

**2021 Official Candidate Statement
City & Borough of Juneau, Alaska
Amber Frommherz
Candidate: School Board Member**



Name: Amber Frommherz

Office Sought: School Board Member

Residence Address: 4801 River Road, Juneau, AK 99801

Mailing Address: 4801 River Road, Juneau, AK 99801

Email Address: a.frommherz@gmail.com

Age: 40

Occupation: Director of Tribal Services & Outreach, Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority

Spouse's Name: Trevor Frommherz

Children's Names: Kira, Nanibaa', and Shandiin

Place of Birth: To'Nanees'Dizi (Tuba City), AZ

Length of Residency in Juneau: 7 years (since 2014)

Communities lived in & dates of residency: Page, AZ (1980 - 1999)
San Diego, CA (2000 - 2003)
Albuquerque, NM (2003 - 2005)
Hanscom AFB/Woburn, MA (2005 - 2014)
Juneau, AK (2014 - Present)

Education: Page High School--Page, AZ, 1999

Bachelor of Arts, Tufts University--Medford, MA, 2011
Master of Arts, Tufts University--Medford, MA, 2014

Military Service: US Navy, 1999-2005

Business and Professional Positions: Head Start, Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska--2014 to 2020

- Head Start Director
- Education Coordinator
- Lead Teacher

Department of Studies in Race, Colonialism, & Diaspora, Tufts University--2011 to 2013

- Graduate Assistant, School of Education
- Collections Department, Boston Children's Museum
- Cultural Consultant, American Studies Program

Petty Officer Second Class, USN, San Diego, CA--1999 to 2003

- Navy Recruiting District—Phoenix
- Commander Amphibious Group Three (CPG-3)
- Bonhomme Richard (LHD-6)

Special Interests: Running, hiking, berry picking with friends, and helping with chores back on my dad's family land/ranch.

Other appropriate information:

Biographical Information *[limited to 150 words or less.]:*

Yá'át'ééh, Amber Frommherz yinishé. Kinyaa'áanii nishł. T'izí łan'í báhshichíí n. T'ááshch'í'í 'éí dashicheii nááná Táchii'nii 'éí dashinálí. 'Ákót'éego 'éí 'asdzáni nishł.

Greetings, I am called Amber Frommherz. I am of the Towering House clan, born for the Many Goats clan. My maternal grandfather is of the Red Cheek clan and my paternal grandfather is of the Red-Running-Into-Water clan. This how I identify as Diné woman. My journey has been rooted in education, either to obtain it or serve in it. I joined the Navy to help pay for college. Once discharged, I was a "non-traditional" student starting at a tribal college and finishing with a graduate degree from a private university on the east coast. By 2014, my family and I relocated to Juneau. My first job was in early education where I stayed for six years. Since 2014 my family and I have developed a love of the land, connection to the community, and now

Position Statement *[limited to 250 words or less.]:*

I will bring a reflective and inquisitive leadership approach to the school board. During my time at Head Start, I was able to maintain student- and family-centric solutions, both are vital amidst the evolving education terrain. I also worked on a national, state, inter-tribal, and municipal platforms to advocate for early education. This experience positions me to bring awareness of potentially new partnership opportunities for

Position Statement *[continued.]*

JSD which important because education is multifaceted and its success depends on fostering community partnerships.

If I were elected to the school board, I intend to

- be available to communicate with those who are invested in our school district
- help balance COVID-19 mitigation efforts that keep our children learning while keeping them safe;
- continue support for social and emotional literacy for students and staff;
- ensure continued support for culturally-responsive teaching in partnership with local cultural heritage organizations, and;
- learn about and support JSD CTE programming.