

March 16, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Jerilyn Kelly. I was born in Bethel, Alaska and have lived in Quinhagak for the majority of my life. I am a product of boarding school parents. My dad went to Chemawa in Oregon and my mom went to Mt. Edgecumbe. I personally struggled throughout my high school years and because of my own personal experience, I have tried my best to instill respect for educators on my children.

I worked at our local head start when my kids were younger. My exposure to early childhood education taught me about individuality, development and positive guidance that I continuously try to practice with my children. Raising kids can get very challenging and I have always appreciated teachers and their role in the lives of mine.

I have been involved with our local ASB for a decade. I have been involved in creating discipline plans, adopting and approving budgets, and approving student travel among other things. I have also been involved with the parent advisory committee on a district level.

I come from a strong Yupik speaking generation that is slowly diminishing as the years go by. I believe that our language a very important aspect of our culture and our heritage. Language is the bridge that keeps our history and our future connected. I am so happy that MEHS now offers Yupik as one of the courses that students can now choose from.

I consider myself a lifelong learner and I feel as if my involvement with the MEHS ASB will broaden my knowledge in how effective education systems run and operate. I am a team player and am not afraid to try new experiences. I can share my background and struggles as we look for solutions on how to better our future leaders.

Thank-you for your time and for your consideration!

Jerilyn Kelly, Parent
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