

## Chugach Educational Corporation Board 2020-2021

### **Mandy Casurella**

President



Hi, I'm Mandy! My son, Alex, is a 5th grader in Susan's class this year. Chugach has been a rich learning environment for our whole family since 2013. Theme-based studies, inquiry based learning, habits of mind and growth mind-set are a few aspects of the Chugach philosophy that have shaped not only my children's learning, work and relationship, but mine as well. I hope to work with the Board to find creative ways to foster community through connection amidst the Assembly this year. I work as a psychotherapist in private practice in Anchorage and enjoy running in the mountains with friends and family any chance I get. I hope to see you on the trails!

### **Tamar Ben-Yosef**

Vice President



I have been a parent at Chugach for the last four years. My son Yoel is going to be a fourth grader in Mikelle's Middle Group and his younger brother Uri is going to be a first grader in Celeste's Primary group. For my day job, I work as the executive director of an Alaska Nonprofit dedicated to improving the systems of health care, social services and early education for Alaska's children statewide. My husband, Noam and I are Chugach business partners through our business, Urban Greens.

## **Joe Miller** Treasurer



Joe is a life long Alaskan, loves all things Alaska adventures and enjoys a cup of coffee with a story. Joe works as a Civil/Structural Engineer at ConocoPhillips with previous experience as a project manager at BP. Joe saw an opportunity as Treasurer to strengthen community connection between the CEC, Staff and classroom. Joe's goal is to understand the budget, improve the Community's understanding of how it works and what it funds. Joe is always curious how to improve it, so please share an idea. One of Joe's favorite things as treasurer is to see the budget at work, either in the office collecting expense reports for Big Simple funds to communicating the latest numbers to helping with the next enrichment activity.

## **Maggie Miller** Member-at-large

Maggie Miller is our member at large, she is the mother of Hadley primary age and Liam who is in middle group. Maggie works as a genetic counselor at Providence Hospital and also serves on their ethics committee. Maggie felt joining the board could help her to increase the voice of Chugach parents to the guiding committee.

Maggie fell in love with the Chugach philosophy and has been so thankful for her involvement with this robust community, she strives to be a lifelong learner herself and wants to see the Chugach model thrive.

Maggie is a born and raised Alaskan and tries to spend as much time outdoors as possible herself and with her family. You will often see her parents and in-laws in the school volunteering!



**Bo Grauvogel**  
Vice-Treasurer

My name is Bo Grauvogel and I'm a lifelong Alaskan born in Nome. My son Logan will be a first grader in Celeste's family group this coming fall. I own and operate an accounting firm here in Anchorage servicing all of Alaska for the last 15 years. My wife, Nathalia, and I have thoroughly enjoyed the Chugach family and look forward to the coming year!



**Brenda Lester**  
Co-Secretary

I'm a life-long learner and attended Chugach from '89 to '95. My son Hatcher will be a 2nd grader in Emily's class and my daughter, Owen, will grace us with her presence after one more year at Puffin Heights. We are a busy family that loves to work hard, create, play music and spend our time on the mountain in Girdwood and on our boat in Prince William Sound.



**Fernanda Conrad**  
Co-Secretary

My name is Fernanda Conrad. My son, Benji, will be a 1st grader in Celeste's class this fall. I am one of the editors at Wildheart Magazine. I was originally born in Ecuador, and I have lived in Alaska 20 years, loving its nature and its people. I am excited to help our community at Chugach Optional.



**Liz Provencio**  
Community Parent Coordinator

This is my tenth and final year as a Chugach parent. Our family's journey began when my daughter, Helena, started Kindergarten. She attends South H.S and my son, Rafe, is in Teresa's upper group. I have had the opportunity to hold numerous volunteer positions at the school and also fill in as a substitute teacher. I'm grateful to be part of the Chugach Community and look forward to a creative year.