

KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AGENDA STATEMENT

No. 5a

**MEETING OF** June 25, 2025

**Item Title:**

Filling The Board Vacancy

**SUBMITTED BY:** Chloe Hall, School Board Clerk

**APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:** Michael Robbins, Superintendent

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

There is one vacant seat on the School Board that needs to be filled with appointment

**BACKGROUND:**

The vacancy has been advertised with an application deadline of Friday, June 20 2025 at Noon.

**ISSUE:**

Board Bylaw 9223 states that a vacancy on the Board shall be filled within 30 days of the seat being declared vacant. The seat was declared vacant when the Board accepted the Resignation of Tom Heutte on May 28, 2025.

If Melissa Reed is appointed to the Board, she will take the Oath of Office before being seated.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Melissa Reed's Application

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

To fill the vacant seat.

**BOARD VACANCIES****APPLICATION FOR SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY**

NAME <i>Melissa Reed</i>	DATE <i>30 May 2025</i>
MAILING ADDRESS <i>950 N Pt Higgins Rd Ketchikan, AK 99901</i>	PHONE and/or E-MAIL <i>907-821-8828 OurStudentsKetchikan@gmail.com</i>

**PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:****1. What is your reason for seeking an interim Board appointment?**

I am seeking this interim seat as a stepping stone toward running for election this fall. I believe our students and staff deserve representation that truly reflects their needs and champions a supportive, inclusive education environment. I am committed to advocating for policies and initiatives that foster academic excellence, equity, and well-being for all members of our school community.

**2. What do you hope to accomplish as an interim Board member?**

I hope to serve as a stabilizing and supportive presence for the community and for those already on the board. With an extensive background in policy and procedure, I aim to be a constructive contributor to the review and updating of district policies, as highlighted during the May 28th meeting. However, I believe that having policies in place is not enough - it is essential to thoroughly understand them to make informed, responsible decisions that truly benefit our

**3. What previous experience have you had serving on Boards?**

My experience serving on boards is multifaceted. On a professional level, I have been actively involved with community and nonprofit organizations focused on fundraising and community engagement. Professionally, as a faculty member, I serve on several educational committees dedicated to policy development, curriculum design, and program evaluation. In my role as a professional nurse, I also contribute at the national level by serving on boards that address care delivery, policy and procedure, and the evaluation of candidates seeking specialty certifications in their respective areas of expertise. This diverse background allows me to bring a balanced, informed, and collaborative approach to board service.

Students, staff, and the broader educational community.

4. What do you consider to be the greatest personal asset you would bring to the Board as an interim member?

One of my greatest personal assets is the ability to approach challenges through a structural lens - grounded in observation, data collection, thoughtful planning, targeted interventions, and ongoing evaluation. I am also an active listener who values diverse perspectives. While I may not always agree with every viewpoint, I welcome substantive conversations and believe in the power of collaborative decision-making to achieve the best outcomes for our community.

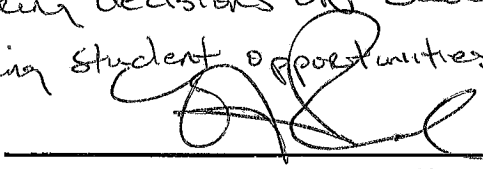
5. What are the biggest issues you see the District facing?

Some of the most pressing issues we currently face include the absence of a superintendent, low staff morale, student trauma, and a lack of community trust. The strength of any community lies in its diversity - its members bring a wide range of perspectives and experiences. Serving on a community board means embracing that diversity and working collaboratively to address complex challenges. It's about finding balanced, thoughtful solutions that honor differing viewpoints and aim to create outcomes that are broadly acceptable - if not ideal - for

6. What suggestion do you have to improve our School District? As many stakeholders as possible.

My suggestions include:

1. Strengthening leadership stability - prioritize the hiring of a qualified, visionary superintendent to provide consistent leadership and build trust across the district
2. Enhancing Staff Support & Morale
3. Address student trauma proactively
4. Rebuilding community trust
5. Policy Review and Alignment
6. Fostering Inclusive Engagement
7. Centering decisions on Substantive Information
8. Expanding student opportunities

  
Signature