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**JAMES W. LABELLE JR.**

300 PATTERSON STREET  
ANCHORAGE, AK 99504

(907) 227-5676  
labelle.james@gmail.com

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February 5, 2009

To: Anchorage School Board  
Re: School Board Seat B Vacancy

Rec'd  
2/6/09  
2:00pm  
RS

Dear Anchorage School Board,

I am writing in reference to the announced vacancy, Seat B, on the Anchorage School Board and am submitting this letter, appointment application and résumé in consideration for the appointment.

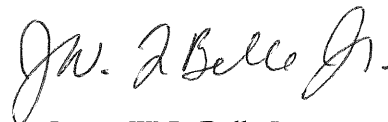
For the past four years I have served as the Child Welfare Liaison for Cook Inlet Tribal Council (CITC), and before that over two years in the Youth Opportunity Program developing education and training opportunities for young people. CITC's mission is to work in partnership with our people and my role has been to work towards improvement in the child welfare system on behalf of children and families. As a representative of our agency, I have worked closely with the administrations of the State of Alaska Office of Children's Services (OCS), Alaska Court System, numerous community partners and organizations to implement more family centered, culturally competent policy and practice that will lead to positive outcomes for children and families.

Changing the education system in Alaska requires leadership and vision. In my current work, as well as my experience developing youth programs, I have helped lead courageous conversations to find practical solutions and change deep-rooted obstacles that hinder progress. The Anchorage School Board and administration has shown great success, recognizing areas that need improvement and looking at ways to address the needs of vulnerable populations of the student body. As a member of the board I will be one member of the team and will continue to support what is working, but will also challenge ourselves to always strive for improvement.

I believe our biggest opportunities for success, building on our current achievement, is still in front of us and that the Anchorage School District, parents and community can become the example of how best to prepare young people for adult life. As an Anchorage School Board member, together as a team, we can and will become a district and community we all can be proud of.

Thank you for your time, let me know if you have any questions and I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



James W. LaBelle Jr.

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD APPOINTMENT APPLICATION

Name of Applicant: James LaBelle Date: 02/04/09  
Mailing Address: 300 Patterson St. Anchorage AK 99504  
Residence Address: -SAME AS MAILING-  
Telephone: Day: 793-3145 Evening: 227-5676  
Fax: 793-3173 email: labelle.james@gmail.com  
Occupation: Child Welfare Liaison

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

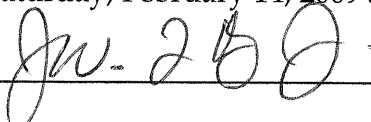
Note: Within 30 days of taking office, the successful applicant will be required to submit a Conflict of Interest form as required by APOC.

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: 

James W. LaBelle Jr.

300 Patterson Street  
Anchorage, AK 99504

(907) 227-5676  
[labelle.james@gmail.com](mailto:labelle.james@gmail.com)

### QUALIFICATIONS

- Over 20 Years Advocating on behalf of children, families and communities
- Experienced in fostering inter-agency Partnerships and Collaborations
- Team Building & Project Management
- Corporate Strategic Planning
- Logistic Management and Event Planning
- Corporate and Non-Profit Experience in Budget Development and Oversight
- On-going Project Evaluation and Reporting
- Public Relations Experience and Community Outreach

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

*Child Welfare Liaison, January 2005 – Present*

*Cook Inlet Tribal Council, 3600 San Jeronimo Drive, Anchorage, Alaska 99508*

Work to reduce child abuse and neglect in Alaska, as a partner agency working towards systems reform within the State of Alaska Office of Children Services (OCS) and the Alaska Court System; to reduce disproportionate number of Alaska Native/American Indian children in State custody through culturally appropriate Policy and Practice.

- Represents agency in community regarding Child Welfare.
- Tribal/State Collaboration Group Co-Chair
- Tribal/State Collaboration Safety Assessment Project Management member.
- Co-Leader of the Anchorage Regional Disproportionality Team.
- Research and prepare reports and recommendations regarding policy, best practice, and legislation that positively change State Child Welfare system.

*Community Liaison, Cook Inlet Tribal Council, October 2002 – January 2005*

Develop Youth Employment, Training and Education opportunities through partnership agreements and business contacts throughout Alaska for Youth Opportunity Program.

- Provide grant oversight, guidance and technical assistance to rural grant sites and Regional Non-Profits.
- Responsible for implementation of the Rural Youth Services Program.
- Ensure sites meet or exceed Department of Labor Performance Measures.

*Shareholder Outreach Coordinator, Chugach Alaska Corporation, April 1999 – May 2001*

- Research, and provide assistance to Shareholders, Shareholder spouses and descendants information regarding employment and training opportunities.
- Serve as Program administrator for the Chugach Heritage Foundation Scholarship Program and Program Coordinator for Nuchek Spirit Camp.
- Plan, organize and facilitate Shareholder Informational meetings.

*Local Community Coordinator, Port Graham Village Council, January 1998 – October 1998*

- Organized and guided a U.S. Department of Education grant to develop a cultural curriculum to assist in the revitalization of the Alu'utiq language, history and heritage.
- Developed and maintained a local education committee; facilitate community involvement.
- Researched, organized and outlined local, regional and statewide education standards for learning and implemented into the curriculum.
- Aligned Thematic Instruction Units in the curriculum based on local and regional traditional knowledge.

*Youth Development Coordinator, Chugachmiut, December 1995 – December 1997*

- Provided health, prevention and recreational activities for the youth in seven Prince William Sound/Lower Kenai Peninsula communities.
- Provided technical assistance and guidance to tribal communities of the Chugach Region regarding youth related activities.
- Implemented leadership and youth development training programs.

**BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AFFILIATIONS AND EXPERIENCES**

*President – Current (2009) (2008) (2007), Vice-President (2006),*

**Alaska Native Indian Child Welfare Association**

- Advocate for the betterment of Alaska Native/American Indian children, and preservation of families, communities and tribes.
- Oversee Strategic Intention of the organization.
- Provide leadership and vision for Child Welfare in Alaska.

*Director/Secretary/Treasurer, Chugach Industries Incorporated, October 2004 – Present.*

- Develop policy, budgets and provide Management direction; as Treasurer Responsible for budget oversight for new start-up company.

*Director, Port Graham Corporation, April 1998 – Present*

- Develop policy, approve budgets and provide Management direction; April 1998- Present

*Director, PG Development Corporation, April 1998 – July 2004*

- Develop policy, budgets and provide Management with overall direction

- 2000 Member participant of the Alaska Native Leadership Network  
<http://alaskanativeleadership.com/>.
- 2000 Featured in the book "Growing up Native in Alaska" published by the CIRI Foundation.
- 1999 – 2001 ANCSA Education Consortium Founding Member, Representing Chugach Heritage Foundation.
- 1992 – 1996 U.S. Marine Corp Reserve.

### EDUCATION

- 2001 Alaska Pacific University  
•Pursuing BA Degree, Business Administration; credits in Argumentative Writing, Introduction to Business, Psychology of Organizational Behavior, and Introduction to Active Learning
- 1996 University of Alaska, Anchorage  
•Credits in Communication, Sociology and Western Civilizations
- 1991 University of Alaska, Anchorage  
• Adult Learning Center High School Diploma

### REFERENCES

(AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)

towards that end, but my role will be to help challenge our thinking and processes and to be more bold in our approach.

And this approach requires stakeholders input into the process. The public, parents, teachers and policy makers who determine funding levels need to come together around a common purpose and collective priorities. As an individual and someone representing an agency, who advocates for improving the child welfare field by changing policy and practice; and my experience developing and implementing youth advancement programs in the field of education and training programs. I am confident in my abilities and I would like to further represent our community, but I need your help.

Specifically, if you would like to partner with me, I need assistance with the following:

1. I need people willing to either host fundraisers on my behalf or to help set them up. Last year I raised under \$5,000. Most winning campaigns start at \$15,000.
2. Assistance in getting the word out to all of our personal and professional networks, and in turn get the word out to their networks.
3. Help in getting endorsements from key leaders in the community.
4. I am looking for campaign volunteers to do door to door "lit drops" on evenings and weekends, placing signs, <sup>waive</sup> signs on Election Day, etc.
5. I am looking for a campaign Treasurer, Deputy Treasurers, Chairman(s).
6. If I could raise enough money, I would like to hire a campaign manager and someone to manage my website.

I cannot do this without your support and if there is anyway you are able to help my campaign it is greatly appreciated.

Thank you!

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Paid for by:  
James LaBelle for School Board  
300 Patterson Street,  
Anchorage, AK 99504  
Home Phone: 770-0426  
Cell Phone: 227-5676  
email: [labelle.james@gmail.com](mailto:labelle.james@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.jameslabelle.com](http://www.jameslabelle.com)



james labelle &lt;labelle.james@gmail.com&gt;

## Anchorage School Board Candidacy

1 message

james labelle &lt;labelle.james@gmail.com&gt;

Wed, Feb 4, 2009 at 1:50 PM

Draft

Bcc: akchildrenstrust@alaska.net, Alexandra McClanahan <shtuhfarm@gmail.com>, bill@billwielechowski.com, bpowell@alaska.net, Brad Angasan <angasan1@gci.net>, BRAINCORP@aol.com, Brian Whittle <bwhittle@sbsalaska.com>, "Brown, Carrie R" <cbrown@alaskanativearts.org>, Corky Cantil <orcac@acsalaska.net>, Cynthia Williams <asclw19@gmail.com>, daralive@yahoo.com, Dawn Dinwoodie <dawnd@gci.net>, dr-james@jvjresearch.com, edshiflea@yahoo.com, Elmer Moonin <Elmer@chugachmiut.org>, ericrobin@customcpu.com, g.snyder@ak.net, georg@customcpu.com, gini king-taylor <ginikt@gmail.com>, Helen Loescher <helen@chugachmiut.org>, helenl@chugachmiut.org, helenm@chugachmiut.org, Hilda Haas@nana.com, hloescher@gci.net, inexorabledecay@yahoo.com, Jack Zayon <jzayon@hotmail.com>, james fahl <jhfahl@gmail.com>, Jason Evans <jevans@financialalaska.com>, jasonayak@gmail.com, Jim Gottstein <jg@touchngo.com>, jmetrokin@bbnc.net, Jonathan Teeters <teetersj@dnc.org>, "Jonathan. Teeters" <jteeters@alaskansforchange.com>, Julie Kitka <nevakitka@aol.com>, Kay Wallis <amokaykay@yahoo.com>, kay@alaskademocrats.org, Kevin Demientieff <demientieffpromotions@alaska.com>, kirk@alaska-wildland.com, Kifte' Miller <mvh@gci.net>, labelle@alaska.net, Lynette Young <younghaidawoman@gmail.com>, makplaq@gmail.com, marie.husa@gmail.com, Melinda Taylor <mtaylor@ibew1547.org>, mjohnson@chugach-ak.com, "Otte, Vicki" <Vicki@ancsaceos.org>, Pat Higgins <phiggins49@gmail.com>, Patti Higgins <patti@keytoalaska.com>, Peggy Robinson <probinson@ak.net>, Rhonda Wulf-LaBelle <rhonda\_wulf@yahoo.com>, Ron Rivas <rivas55@gci.net>, Rose Ellis <rose@alaska.com>, Rose Ellis <rellisak@gmail.com>, Ryan Buchholdt <rbuchholdt@gmail.com>, sberg@gci.net, "Selanoff, Diane A." <selanoffda@alyeska-pipeline.com>, Sheri Burette <SBurette@chugach-ak.com>, Shirley Rivas <d.20@gci.net>, Shirley Tuzroyluke <stuzroyluke@scf.cc>, Tim Pearson <tim@timpearson.net>, Travis Erickson <travisoe Erickson@yahoo.com>, Trina Landlord <trinalandlord@gmail.com>, drlongley@yahoo.com, Dennis Swain <thaiboy5829@hotmail.com>, hshort@alaskagrowth.com, ahensley@akhg.org, barbara.fleek@bbbs.org, jlabelle@citci.com, pwilcox@apea-aft.org, Margaret Nelson <mnelsonrealestate@gmail.com>, regina@anch.net, gbennett@ywcaak.org, James LaBelle <afjwl@uaa.alaska.edu>, Susan LaBelle <susan@chugachmiut.org>, Dixie Hutchinson <DHutchinson@knba.org>, eaglesquest@alaska.net, donitahensley@yahoo.com, jpahensley@yahoo.com, Kert LaBelle <kert@chugachmiut.org>, david@daviddunsmore.com

Good Afternoon,

It is with great excitement to announce that I have officially declared my candidacy for the Anchorage School Board, Seat E, currently held by retiring school board member Macon Roberts. Last year's race was a great learning experience, placing second with 22% of the vote, running against an incumbent. I plan to build upon that experience and apply it to this year's election.

Even though I have more time to campaign and running for an open seat, with no incumbent running, many will be vying for the seat in a very competitive process. I ran a positive race that helped me build broad community support. I will continue to run a positive campaign, one that ensures that we have competence and diversity represented on all decision making levels of our government. Diversity in backgrounds, opinions and experience is important to guiding any institution.

The Anchorage School District has made some positive gains the past few years, but change is slow for any bureaucracy. As change has been a major theme of this past national election, a change in mindset and an increase in resolve are what are also required to take our education system to the next level. Small incremental gains in increasing the graduation rate and reducing the drop-rate are positive steps

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Last year I was fortunate to place second, with 22% of the vote, in my run against an incumbent. Last year's election was a great experience and I learned a lot about the process in a short amount of time. I plan to build upon that experience and apply it to this year's election.

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This bold approach will include stake holders input into the process; the public, parents, teachers and policy makers who determine funding levels need to come together around a common purpose and collective priorities. As someone who, both as an individual and someone representing an agency, advocates for improving the child welfare field by changing policy and practice; and my experience developing and implementing youth advancement programs in the field of education and training programs. I am confident in my abilities and I would like to further represent our community on the school board, but I need your help.

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6. If I could raise enough money, I'd like to hire a campaign manager and someone to manage my website.

I cannot do this without your support and if there is anyway you are able to help my campaign it is greatly appreciated.