

## Candidate Statements for Sub-Local 581, Oregon Department of Education (ODE)

**SEIU Local 503 Disclaimer:** Nominated candidates were invited to submit a campaign statement not to exceed 200 words. SEIU 503 uniformly formats statements for publication and otherwise prints statements verbatim as submitted by the candidate(s). The following are statements and photographs submitted by candidates for this election. Any candidate not listed here did not submit a candidate statement or photograph by the submission deadline. All candidates who submitted and/or accepted a nomination by the deadline are listed on the ballot.



### **Kelly Kalkofen**

Dear Members,

I am honored to announce my candidacy for Vice President in our sub-local union. I am a servant leader and have many years' experience in state government.

I believe in accomplishing more together, recognizing the strength in unity. My commitment is to work hard for everyone, ensuring that our collective voice is heard and respected. I understand the power of organizing and will leverage it to strengthen our position, advocating for better wages, improved working conditions, and job security.

I recognize the importance of representing our voices at a broader level as a potential general council delegate. I am dedicated to upholding the honor of this role and will ensure that our concerns are effectively communicated and addressed.

Additionally, I have extensive experience volunteering and am a passionate leader. In my free time I love to read, travel, watch baseball, and spend time with family and friends.

Together, let's build a stronger, more empowered union. I am excited about the opportunity to lead and serve you, where our shared goals become a reality. Your support is invaluable, and I am committed to working tirelessly on your behalf. I am asking for your vote!

In solidarity,

Kelly Kalkofen

### **Paulita Peña**

Thank you for the nomination. I have been an ODE employee for nearly 20 years. I have been our sub-local treasurer for the last few years. I am not a politically correct person, as many of our elected officials know, when I speak with them. Management that have been part of our agency for as long as I have or longer, know I say what I mean and I mean what I say. It may not be the an elegant way, however, I feel that my passion for defending and bringing awareness about labor we face is important.