

Mat-Su Borough School District

Retirement Recognition

2023



A serene sunset or sunrise over a body of water. The sun is a bright, glowing orb in the upper center, casting a warm, orange and pink glow across the sky. The water below is a deep blue-grey, with gentle ripples and a soft reflection of the sun's light. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

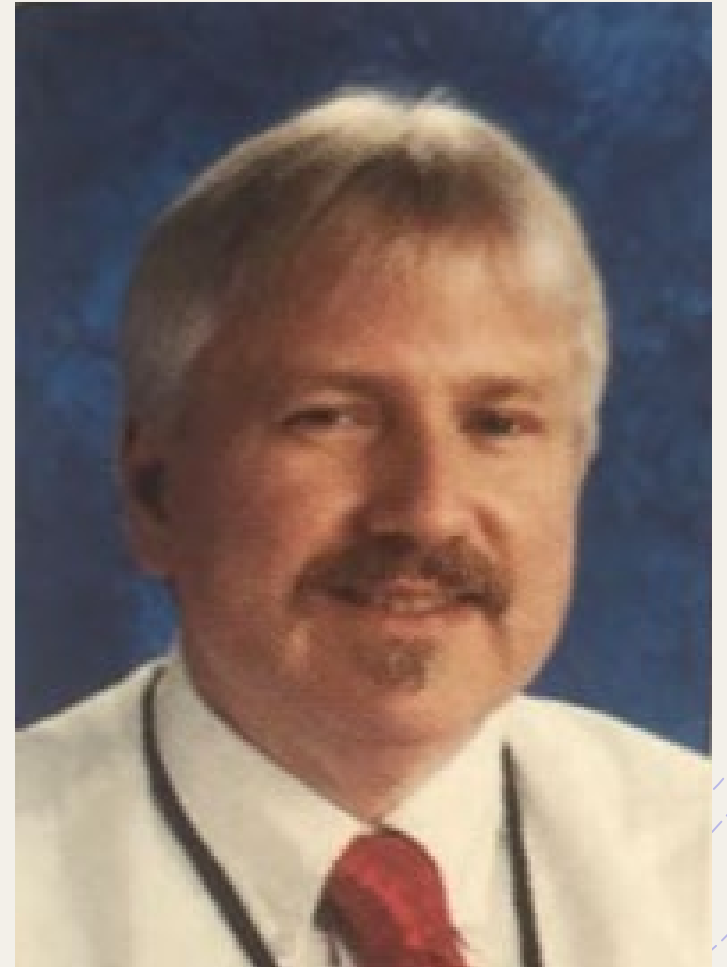
IN
MEMORIAM

Steve MONTGOMERY

Teacher | Shaw Elementary

Steve Montgomery was a happy soul who loved to work with students. He taught for 13 years in West Virginia prior to moving to Alaska. He continued teaching one year in Bethel before moving to Palmer in 2002, where he taught an additional 20 years with the MSBSD. His career focused on special education at Palmer Jr. Middle School and Shaw Elementary, ultimately settling into a resource teacher position at Shaw.

Steve worked diligently to build relationships with his students and colleagues. His kind smile and gentle disposition will forever be missed at Shaw Elementary.



Katarina WRIGHT

Special Education Assistant | Shaw Elementary

Katarina worked as a special education assistant at Shaw where she was willing to work with any student.

Kat's smile and infectious personality would light up the room. Students at Shaw were drawn to her and miss her dearly.



IN
MEMORIAM

Kathy ALDEMAN

Houston Middle School
Secretary 1 & Registrar | **31 Years**

Kathy is looking forward to enjoying ALL of the Alaskan summer and not having to drive to work in the winter!

She will miss seeing the students smile, her Hawk family, and MSBSD co-workers.

"Come to work every day with an open mind... leave your personal problems at the door. Have the attitude that you are doing this job for the students, parents, teachers, and your administrators..."

-K. Aldeman



Pamela BUTTON

Wasilla Middle School
Secretary 1 | **24 Years**

Pamela is looking forward to spending time with her grandkids and working on her hobbies. She will miss her co-workers.



"Every day is a new day." -P. Button

Brenda CURRIER

Mat-Su Day School

Special Education Assistant | **13 Years**

Brenda will miss seeing and working with her co-workers but is looking forward to sleeping in!

Her advice...

"Listen to your students."





Lisa DELLINGER

Nutrition Services

Kitchen Aide | **19 Years**

Lisa is most excited about her upcoming trip to GERMANY. She will miss her co-workers and her advice is...

"Make working with co-workers fun!"

Suzanne HERMON

Student Support Services

SLPA | 35 Years

Suzanne is going to miss the students and the connection of being part of the collective district group for so long.

She is looking forward to more time! More time for family, friends, hobbies, and more time for traveling to places she loves and places she's dreamed of seeing.

"My advice would be to keep learning and growing. Be creative and flexible. Seek support and guidance from others because you are not alone. Celebrate every success because every child is unique and has different needs and strengths." -S. Hermon



Barb KYSAR

Colony Middle School
Admin Secretary | **16 Years**

Barb will miss her office co-workers and interacting with students every day. She is looking forward to spending more time outside with her family without having to miss the wonderful Alaskan summers.

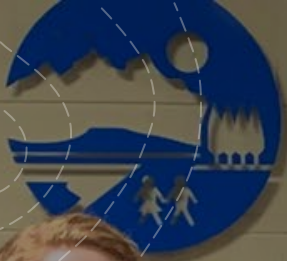


Russell LOYD

Maintenance Mechanic
Facilities | **33 Years**

Russell has always been energetic, reliable and has a great sense of humor. He will be missed in the Facilities Department.





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BOROUGH OF COOKS DISTRICT

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Janis MOORE
Payroll Dept
Payroll Specialist | **12 Years**

Janis is looking forward to FREEDOM and will miss her 'wonderful, awesome and crazy fun co-workers!'

Her advice...

"Stay positive through the tough times, smile, stay chill and sit next to someone that knows more than you."

-J. Moore



Beccie MORINO

Student Support Services
Admin Secretary | **17 Years**

Beccie will miss working with all her co-workers but is looking forward to morning coffee out on her deck.

Her advice...

"Enjoy what you do!"



Michael PELTIER

Facilities

HVAC Mechanic | **8 Years**

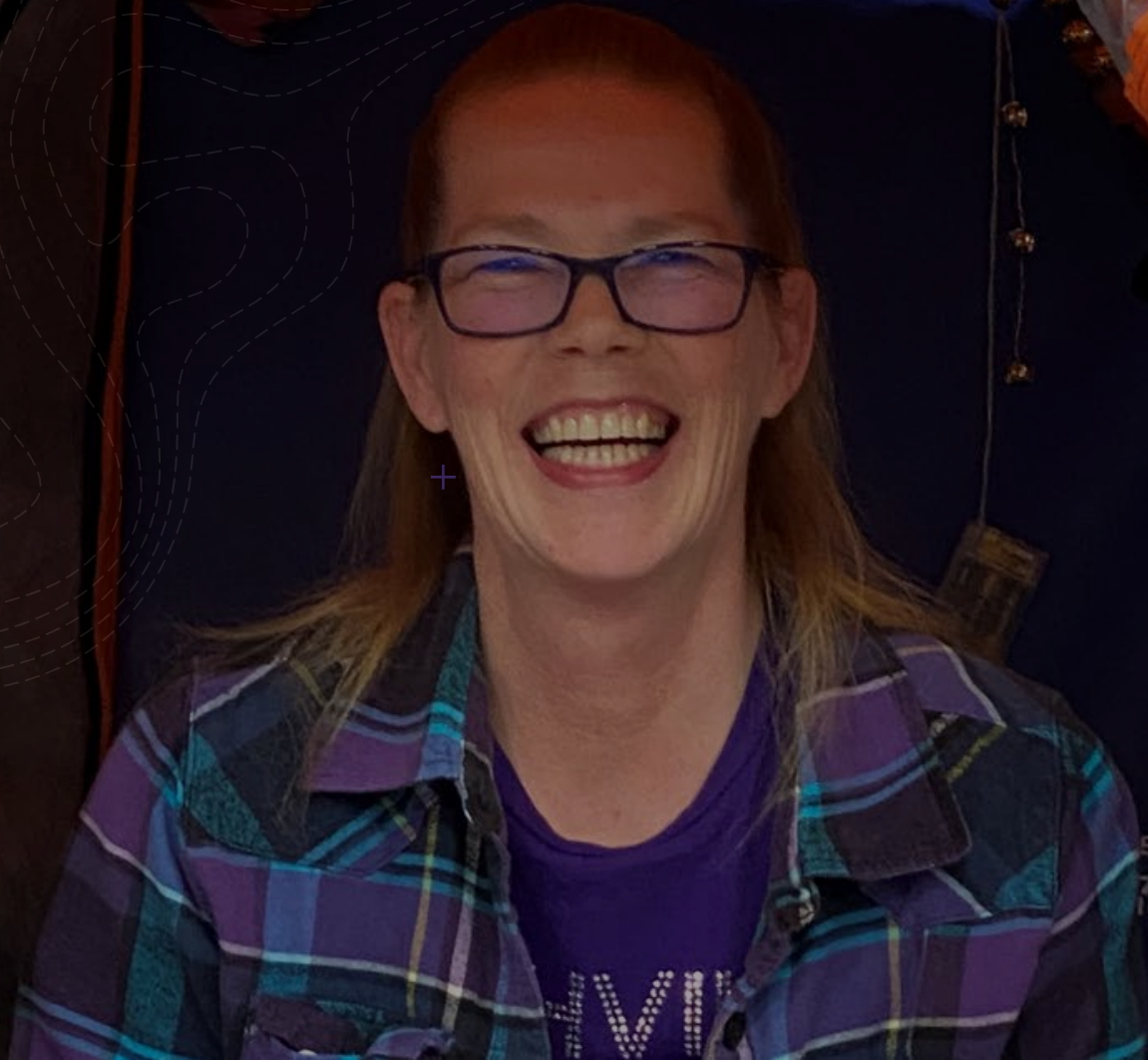
Mike has gone above and beyond in his duties here at MSBSD. Because of his dedication and determination, Mike increases systems efficiency and lowers operating costs. In addition to maintaining our building insides Mike is the first to answer the call to snowplow our parking lots in the wee hours of the morning.

Mike is an avid motorcycle enthusiast so watch for him and others out on our roads this summer.



Erin PHARR

Big Lake Elementary
Special Education Assistant | **24 Years**



Erin plans to spend lots of time with her grandchildren but will miss the students and her coworkers.

Her Advice...

"There will be good days and bad days but there will be more good days than bad days. Every day is a new day full of wonderful possibilities." -E. Pharr

Stanley RATCLIFF

Colony Middle School
Custodian | **14 Years**

Stanley will miss the people and activities he has enjoyed in his years at MSBSD. He plans to visit all 50 states in his motor home.

His advice...

"Enjoy your School!"



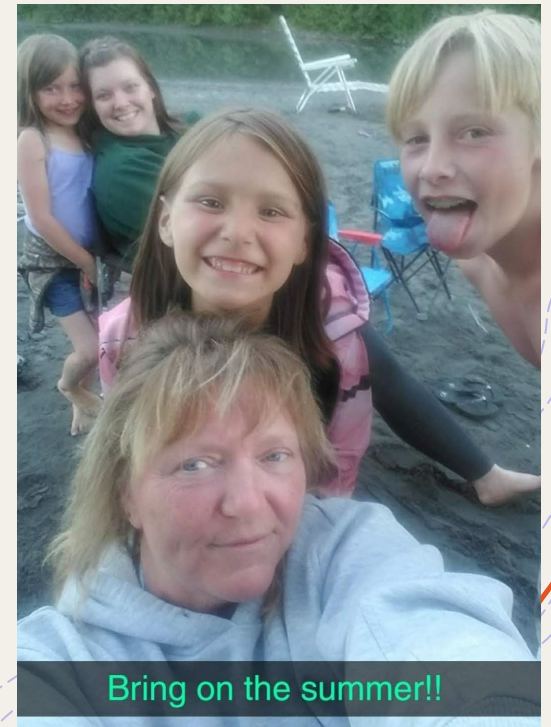
Karen SALISBURY

Twindly Bridge Charter Admin Secretary | **37 Years**

Karen will miss the hustle bustle of the front office but will most of all miss her coworkers and wants to let them know how much she appreciates the support, stories, hard work, and belly laughs!

Her advice...

"Be the change you want to see in education by being part of the solutions. YOU can make a difference in your working environment and in our students' lives." -K. Salisbury



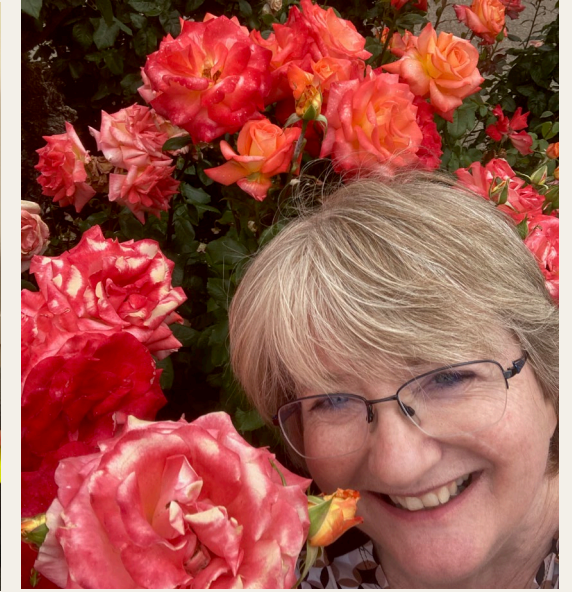
Bring on the summer!!

Chris SAWYER

Big Lake Elementary
Admin Secretary | **21 Years**

Chris is looking forward to enjoying her grandsons and family more, stopping to smell the flowers and exploring what the world has to offer. She will miss laughing and working with the BLE office ladies.

"Every day is a puzzle, relax, breathe, see the whole picture and the pieces will fall into place." -C. Sawyer



Tabitha SHERMAN

Cottonwood Creek Elementary
Tutor Advisor | **19 Years**

Tabitha will miss working with her great colleagues. She is most looking forward to traveling, volunteering, and going to the store and post office outside of rush hour.

Her advice...

"Practice kindness."



Pamela SORENSEN

Goose Bay Elementary
Special Education Assistant | **10 Years**

Pam has been an intricate part of the Goose Bay team. She is always kind, supportive and encouraging to students, and has a great sense of humor. Pam's co-workers hope that her next charter is a wonderful adventure.



Kaarina STAMM

Goose Bay Elementary
Special Education Assistant | **18 Years**

Kaarina has been with working the last few years in the Pre-K program at Goose Bay, and is much loved by the students due to her kind and nurturing nature. She often leaves little notes and gifts for her co-workers and has a great sense of humor. Kaarina will be missed at Goose Bay!



A photograph of a sailboat on the ocean at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and lens flare. A large, dark sail is visible on the right side of the boat. The deck is made of wooden planks. The text "Congratulations and Thank You!" is overlaid in white, with a small blue plus sign above the word "and".

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Congratulations
and
Thank You!