in the community, and exploring personal interests.

I currently am Associate Program Coordinator at Youth Advocates of Sitka where I directly supervise a staff of four. My responsibility is to oversee our community-based mental and behavioral health outpatient treatment programs for clients aged 14-21. This includes a youth drop-in center, a life skills building program, and in-school support services which involve working closely with Sitka High School and Pacific High School staff. The latter through the Successful Transitions for At-Risk youth grant.

Regarding District operations, I am interested in Restorative Justice, culturally relevant programming, special education, mental and behavioral health support, and policy. I have little experience with governance but a strong interest in public policy in the areas of education, justice, and social services.

I have just begun to understand the challenges facing Sitka's youth and feel passionately about playing my part to address them. I want to serve on the Sitka School Board because of my passion for service, for supporting youth, and to work with a nationally recognized team in the education field. If there is a more qualified candidate to be appointed to School Board then I hope they are selected. I am writing today as a member of our community and a registered voter of Alaska who is eager and willing to serve.

Thank you for your consideration.

Brian Richardson
612-554-1271
Brian.Richardson@sitkayouth.org



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