

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD APPOINTMENT APPLICATION

Name of Applicant: Mia Costello Date: 2/6/2009

Mailing Address: 5512 Yukon Charlie Loop, Anchorage, AK 99502

Residence Address: 5512 Yukon Charlie Loop, Anchorage, AK 99502

Telephone: Day: 770-1702 Evening: 770-1702

Fax: _____ email: mia@gci.net

Occupation: Nine Star Education & Employment Services, part time coach

Seat Applicant is Applying For: Seat B (Applicant must be at least 18 years of age and a registered voter in the Municipality of Anchorage.)

Have you ever been convicted of, admitted committing, or are you awaiting trial for any crime involving moral turpitude? (PTPC Reg. 20 AAC 10.030)

Yes No If you answered yes, please attach written explanation.

Attachments to this application should include:

- resume
- statement of reasons why the applicant wishes to be a member of the Board
- other information deemed pertinent by applicant

Note: Within 30 days of taking office, the successful applicant will be required to submit a Conflict of Interest form as required by APOC.

Applications should be mailed to: Office of the Superintendent
Anchorage School District
5530 E. Northern Lights Blvd.
Anchorage, AK 99504-3135

Or hand-delivered to: 5530 E. Northern Lights Blvd.

Deadline for applications: All applications need to be received in the Superintendent's office by 5 p.m. on Friday, February 6, 2009.

The School Board will make the appointment during a Special Meeting, convening Saturday, February 14, 2009 at 1:30 p.m.

Signature: 

February 6, 2009

Office of the Superintendent
Jeff Friedman
President
Anchorage School Board
5530 E. Northern Lights Blvd.
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Dear President Friedman:

I am very excited to be applying for Seat B on the Anchorage School Board and have filed a letter of intent with the Alaska Public Offices Commission and will appear on the April ballot.

I am a mom with a vested interest in education because my children will be attending public schools here and I want them to have the same opportunities I had as a student in Anchorage schools. That is why I am running.

My 18 years of government service, work in public relations and classroom experience has helped form my education philosophy. I understand standards-based assessment, the importance of community in the classroom, the power of learning that is relevant and the significance of forming relationships with students.

All students achieve more when classroom teaching is built upon best practices, when students know what is expected because the assessment is clearly defined and teachers have the ability to provide masterful and inspired instruction because they work together with other teachers and tap into community resources. We want to do the very best we can in preparing young people for the jobs of the future.

I look forward to meeting you on February 14.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mia Costello". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Mia Costello

Mia Costello

5512 Yukon Charlie Loop
Anchorage, AK 99502
770.1702 home / 227.5276 cell
mia@gci.net

Summary of experience:

Well-rounded, 18-year government and communications professional and award-winning classroom teacher

- Government Experience working for two Alaska Governors, an Alaska State Legislator and U.S. Senator
- Public Relations Experience as a public information officer for all state departments, drafting press releases, feature stories and producing training and educational videos and working in Anchorage-based public relations firms
- Community Experience serving as both chair and a member of numerous state boards and commissions.
- Teaching Experience in two Alaska school districts, recipient of Co-Nect's Excellence in the Classroom award, participant in the Alaska Humanities Forum Rose Urban/Rural Exchange and currently a Nine Star Education & Employment Services coach in the High School Completion Program

Education

University of Alaska Southeast

Master of Arts in Teaching, 1997. Featured in Juneau Empire (3.14.97) *Juneau Color* for performance-based teaching.

Harvard University

B.A. in government, 1990. Co-captain, swimming team, Olympic Trials Qualifier, Division I NCAA All-American.

West Anchorage High School

Senior class president, Class of 1986. Honor Society member, swim team captain, High School All-American in swimming, member United States National Swimming Team.

Teaching Experience

Nine Star Education & Employment, High School Completion Program Coach. September 2008 - present.

High school government and history teacher, Juneau-Douglas High School (1997-1999)

Received national Excellence in Education recognition from Co-Nect Schools for a unit on state government in which students debated solutions to the state's budget crisis live on public television in a mock House Finance Committee chaired by then-Representatives Con Bunde and Eldon Mulder.

High school social studies teacher, Service High School (2001-2002)

Government & Public Relations Experience

Self employed, Mia Costello Consulting, LLC, October 2008 – present. Public relations work for Providence Alaska Medical Center and Bernholz & Graham Public Relations.

Deputy Director for Communications, Governor Frank H. Murkowski, February 2003 - June, 2006

Account Executive for Bradley/Reid Communications, August 1999 - April 2001

Legislative Aide to Representative Norman Rokeberg, 1995 -1996

Public information officer, State of Alaska Media Support Center, March 1992 - December 1994.

Administrative assistant, Governor Walter J. Hickel, 1991 - March 1992

Intern coordinator for United States Senator Ted Stevens, Summer/Fall 1989

Community Involvement

Ex-officio member, Alaska Statehood Celebration Commission

Past president, Friends of Alaska Nanook Swimming (FANS)

Teacher participant in the Rose Urban/Rural Exchange, Alaska Humanities Forum

Past chair, Governor's Council on Physical Fitness & Sports

Past member, Governor's Outdoor Recreation and Trails Advisory Council

Former Big Sister in Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Juneau

Recognition

Harvard Varsity Club Hall of Fame, Class of 2006

Top 40 Under 40 – an annual service-recognition award by the Alaska Journal of Commerce newspaper

Certifications

Certified Social Studies Teacher, State of Alaska

Instrument-rated private pilot

Personal

Married to Andrew Billings, 2 children ages 2 and 4