

November 30, 2015

Dear Burlingame School District,

I'm happy to submit this letter of intent to apply for the open Burlingame School Board position. As a parent of two children currently in the Burlingame system and a third on her way next year, I am highly invested in our schools' success. My motivation to serve on this board is based on my belief that while our schools are exemplary, there is room for improvement and my voice would be valuable in this process.

I moved to California in 1997 for graduate school at Stanford University where I received my PhD in Electrical Engineering. Since graduation I have continued in research physics, focusing on the upper atmosphere and space weather science. I've been employed by SRI International for ten years.

My husband and I settled in Burlingame in 2007, prior to the birth of our first child, in large part because of the excellent reputation of Burlingame schools. We were eager to become part of the school community and felt it was important for our children to go to a local school. We've been Washington parents for four years and look forward to many years to come.

As part of my professional life I have been very active in education outreach delivering public seminars and conducting classroom activities. I am currently funded to work with rural high schools, deploying all-sky cameras for auroral observations and involving students in data analysis. I am the Principal Investigator of an NSF-funded program to train graduate students in the field of Incoherent Scatter Radar through a week-long summer school. Closer to home, last year I participated in Washington Elementary's Discovery Day by hosting a hands-on activity table teaching elementary students about Earth's magnetic field.

At Washington I've taken on a number of responsibilities ranging from Room Parent to heading up Yard Duty and currently I manage the school's MemberHub activities. I'm serving on the PTA executive board as Parliamentarian. I've also been involved with BCE, serving as the Dinner Dance Raffle Chair last year. These roles have allowed me to become closer to our parent community and participate in the ongoing dialogue surrounding our shared vision for the school system.

As a School Board member I would be engaged in discussions of all aspects of the school system. My personal interests center on STEM activities and school safety.

Thank you for your consideration. Please don't hesitate to contact me for further information.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Kendall