

Denise Buchanan is a long-time employee of the Anchorage School District (24 years) and a candidate for the position of Treasurer for TOTEM Union. Since being hired in October of 2000, she has worked in a variety of middle and high schools and in the Curriculum Department at the Education Center. Currently, she is the Administrative Assistant at Romig Middle School and has been there since 2015.

She believes that, as a dues-paying member, we have the right to know what our dues are being used for and how they are working to benefit TOTEM members. For that reason, she believes that financial transparency is imperative for the health of our association, and the TOTEM Board has a responsibility to explain exactly how our funds are being spent. As Treasurer, she will work hard to make that change.

Having been an Administrative Assistant in both a school and in an ASD department, she has managed multiple multi-million dollar accounts at once and maintained an accurate accounting of the funds. The largest accounts touched several different departments. She kept each account balanced according to their separate departments and account objectives. She was able to account for all monies spent, and why, to anyone that needed to know.

She believes in the importance of having a union and the strength in collective bargaining! She feels strongly that, just as TOTEM employees are committed to helping students be the best that they can be, our union's purpose is to do the same for every employee. Without the union's support for our contract, the protection of our work conditions, and our conflict resolutions, we would not have the benefits we currently have. TOTEM's purpose is to work FOR us.

When elected as Treasurer, my intent is for all TOTEM finances to be completely out in the open... NO secrets here. These funds belong to the union members and the union Board is entrusted in using them to grow, strengthen, and support our members. I greatly appreciate your vote.