Destini Riley Student Representative of the Board of Education Kenai Peninsula Borough School District 2009-10

I attended elementary school at Amity Elementary School and Tustumena Elementary. In junior high, I went to Soldotna Middle School for a year and Ninilchik School for my second year. I am currently a sophomore at Ninilchik School.

I've participated in the band for four years, playing the clarinet for two years in the high school band, and saxophone for two years in the elementary band. Writing is another big part of my life. I've been a part of many writing contests, and I plan on making writing part of my career after college. I also enjoy photography and the culinary arts. I spend a lot of time with my big family, soon to be twelve of us, and, as the oldest kid in the house, I feel as if my leadership skills have been greatly enhanced, and watching and teaching the younger children has helped my maturity and taught me a lot of necessary life skills.

As a sophomore, I know a lot of my volunteer community service is still to come. However, I have spent many hours working at and helping to set up the Peninsula State Fair. I did things such as clean up trash, hang signs and flags, organize art entries, and haul boxes. I've also volunteered my time to my band program, directing cars and taking their parking money at the Peninsula State Fair. I help out with my sports as well, working at a coffee shop during the Fair to raise money for the basketball team and running the concession stand during sporting events for the volleyball team.

On the subject of extracurricular activities, I keep myself rather busy. I stay in the sports program, playing volleyball since junior high and basketball since fifth grade. Student council is also something I always participate in, being the treasurer in my freshman year and the president of my sophomore class this year. Yearbook is also something I participate in, starting just this year. I'm a part of Project Grad, a two week long summer institute in which we take classes, go camping, talk to employees of our career interests, and end up with a 1000 dollar scholarship after two summers.

I'm excited to have this opportunity, as I come from a small school. Normally, the representative comes for a large school, and us small schools tend to get forgotten about or overlooked. I plan on learning what we need as students, and giving a voice to small schools and large schools alike.