



# Seldovia Gazette

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## Former graduate accepts SBE teaching position

by *Damara Burnett*

### *School staffing set for 2005-06 by Borough*



Laurel Hilts grew up in Seldovia and graduated from Susan B. English School in 1987. Eighteen years later she is returning to the familiar hallways of the school, this time as a full-time teacher. It will be the first time in at least thirty years that an SBE graduate has returned to teach at the school.

Hilts, who has a Master of Arts in Teaching (K-8) from the University of Alaska Southeast, was living and teaching in Yakutat, Alaska, for the past five years. She had already planned to return to Seldovia this fall with her daughter, Devon, age 10, before a teaching position opened at SBE. When Hilts saw that a full-time position was posted at the school, she immediately applied for the job. On Thursday, July 7th, the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District officially offered Laurel Hilts a K-6 / Title II teaching position at Susan B. English School.

Hilts, who is the daughter of Rod and Sunni Hilts, is planning to return to Seldovia in early August to prepare for the upcoming school year.

"It's going to be great to come home and be near family," she said in an interview Tuesday.

Kenai Peninsula Borough School District personnel noted that all positions at Susan B. English have been filled for the 2005-06 school year. Karen Bornheimer and Tim Winters are both returning, full-time teachers. Curtis Liberty will be the new Principal / Teacher and his wife, Ronanda, was offered the Generalist teaching position at the school. Shannon Riley was hired as the new Special Education teacher. Laurel Hilts, former SBE graduate, will fill out the ranks of the certified teaching staff.

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