



Jordan wins seat on school board

by A.J. McClanahan

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Darryl Jordan became the second Alaska Native to win election to the Anchorage School Board in Tuesday's municipal election.

The 31-year-old senior project engineer for Arco Alaska Inc. said he felt "very good" about his victory over incumbent Betty Bruckman and challenger Judy Moerlein.

The other Native to hold a position on the board was Emil Notti, currently commissioner of the state Department of Community and Regional Affairs, who served one term on the school board in the late 1960s.

Jordan, an Athabascan who holds graduate and undergraduate engineering degrees from MIT, said he hopes to act as a role model of other Alaska Natives, as well as focusing on the issue of education.

"We, as a people, need to get involved," he said.

One benefit already has resulted from his campaign, he said. His niece, 10-year-old Tiffany Jordan, was inspired by his example and successfully ran for class vice president recently.

Jordan said his main concern on the school board will be to focus on leadership, particularly in getting teachers and the administration to work together.

Also, he said he hopes to get the Native community as well as the rest of the city, tuned in to the importance of education and what it offers to young people.

Jordan is originally from Glennallen, but he grew up in Anchorage, graduating from East High School in 1973. He is married to Cherie Cottrill.