

**Theresa Marie Ramponi**  
2008-2009 Student Representative to the  
KPBSD Board of Education

I was born in Fairbanks, Alaska, and lived in Tok, Alaska for two years. I then moved to the Soldotna area and have lived here ever since. I attended elementary school at Soldotna Elementary School, junior high at Soldotna Middle School, and high school at Soldotna High School (2005-2007) and Skyview High School (2007-present).

I am very involved in my school and community, and have been throughout my high school career in sports, academic ventures, and volunteer opportunities:

- I figure skated and played hockey for eight years, and lettered in both varsity track my freshman and sophomore years and varsity soccer my junior year.
- I have been involved in music my entire life, and it is a huge part of my personality. I was in band for 6 years and choir for 7 years, and participated in Soldotna High School's Jazz band and Swing Choir. I was also selected to Borough Honor Choir my freshman-junior years and Alaska All State Choir my junior year. I attended Sitka Fine Arts Camp and Fairbanks Music Camp in the summer, and took classes in vocal music as well as dance. I also perform with my father's band, the Alaska Swing Company, at local restaurants and events, including Sarah Palin's inaugural ball. I have played piano for a year, and enjoy performing and writing music.
- Student Leadership is a big part of my life and one that has taught me how to be a strong person and role model. I served as a Member at Large as a junior at Skyview High School, as well as on the Prom Committee. This year, I am the senior class Secretary/Treasurer. I was also recently appointed as the Student Representative to the Soldotna Planning and Zoning Commission. I am hoping that sitting on both this commission and the School Board will help me gain an understanding of politics on the local level that I can bring with me as I continue to be involved in leadership next year in college.
- Academics and excellence in schoolwork is an area that I strive to do my best in every day. I am currently ranked first in my class at Skyview, and have a cumulative GPA of 4.042. I am also a member of the National Honor Society at Skyview.
- I have been involved in Future Problem Solving since fifth grade. I have won the state title for scenario writing twice, and my team has represented Alaska at the International Conference twice. FPS has broadened my views on world issues and helped me learn to tackle tough questions in a systematic and successful way. It gives me a chance to discuss issues that go on in our society in greater depth than in the classroom, and lets me apply this research in a fun and intellectually challenging competition.
- Volunteer Service has truly shaped me as a person this year. I volunteer at the hospital and Heritage Place, along with for the Alaska Democratic Party. I spend my weekends knocking on local doors to ask questions about the upcoming election, and during the week I call people to ask these questions. Slammed doors and angry people at the other end of the phone are not pleasant to deal with, but these experiences have made me stronger as person. I have learned to stand up for what I believe in and keep doing what I think is right, even if it is difficult.

So far, my experiences in high school have shaped me into an intuitive and knowledge seeking individual. I am excited to study biology and political science in college next year, and hope that study in these areas will help me decide what to do as a career. I think being on the School Board will help me better understand leadership and politics, and I think that it will be a rewarding experience as I head off to college and the rest of my life.