

Joyce E. Southard was born and raised in Council Bluffs, IA. Following graduation from Abraham Lincoln High School, she moved to Maryville, MO where she attended Northwest Missouri State University pursuing a major in elementary education. After living in St. Louis, MO for three years and Arlington, VA for two and a half years, she relocated to Omaha, NE where she has resided since 1972.

Ms. Southard obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with a specialization in Accounting and a Masters Degree in Business Administration both from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. She also holds a Certification in Supervisory Leadership from Creighton University in Omaha as well as certification as a Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) from Association of Government Accountants. While attending undergraduate school, Ms. Southard was a participant in a Union Pacific Audit Simulation exercise where she was a member of first place team. She is also a graduate of Leadership Omaha - Class 24.

Strong passion for children and public service is evidenced in Ms. Southard's work history and volunteer services. She worked for the Eastern Nebraska Human Services Agency (ENHSA) - Region VI office for three years. ENHSA's Region VI Office provided mental health, alcoholism and drug abuse funding from the Nebraska Department of Public Institutions to pertinent agencies in a five county region.

Following her service at ENHSA, Ms. Southard went to work for the Omaha Public School District (OPS) where her responsibilities as Director of Accounting & Finance included direct oversight of the fiscal operations for the largest school district in Nebraska having an annual operating budget for all funds in excess of \$1 billion. While employed with OPS, she served as the project lead where she headed the successful conversion from a mainframe accounting system to PeopleSoft. She also led the accounting team in implementing full GASB 34 reporting converting from a former cash basis for financial statement presentation thus making OPS the only school district in the state of Nebraska using this basis of reporting. With emphasis on accountability, Ms. Southard led the OPS accounting and budget teams to be recognized and receive budget award certificates from two national organizations: Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) 6 years and Association of School Business Officials, Inc. (ASBO) 9 years. Additionally, she spearheaded a conversion project to bring 23 secondary schools off of stand alone accounting systems into PeopleSoft thus integrating all OPS accounting systems.

Since retiring from OPS following 20 years of service, Ms. Southard went to work for Brownell-Talbot School as Business Manager, where she is currently employed. Brownell-Talbot is a 501(c)3 organization and the only independent school in Nebraska.

Community involvement is an important passion of Ms. Southard. As a member of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church, she has served on the Church Council, Church Endowment Board, Church Women's Board, Finance Committee, Social Ministry Committee, Stewardship Committee, taught Sunday School and Bible School, and she serves as a lay communion assistant delivering communion to shut-ins and the elderly. Ms. Southard served on the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska Liquid Asset Fund from 1999 to 2008, serving as Vice Chair for last six years. Other organizational involvement included Camp Fire Boys and Girls, Inc. where she served as Product Sale Chairperson from 1978-1987 as well as group leader from 1978-1988 and the Masters Elementary School PTA where she served as Chairperson of Ways and Means Committee from 1980-1985.

Recognitions received by Ms. Southard include Nebraska PTA State Life Membership; Service Recognition Award and Outstanding Lifetime Achievement Award from the Omaha Metro Area Chapter of Association of Government Accountants; John Collier Award (outstanding contributions in the area of business and finance), Hiiteni Award (extensive and innovative service to youth for four or more years) and Blue Ribbon Award (service "above and beyond the call of duty") from Camp Fire Boys and Girls, Inc.

Ms. Southard currently serves as Contraflow Inc.'s Secretary/Treasurer.