

Vernessa Richards
PO Box 1083
Kotzebue, AK 99752

February 6, 2014

Governor Sean Parnell
Alaska State Capitol Building
Third Floor
PO Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Parnell:

My name is Vernessa Richards I was raised in Kotzebue, Alaska. I'm currently a student in the Business Technology Program training for the Administrative Assistant Certificate with Alaska Technical Center. My training is a yearlong program. I firmly plan to use my Alaska Technical Center Administrative Certificate which I anticipate earning in May 2014 to get a job working in administration. I'm a young mother to a four year old boy, whom also just started preschool the same time as I started coming to class. I chose training here at the ATC simply because I want to be somewhere close to home with my son and would have the support of my family.

My time here with ATC has been a great learning experience. I had the chance to get on the job training with 3 different organizations here in Kotzebue. During my first semester I had the opportunity to job-shadow for Maniilaq Association in the Finance Department as a File Clerk 1 for a total of twelve hours. My next rotation was with the Kotzebue IRA as Administrative Assistant for a total of eighteen hours. Last, but not least was my visit to the Northwest Arctic Borough as a Receptionist for a total of twelve hours. The on the job training gave me a better understanding of being in the workforce. I'm forever grateful for Cindy Lincoln our OJT Coordinator for guiding me through that new experience. I enjoy taking my classes with my instructor Mrs. Warren. Being here with the ATC I was also able to make new contacts and lifelong friends from all over the Nana region.

I believe that the Alaska Technical Center is a great benefit to our region and to the State. I understand that the Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) reauthorization is being considered this legislative session and I fully support the continued reauthorization and continued support of ATC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vernessa Richards". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vernessa Richards, Student

ATC Business Technology Program