



KIDS VOTING FNSB MUNICIPAL VOTER INFORMATION GUIDE



**MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3RD**



BOBBY BURGESS

FNSB SCHOOL BOARD SEAT F



As a lifelong resident of Fairbanks, I have a passion for this town. As a parent and former student of the FNSB school district, I care about the quality of our district and schools. I was born and raised in Fairbanks and I'm a proud product of our local school system. My love for Alaska kept me here for college, and I earned a Bachelors and

a Masters degree at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Our community has many perspectives, and I'm invested in finding common ground for common good. My investment in the community has led me to many volunteer opportunities, including serving on the Guys Gals Read, Inc. board, volunteering with FYSA as a soccer coach, and most recently, serving on the school board budget committee. I hope to continue my community advocacy by serving on the school board to help improve education for all of our students.

Why did you decide to run?

I am running for school board because I believe that my skills, knowledge, and experience will help the board to make sound, rational decisions based on objective facts and data. Now more than ever our school board needs leadership that will listen to the students, educators, and parents, consider what effect decisions will have on the district as a whole, and ensure they are well informed on issues before they vote. My education, work, and volunteer experience have given me the skills and patience required to listen and research topics and to understand how the various parts of an organization affect the success of the whole. I will serve with the interests of all of our district's students in mind, and will make student safety and success my primary mission. My interests are non-partisan and apolitical, and my votes if I am elected to the school board will reflect that.

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BOBBY BURGESS

FNSB SCHOOL BOARD SEAT F



What is one goal you hope to accomplish if elected?

I hope to successfully advocate for increased funding from the state and borough so that our schools can thrive, we can reduce class sizes, and possibly restore some of the programs that have suffered cuts in recent years, including art and music education. I also hope to develop or strengthen partnerships with local organizations that can help with art, music, and literacy. My experience as a public servant working for the State of Alaska's contaminated sites program has given me skills and experience that will make me an effective negotiator so I can help our legislators and borough assembly members understand why education funding is important for our community.

Why should people vote for you?

I have the skills and experience to be an effective board member. My record of volunteerism and public service shows that I care about this community and I am invested in positive outcomes for our district's youth. I am non-partisan and will make decisions based on what is best for students without the influence of partisan political interests. I have been working for several years to educate myself on the district's inner workings, including serving on the budget committee and attending or observing almost every regular school board meeting for the past year and a half. I am ready to serve as a school board member, and I will do so with the ideals of respect, community, and finding common ground for the common good.

Campaign website to find out more:

www.burgessforschoolboard.com



APRIL SMITH

FNSB SCHOOL BOARD SEAT F



I am a 26-year resident of Fairbanks/North Pole. I have 10 children, 3 graduates, 2 high schoolers, a middle schooler, 3 elementary schoolers, and my baby daughter is 3. My husband and I chose to raise our large family in the Golden Heart because we love the community and know there is no better place for opportunity and growth. An early career

in tourism helped me embrace and love this town. Once we had children, I chose to stay home and raise our growing family. After home-schooling for many years, I took up real estate as a way to invest in helping other families make their homes in our beautiful community. I am still a licensed real estate professional. I serve on the boards of several non-profits and look for ways to keep Fairbanks a place families and businesses want to settle and thrive in for generations.

Why did you decide to run?

I currently serve on the board and have been there for 3 years. A lot of progress has been made but I still have a long list of things I would like to work on before I leave the Board. I have learned so much and feel like I am finally at a place where I know how things work and will be able to really work with our new superintendent and move the district into an amazing future.

What is one goal you hope to accomplish if elected?

I am a dedicated, trustworthy, reliable person who supports public education tirelessly. I believe that the backbone of a thriving community is excellent educational opportunities. I support innovative, responsible, safe educational environments for all students. I firmly believe that Fairbanks educators have what it takes to offer a world-class education and will work toward building trust that will bring funding for future growth. Spending responsibly while investing in giving students and families what they need to be competitive in a diverse and changing

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APRIL SMITH

FNSB SCHOOL BOARD SEAT F



society is my top priority. One main goal I have is to spend considerable resources completely reviewing policies in the coming years to ensure that proper guardrails are in place to keep students and employees safe and to allow them to focus on the best educational outcomes for every student, our community deserves nothing less.

Why should people vote for you?

Voting for a second term for a reliable, trustworthy, dedicated board member is a vote for continued progress. In my 3 years on the board, I have worked with the board and administration through arguably some of the hardest times in recent education history. From Covid, to closing 3 schools, to the bus driver and teacher shortage, I have never missed a meeting and worked hard to represent the voters. I spend a lot of time engaging with the public to make sure I know what the people want. When I vote, I listen to their voices, not just my own. I research and prepare well for every meeting and am professional and organized. I am 100% all in for the good of the district and all students and families.

Campaign website to find out more:

www.aprilsmithforfairbanks.com



MEREDITH MAPLE

FNSB SCHOOL BOARD SEAT G



My name is Meredith Maple. I am the Director of the Fairbanks Children's Museum. My husband and I are the parents to two students in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District and we have two dogs and two cats. In my free time, I love to camp, ski, and volunteer. I grew up in Kentucky, but Fairbanks is my home.

Why did you decide to run?

I decided to run for School Board because I believe that every single student deserves to feel safe and respected at school. I want to advocate for expanded Pre-K, to protect Student Support Services, and to ensure our schools are strong and make people want to live here! I believe that I am qualified to represent this district and would be honored to have the privilege to do so.

What is one goal you hope to accomplish if elected?

My most important goal is to have a School Board that listens! I hope to have the opportunity to listen alongside the other board members, to what students, educators, parents, and the public have to say, and to balance that information with what experts have to say. This would allow everyone on the School Board to cast educated votes on every issue in order to best serve our District.

Why should people vote for you?

I think people should vote for me because they can trust that I will take this role very seriously, I will look out for the best interests of every student, and I will be a trustworthy representative of our community.

Campaign website to find out more:

www.mapleforschoolboard.com



MAGGIE MATHESON

FNSB SCHOOL BOARD SEAT G



This candidate did not respond to the survey



TIM DORAN

FNSB SCHOOL BOARD SEAT E

- Born and raised in New York City, I came to Alaska in 1975 spending about 12 years in Bush villages and residing in Fairbanks since 1990.
- My background includes:
an early banking career, 10 years in non-profit administration, 36 years in education as principal (~23 years at Denali Elementary),

teacher, administrator, University of Alaska instructor over 25 years, rural, urban, public, and private school experience, and local, State, and international leadership perspectives.

- Community service currently includes 6 years as a member of the Fairbanks School Board, 8 years volunteering as a Museum Docent for school tours at the UA Museum of the North, and prior service in the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, Peace Corps Response, and multiple community boards.
- Married with two daughters (Fairbanks graduates), two sons-in-law and five grandchildren, all of whom live in Fairbanks.

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TIM DORAN

FNSB SCHOOL BOARD SEAT E



Why did you decide to run?

The reason I am running for School Board is that I care...for students, families, teachers. I want to serve our community and to use my experience as a teacher, principal, and administrator of over 40 years in education. I love seeing our graduates working in our town, taking care of me, raising families. In short, they are being good citizens. As a School Board Member I continue to be a part of this process. I enjoy visiting schools and classrooms and seeing students and teachers in action. I want to continue to help make our schools welcoming and inclusive of all students, families and staff. I want to ensure that we have effective learning environments with comprehensive and broad learning opportunities.

What is one goal you hope to accomplish if elected?

I want to be a positive and contributing person at the table in order to keep the focus on students and have a smoothly operating District. I want to ensure that our schools and District are an attractive environment for teachers and support staff, for families and their children, for community members and visitors. It is important that our State and Borough invest and support public education. It is my goal to advocate for students and educators by carrying a message of success, accomplishment and growth such that funding of public education is a natural outcome. I believe firmly that every student should become a competent, confident, curious, caring and contributing citizen. I will do everything in my power to provide the resources and opportunities for each student to achieve this goal.

Why should people vote for you?

I try to listen to all sides of an issue. I work hard to inform myself about the decisions before us as a Board. I want to be thoughtful and prepared in order to focus on what our schools offer for the benefit of students. I have extensive experience in education and in actual schools. I have also served on multiple community boards and know how a well-functioning board and organization should operate. I work to bring this experience, knowledge and understanding forward to help our School District and community be an effective learning opportunity for students, their families, teachers, and support staff. I am committed to working in partnership with others -and being a role model- in order to create a welcoming and inclusive school system.



MICHAEL HUMPHREY

FNSB SCHOOL BOARD SEAT E



This candidate did not respond to the survey



LIZ REEVES-RAMOS

FNSB ASSEMBLY SEAT D

I was born in Fairbanks, raised near Denali, and returned to Fairbanks in 2012 to make this remarkable place my home once again. My husband and I purchased a home in the Borough because we love this area and the people who live here. I have devoted my career to Human Services, protecting and caring for some of our most

vulnerable populations. Over the years, I've seen the incredible potential and strength of our community. Together, we have weathered challenges and celebrated triumphs, and now, I want to be a driving force for continued positive change and progress. Throughout my life I have been deeply committed to public service and the betterment of our town. Now, by running for this assembly seat, I aim to listen and amplify your voice, champion the needs of every resident, and work collaboratively to build a brighter future for Fairbanks.

RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

LIZ REEVES-RAMOS

FNSB ASSEMBLY SEAT D



Why did you decide to run?

Strong, vibrant public schools are at the center of a strong economy, and it's vital that we foster an environment where all students can thrive and receive the best education possible. Our schools also play a critical role in meeting the Borough's workforce demands. I support career and technical education programs that prepare our future skilled workers to fill the growing needs from industries like health care, construction, pipefitting, and electrical. Equally, I support programs that prepare our college-going students, especially those interested in high-demand fields like engineering, education, sustainable agriculture, and business.

What is one goal you hope to accomplish if elected?

My main goal is to work within the authority of the Borough Assembly to ensure that our public school district is funded enough to ensure that our children are able to get a quality education to set them up for success in the future.

Why should people vote for you?

I am a firm believer in open and honest communication and know that our elected officials are elected to serve all who live in our Borough. I want to listen to the needs and concerns of the residents and ensure that my votes are made for the good of all. I want the Fairbanks North Star Borough to be a place where people want to live, where people stay and raise their families. I am worried about the direction our Borough has been going and want to encourage those things that make Fairbanks wonderful.

Campaign website to find out more:

www.lizforfairbanks.com



TAMMIE WILSON

FNSB ASSEMBLY SEAT D

I am a mother of 4 and grandmother of 6. I have my degree in education and have taught school in the past. I work everyday with families to help them live a better life. I enjoy time going to the park, playing outside and hiking with my grandchildren.

Why did you decide to run?

I like helping people understand how government works and help them to solve problems they might be having. I really enjoy talking with people and working together to make our community a better place to live.

What is one goal you hope to accomplish if elected?

I want to continue to work on making government easier to understand. I don't like it when government interferes with the way people want to live so making fewer rules is my goal.

Why should people vote for you?

I hope people will vote for me because I listen and truly want to help them solve any problems that they might have. This is my community and so I want it to be the best it can so my children and grandchildren will always want to live here. I would also like people to vote for me because I know the more people get involved the better life is for everyone.

Campaign website to find out more:

You can go to the FNSB clerk's web page where you can find pictures and more information about everyone who is running.



NICK LAJINESS

FNSB ASSEMBLY SEAT E

My name is Nick LaJiness. I am a born and raised resident of our borough. At 50 years old I did NOT have a cell phone when I was your age, because they didn't exist. For some of you that may seem crazy to think what that must've been like. Guess you don't miss something that you've never had. I did however look forward to participating in

school activities and sports growing up. I am a husband, and father of three children all of which are in their 20's. I worked construction as a plumber/pipe fitter for the last 33 years and am currently managing a contract that takes care of the buildings and grounds for Ft. Wainwright including the runway for the military planes and helicopters that you may sometimes see flying over our community. One thing for certain when I was your age I wasn't thinking about running for public office, I was only thinking of having fun with friends. Now that I'm older I want to give back to my community, so your generation can continue to have fun.

Why did you decide to run?

I decided to run for the borough assembly because I recognized that the population of our borough is declining. People are leaving, and I want to build a better borough that will make our home a place that people will want to come live while keeping the people that are already here. A few of the reasons why I decided to run is to support our education system that will allow your teachers the best ability to teach you in preparation for your future. Another reason I'm getting involved with local office is to empower a work force development system that will provide pathways for you all to have well paying jobs that will enable you to stay here. My most passionate reason for representing our borough is to encourage animal welfare awareness. Basically to take care of our pets, those family members that can't speak for themselves. We need to take care of our friends and family, and after all our pets are part of our family too, right?

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NICK LAJINESS

FNSB ASSEMBLY SEAT E



What is one goal you hope to accomplish if elected?

Although I entered into this public office race for the borough assembly to take care of animals, I recognize that in order to take care of animals, people must learn about the issues and problems that our borough is facing regarding animals. So, the main thing I will accomplish when I'm elected is to fund our education system so that you will be better prepared to make the best decisions for your life as you grow older.

Why should people vote for you?

A vote for me is a vote for yourself! I do not see myself as a position of authority, rather a reflection of our community. I will listen to the common concerns of the people and bring those concerns to the body of the assembly to find ideas and ways to solve those problems. While continuing to Build a Better Borough for all. Again, a vote for me is a vote for you.

Campaign website to find out more:

www.nickforfairbanks.com

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JIMI CASH

FNSB ASSEMBLY SEAT E

This candidate did not respond to the survey





SCOTT CRASS

FNSB ASSEMBLY SEAT H

My name is Scott Crass, I'm a lifelong Alaskan and I believe in public service as a way of helping your community. I work at the Alaska Volcano Observatory with some really smart scientists. I have two kids, one in 3d grade and one in 5th. I also coach kids curling, which is a fun game played on ice.

Why did you decide to run?

I wanted to help make sure our teachers have what they need to teach and that the trails stay intact as well as ensuring we make sure to plan for the day when you kids are in charge.

What is one goal you hope to accomplish if elected?

I want to fully fund our schools.

Why should people vote for you?

I am a pragmatic, goals driven person who will lead us in a direction that benefits everyone in the borough. I will work tirelessly in service of the people of this borough, none more so than our most important priority, our children.

Campaign website to find out more:

www.crassforfairbanks.com

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AARON GIBSON

FNSB ASSEMBLY SEAT H

This candidate did not respond to the survey

TAKE YOUR GROWNUP TO THE POLLS!

How to Vote Local

Vote Absentee by Mail or Electronically

Applications due to the FNSB Clerk's Office by:

Vote By Mail:	Tuesday, September 26th
Electronic Voting:	12 p.m. on Monday, October 2nd
Form Available at:	www.fnsb.gov/elections

Vote Early

Dates:	September 18th—September 28th
Time:	9 a.m. until 6 p.m.
Location:	Shopper's Forum Mall, 1255 Airport Way, Fairbanks

Dates:	Sunday, September 24th
Time:	10 a.m. until 6 p.m.
Location:	Shopper's Forum Mall, 1255 Airport Way, Fairbanks

Vote Absentee In Person

Dates:	September 18th—October 2nd
Time:	Monday—Friday 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.
Locations:	City of Fairbanks Clerk's Office, 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks City of North Pole Clerk's Office, 125 Snowman Lane, North Pole

Dates:	September 29th & October 2nd
Times:	9 a.m. until 6 p.m.
Location:	Shopper's Forum Mall, 1255 Airport Way, Fairbanks

Vote on Election Day at your Polling Place

Date:	Tuesday, October 3rd
Time:	7 a.m. until 8 p.m.