

Mt. Edgecumbe Advisory Board Recommendation:

Mt. Edgecumbe Advisory Board has three open seats this year, one a parent seat, one a Sitka community representative, and the public school representative. The Public School Representative is selected through the Alaska Superintendent Association.

Current Board:

Open	Mary Suzzuk Huntington, chair	Parent Representative	Unalakleet
	Michelle Martin, Vice chair	Parent Representative	Juneau
	Dorothy Chase, Secretary	Parent Representative	Bethel
	Joshua Vo	Alumni Representative	Anchorage
	Lydia Agnus	Alumni Representative	Kotzebue
Open	Lois Rhodes	Sitka Community Representative	Sitka
Open	Robert Bolen	Public School Administrator Representative	Bering Straits Unalakleet
	Sally Stockhausen	State Board Representative	Ketchikan

MEHS received interest from one candidate for the Sitka Community position and six candidates for the Parent Representative position.

Mt. Edgecumbe Administration recommends Travis Vaughan for the Sitka Community Representative.

The incumbent for the position is Lois Rhodes, who has chosen to not seek continued appointment. Lois Rhodes served on the board for over 20 years.

Travis is involved in Mt. Edgecumbe as a parent, but also is a good representative for the businesses of Sitka.

Mt. Edgecumbe Administration recommends Jerilyn Kelly for the Parent Representative position. The incumbent for the position is Mary Suzzuk Huntington, who is not seeking reappointment as she is stepping up into the Superintendent position.

All six candidates for the parent position were strong with many reasons to select anyone of them. MEHS administration is ultimately recommending Jerilyn Kelly because she will be representative of students from Quinhagak, a small village in Western Alaska. A lot of students are from small villages in Western Alaska, and she will bring this living experience perspective to the board. She has positively served for over 10 years on an Advisory Board in her community and already has years of board training. She is a Native Language speaker and advocate for continued Native Languages, this is a stated priority for the board.

Detailed information about both the recommended candidates are included along with a quick summary of the applications of all candidates.

Sitka Board Representative Candidate Application Summaries:

Travis Vaughan- Recommended

Travis resides in Sitka.

Travis has a strong background in business. He is the current owner and operator of a local real estate agency. He has served on various boards and committees and is heavily involved with his community. He founded a youth flag football league and served as the President of the organization as well as taking on a head coach position.

He is deeply passionate about education and the impact that a model education can have on a student's future. He takes pride in his two son's attending MEHS and believes that MEHS offers an education that Alaskan's can be proud of. He gives credit to the schooling he received as a large part of his success in his career and life decisions.

Travis thinks that what makes him uniquely qualified for the Community Representative position is his experience and exposure to a diversity of people, places and ideas. Although he has resided in Sitka for over a decade, he was born in Texas and has lived in a number of different states. This experience has given him the opportunity to observe communities that are prospering and others that are not, and learn first hand what other communities have tried and why they were successful or conversely, failed.

Parent Representative Candidate Application Summaries:

Jerilyn Kelly- Recommended

Jerilyn resides in Quinhagak and currently has two daughters attending MEHS.

Jerilyn previously served on the Quinhagak Advisory Board for 10+ years. Her involvement began when her children were in elementary school. She strives to share the knowledge that she gained from her experiences with her local K-12 school and her background in the head start program. She believes that MEHS can lead the pathway for other schools in the state to raise the bar of quality education.

Jerilyn is currently the Mayor for the City of Quinhagak and the Chair for their Alaska Rural Utility Commission. She is heavily involved with the local government as both a tribal member and a shareholder for the village and regional corporations. She has committed her time to serving on various boards and committees. She is bilingual and fluent in Yupik. She considers herself a lifelong learner and welcomes the opportunity to gain further knowledge if selected to serve on the MEHS Advisory Board.

Jerilyn thinks that what makes her uniquely qualified for the Parent Representative position is that she has become acquainted with her local Associated Student Body policies and procedures. She is gaining knowledge about the district board policies and strives to learn more about how other schools and districts operate so that she can have a perspective on how to help enhance the education system.

Charlene Robinson

Charlene resides in Anchorage and has a daughter attending MEHS.

Charlene holds a degree in Music Education and was heavily involved in music and athletic programs during her high school years. She has an extensive background in finance and management.

Charlene believes that MEHS is an example of how a residential high school can be successful. She believes that she has the background and skills necessary to contribute to the success that she is seeing at MEHS. She is proud that her daughter is thriving at school as a freshman.

Charlene thinks that what makes her uniquely qualified for the Parent Representative position is that she is an involved and responsible parent. She believes that her background in work and education make her a great fit for the board. She understands the struggle as a teacher, and as a manager she understands the business side of the organization.

Regina Johnson

Regina Johnson resides in Bethel and currently has a daughter attending MEHS.

Regina graduated from MEHS in 1993 and has previously served on the Advisory Board. She has served on the Employee Advisory Committee throughout her career with the court system. She served as vice president and secretary to the local VFW Auxiliary in Bethel. She was recently appointed to the Workplace Conduct Committee by the director of the court system.

Regina's family is very culturally driven, they take pride in participating in Yupik traditions that include giving away the first catch to the first dance celebration with their tribe. To Regina, family comes first and she believes that MEHS has encouraged this concept throughout the years. She would like to help guide the school board and contribute her core values to ensure MEHS carries on the family atmosphere.

Regina thinks that what makes her uniquely qualified for the Parent Representative position is that with her experience as an MEHS graduate, being a parent of 3 four-year students, and her supervisory role at the court system, she believes that she can contribute to the continuation of a greater and successful experience that MEHS offers.

Heather Powell

Heather Powell resides in Hoonah and currently has a son who attends MEHS.

Heather worked as a Residential Aide at MEHS during the 2000/2001 school year. She embraced the experience and has valued the lifelong relationships that she gained while working in that position.

Heather has a deep passion for her culture and prides herself in carrying strong cultural values. She has a background in education dating back to 1995 when she was a student teacher for her language at Sitka High School. She currently teaches core activities in her language at Hoonah City School. She has been very involved in both rural education and Alaska Native education. She

is an avid Raven's tail weaver, song leader in several dance groups, and is a performer with the Noow Tlein and Gajaa Heen Dancers.

Heather thinks that what makes her uniquely qualified for the Parent Representative position is that she is qualified to speak on behalf of the families that trust MEHS to bring students into a safe environment of success, strength and rigor. She encourages her son to make choices with the end result in mind. She strives to be involved in maintaining the education excellence that she feels is achieved at MEHS. She vies for the opportunity to be a voice and to provide valuable input as both a parent and a rural parent. She is able to commit to the requirements of serving on the Advisory Board and has the full support of her family to do so.

Lawrence Jones

Lawrence Jones resides in Ambler and currently has two children attending MEHS.

Lawrence considers himself an advocate for Alaska kids. He focuses on student safety and incentives for their future. He is passionate about students receiving the best education possible. He expresses a deep concern regarding the shortage of certified teachers in the small Alaska schools.

Lawrence currently serves on the Northwest Arctic School Board. He previously served as Chair for the technology committee and remains active with the tech committee today.

Lawrence believes that what makes him uniquely qualified for the Parent Representative position is being a parent for the parent rep seat.