

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD APPOINTMENT APPLICATION

Name of Applicant: Christopher E. Gunderson Date: 01/26/2009

Mailing Address: 3933 Tom White Circle, Anchorage, AK 99504

Residence Address: same as above

Telephone: Day: (907)222-2366 Evening: (907)868-8859

Fax: (907)274-4055 email: chris.gunderson@gmail.com

Occupation: Director of Training and Development

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: _____



Christopher E. Gunderson
3933 Tom White Circle
Anchorage, AK 99504

January 26, 2009

Office of the Superintendent
Anchorage School District
5530 E. Northern Lights Blvd.
Anchorage, AK 99504-3135

Dear Concerned:

I am writing to express my interest in, and qualifications for, appointment to the Anchorage School Board, Seat B. As evidenced by my attached resume, I have the experience, education, and ability to meet or exceed all position requirements, and I am confident that my participation will be a valuable asset to the board as it works to achieve its goals in the coming months.

I have dedicated my professional life to advancing the education, health, and welfare of Alaska's children and families. Beginning my career as a direct service provider for children with severe emotional disabilities, I have advanced to the position of Director of Training and Development for a local community mental health provider, Denali Family Services. In that time, I completed a graduate degree in English at U.A.A., emphasizing composition education and technical writing, and have begun work on a second graduate degree in education, while also sitting as a member of the Tanaina Child Development Center Board of Directors. As such, I bring to the board experience in education, management, program development, grant writing, and human services.

As a member of the Anchorage School Board, I would work to secure currently available federal funds to more closely align district schools with local behavioral health care providers. Doing so would provide much needed funding to special education and performance improvement initiatives within the district, while also allowing extra support for Anchorage's most vulnerable, high-needs students. I would also work to better support training and staff development needs, particularly in the areas of behavior management, sexual abuse prevention, and mental health literacy.

As a lifelong Alaskan, and a career professional in the fields of health and education, I have a clear, articulate vision for the success of our students, our city, and our state. I thank you for your service, and look forward to further discussing my suitability for the Anchorage School Board.

Sincerely,



Christopher E. Gunderson

ENCLOSURE

CHRISTOPHER GUNDERSON
3933 Tom White Circle Anchorage, AK 99504
907-868-8859
chris.gunderson@gmail.org

EDUCATION

2008-Present M.Ed. Counseling <i>Option: Community Agency Counseling</i>	University of Alaska Anchorage	Anchorage, AK
2007 M.A. English <i>Option: Rhetoric and Composition</i> <i>Thesis: Language, Faith, and Science</i>	University of Alaska Anchorage	Anchorage, AK
2002 B.A. English <i>Option: Literature</i> <i>Minor: Philosophy</i>	University of Alaska Anchorage	Anchorage, AK
1997 Diploma	Susitna Valley High School	Talkeetna, AK

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2008-Present <i>Director of Training and Development</i> This position is responsible for the administration and oversight of agency training and development. The incumbent will supervise the coordination, facilitation, and management of agency training programs, as well as the development of agency resources, including personnel, community partnerships, and supplemental funding resources. The individual will work closely with leadership members in the identification and coordination of current and future training and development opportunities, and in the furtherance of the agency's mission, goals, and objectives.	Denali Family Services	Anchorage, AK
--	-------------------------------	----------------------

Training Specialist

This position is responsible for developing, implementing, and conducting agency training programs. Duties include (1) conducting and coordinating training activities; (2) researching, writing, and creating new training materials; (3) providing consultation and coaching to staff members; (4) monitoring individual and agency performance; (5) developing individual and agency training plans; (6) administering the Learning Management System; and (7) providing client care, as needed.

2006-2008

Alaska Children's Services

Anchorage, AK

Training Specialist

This is a grant-funded position through the State of Alaska Department of Health and Human Services and requires extensive travel throughout the State of Alaska; responsibilities include (1) facilitating behavioral health training in classroom, online, blended, and individual coaching settings; (2) using and developing multi-media training applications; (3) administering performance evaluation tools; (4) monitoring agency compliance; (5) conducting research and data analysis; and (6) preparing grant reports.

Psychiatric Treatment Counselor

This position is primarily responsible for interaction with and the supervision of children and adolescents in residential care who have severe emotional and behavioral problems. Other duties include maintaining therapeutic interactions on an individual and group basis, facilitating recreational and educational activities, and adhering to standards and regulations set forth by OCS, JCAHO, and CMS.

2004-2006

University of Alaska Anchorage

Anchorage, AK

Adjunct Instructor, Department of English

This position is responsible for the instruction of English 111: Methods of Written Communication, including the creation, distribution, and grading of course materials, the supervision of student enrollment and course completion, and the integration of computer-based, multimedia learning and research modalities into the composition curriculum.

Teaching Assistant, Department of English

Under the supervision of tenured faculty members, this position is responsible for assisting the instruction of English 111: Methods of Written Communication includes the delivery and grading of course materials, completion of identified learning objectives, and general oversight of course participants.

Research Assistant, Department of English

This position is responsible for identifying and applying for grant funding, financial management of grant funds, organization of grant related projects, and supervision of volunteer staff. I have worked in the position of Research Assistant on several grant-funded projects, including the construction of the UAA Online Writing Environment (2004) for use in distance education courses, and as the Assistant Director (2004, 2005) and the Director (2006) of the Pacific Rim Conference on Literature and Rhetoric.

Writing Tutor, Department of English

This position is responsible for the provision of general assistance and consultation to UAA students in the organization and completion of course assignments, as well as individual composition instruction and technical assistance to students enrolled in UAA composition courses.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

2008-Present **Tanaina Child Development Center** **Anchorage, AK**

- Board of Directors, President-elect

2008-Present **Denali Family Services** **Anchorage, AK**

- Maintenance of Accreditation Reporter
- Agency Leadership Team
- Agency Safety Officer
- Learning Management System Administrator
- Harlem Ambassadors Fundraising Exhibition, Project Manager

2006-2008 **Alaska Children's Services** **Anchorage, AK**

- Kenai Peninsula Out of Home Care Conference, Steering Committee
- Behavioral Health Training Series, Project Manager
- "Shine Your Light!" Behavioral Health Services Conference, Co-Director
- Residential Training Grant Outcomes Assessment, Project Manager

2005-2006 **University of Alaska Anchorage** **Anchorage, AK**

- Pacific Rim Conference on Literature and Rhetoric, Director
- Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society, Chapter Vice President
- Alaska Humanities Forum Special Projects Grant, Lead Grant Writer

2004-2005 **University of Alaska Anchorage** **Anchorage, AK**

- Pacific Rim Conference on Literature and Rhetoric, Assistant Director
- Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society, Chapter President
- Alaska Humanities Forum Special Projects Grant, Assistant Grant Writer

2003-2004 **University of Alaska Anchorage** **Anchorage, AK**

- Pacific Rim Conference on Literature and Rhetoric, Assistant Director
- Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society, Chapter Inductee
- Alaska Humanities Forum Special Projects Grant, Assistant Grant Writer

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2008-Present

American Society for Training and Development

2008-Present

American Medical Writers Association

2003-Present

Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society

CERTIFICATIONS AND TRAINING

2008 **National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare** **Boulder, CO**
Mental Health First Aid, Certified Trainer

2008 **American Association of Suicidology** **Anchorage, AK**
Recognizing and Responding to Suicide Risk: Essential Skills for Clinicians

2008 **Network Business Systems** **Anchorage, AK**
Dreamweaver CS3 Level 1 Training

2008 **American Red Cross** **Anchorage, AK**
Adult, Child, Infant First Aid/CPR/AED, Certified Trainer

2008 **University of Alaska Anchorage** **Anchorage, AK**
Gatekeeper Suicide Prevention, Approved Trainer

2007 **University of Oklahoma** **Tulsa, OK**
Managing Aggressive Behavior, Certified Trainer

2006 **University of Oklahoma** **Dallas, TX**
Residential Child and Youth Care Professional, Certified Trainer

2006 **Langevin Learning Services** **Atlanta, GA**
Web-based Training Workshop

2006 **Kempe Center** **Anchorage, AK**
Prevention of Sexually Abusive Behaviors, Certified Trainer

2006 **Langevin Learning Services** **Atlanta, GA**
Blended Learning Design Workshop

2006 **National Technical Assistance Center** **Orlando, FL**
Creating Trauma Informed Systems of Care for Human Service Settings