





Hello, I am Leah Parks, a proud member of TOTEM for 17 years and want to be your TOTEM Union Treasurer. I have a wide variety of job experience with ASD that will allow me to be a great member of the TOTEM Board that serves YOU, our TOTEM members.

I have 40 strong years with ASD beginning as a Kindergartner at Birchwood ABC then moving on to Gruening before graduating in 1994 from Chugiak High. In 2002 I began working as a Kindergarten Para at Birchwood ABC while also subbing in Special Education and the Office. I served on the Advisory Committee for Birchwood ABC during that time and also ran a successful Jump Rope For Heart program. In 2010 I left for a few short years to work in the HealthCare field caring for the Elderly. In 2013 I joined back part time at Eagle River Elementary as their Crossing Guard, Sped and Office sub. In 2015 I became employed full time, as a Special Education Para while continuing on as the Crossing Guard at Eagle River. I was displaced the following school year and picked up by Rogers Park Elementary until January of 2016 where I was offered a different position, becoming an ELL Tutor for the Eagle River area. I am currently in ELL as a Tutor at Eagle River and Ravenwood Elementary. I also have worked at Birchwood ABC and Homestead as their ELL Tutor during the 2018 Earthquake year when Eagle River was closed and during COVID. Last Summer, I branched out and worked Summer School in a Life Skills classroom and improved my reflex skills and patience.

For the past several months I have had the pleasure of helping TOTEM fight for a better contract by serving on the Contract Negotiations Team. It has been an honor and very educational and eye opening seeing how ASD and TOTEM come together to work on a contract agreement that, although will never be 100% perfect, is the best in some areas it has ever been.

Why vote for me? I love budgets. I have been doing them since my first job when I was 12. I love working with numbers. Math has become a favorite subject of mine. I, like many of you, want to be able to know where and what our TOTEM dues go to and if they are being used in the best way for our members. I have great communication and listening skills. I am honest. I ask questions until I understand. I can look and listen to all sides fairly. I recognize the needs and wants of our TOTEM employees and members. I have been paying dues for 17 years and want to ensure they are going to good and necessary use as you all do. I want you, as members, to know that I am a problem solver who can work well with anyone. I am not afraid to speak up or ask questions if things don't seem right. I am organized and dedicated to filling the requirements needed to get the job done. I like cheese, hiking and laughing. Peanut M&M's are my secret vice. I can be serious when needed but also enjoy joking and laughing to help keep the mood light around me.

I want to help our union become the BEST they can be and watch the membership grow. I want to be able to work with a board that can come together to utilize all things we have within reason to ensure needs are being met. I want to help make a positive change and difference for TOTEM. Thank You.