

# **Mt. Edgecumbe High School Advisory Board – Applicant Questionnaire**

The Alaska Department of Education is pleased that you are potentially willing to serve on the Mt. Edgecumbe High School (MEHS) Advisory Board. In an effort to assist current MEHS Advisory Board members, the Department of Education and the Governor's Office in making the best selection possible for the vacant seats, we are encouraging you to complete the following questionnaire and return it with your letter of interest and detailed resume. Please attach additional sheets as needed.

**Name** Robyn Burke **Position** Parent/Alumni

**Current community of residence** Utqiagvik, AK

**Current employer & position** Ilisagvik College, Executive Director of Human Resources

**Previous employer & position** (relevant to serving on the MEHS Advisory Board)

North Slope Borough School District, Director of Human Resources

1. What prompted you to consider applying for the vacant MEHS Advisory Board seat?

I have a vested interest in the success of Mt. Edgecumbe High School. I am both an MEHS parent, and an alumni. There's a great sense of pride in being a Brave, and it's a part of mine and my husband's families history with our son being a 4<sup>th</sup> generation MEHS Student.

My grandparents attended in the mid to late 60's and 70's, my mother attended in the late 80's, I graduated from MEHS in 2009 and now our son is just about to finish his freshman year.

I saw the opportunity and hope to be able to serve the students and families with my unique experiences and skills.

2. In your opinion, what special interest, perspectives, talents and/or capacities could you bring to the MEHS Advisory Board?

For the last three years, I've served on my regional school board as board clerk, and board president. In November I was selected to serve on the Association of

Alaska School Board's Board of Directors. In both capacities I've had the opportunity to work with other board members and students from across Alaska to advocate for students and education with the State Legislature.

On my local school board I serve on the Policy Review Committee, Legislative Committee, Certificated Evaluation Committee, Negotiations Committee.

I've also previously worked for the North Slope Borough School District as Human Resources Director.

I have a unique set of experiences, perspectives and skills that I could bring to the MEHS Advisory Board.

3. Are you, or have you ever been, directly associated with MEHS? If so, in what capacity?

Yes, currently as a parent and as alumni.

I have not been associated with MEHS in a professional capacity.

4. What is your vision of the role of MEHS and how a public support residential high school fits in the larger educational scheme for the State of Alaska?

MEHS prepares and gives students the tools that they need to be successful, contributing members of their communities – whether that's attending university or vocational school, or entering into the workforce – students who attend MEHS are prepared for that next step.

MEHS provides a high quality of education and provides the structure for students to maintain their grades.

5. To what other boards, commissions, etc., have you been appointed? Are you currently active on any boards, commissions, etc.?

I currently serve on the North Slope Borough School District, Board of Education. I was appointed to Seat C from June 2020 – October 2020, then was elected into Seat A after a runoff election in November 2020. I served as Board Clerk during the 2021-2022 school year and have served as Board President since October of 2022.

I was appointed to the Association of Alaska School Boards Board of Directors in November 2022. I serve on the June Nelson Scholarship Committee, Sustainability Committee, Legislative Advocacy Committee,

I represent NSBSD in the Voice of the Arctic, and serve on their government affairs committee and executive committee.

I currently serve on the Steering Committee for our regional quadrilateral committee called Nunaaqiuraat Tumitchianit that is comprised of members from the North Slope Borough, North Slope Borough School District, Ilisagvik College and the Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope and participate actively in the Student Outcomes workgroup.

Previously I've also served on the North Slope Borough Personnel Hearing Board.

6. In your opinion, what makes you uniquely qualified for the vacant seat for which you are making application?

First, I'm a proud parent of a student that attends MEHS, and a product of MEHS.

I have spent the last 13 years working in and around education systems from answering phones, to hiring teachers, creating policy, advocating for education at the legislature, and so much more. I have worked hard to advocate for students in the State of Alaska and have always been a firm supporter of MEHS.

I believe MEHS gave me the skills I needed to think critically and serve my community, and I hope to be able to serve the community that helped raise me.

7. If interested, please provide any additional information that you believe might be helpful to reviewers of your application.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my application. Quyanapak for your consideration.

Signature  Date 04/03/2023