

Dr. Michael Johnson
Commissioner



Department of Education
and Early Development

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Juneau, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 20, 2021

State Board to Hold Special Meeting on January 26

JUNEAU – The Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development will hold a special meeting on January 26, 2021, via audio and video conference. To help mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the offices and boardroom of the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) in Juneau have been closed to public in-person traffic. Public participation for the meeting will be through the online platform Zoom. The board meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. The board's meeting packet is available [online](#). The public is invited to attend this meeting by joining online or via phone. Connection information is available below:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/99391482721>

Meeting ID: 993 9148 2721

Join by Phone: 1-253-215-8782 (toll free)

The purpose of the special meeting is to hold a work session and a business meeting. Topics at the work session include updates from DEED staff on the 32nd Alaska Legislature and bills impacting education, the FY2022 proposed operating budget, COVID-19 federal relief packages, 2020-2021 school enrollment, statewide assessments, and the adoption of regulations regarding early learning guidelines.

Topics at the business meeting include approval of the board's annual report to the Legislature, adoption of regulations regarding early learning guidelines, and the commissioner's report.

The board will take public comment on agenda and non-agenda items starting at approximately 9:10 a.m. Oral comment is limited to three minutes per person and five minutes per group. **Public comment can be made for this meeting, during this time only, by joining the online Zoom meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/99391482721> or by calling 1-253-215-8782 and selecting *9 on your phone's keypad (Meeting ID 993 9148 2721).** To mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus, in-person testimony will not be permitted. In the event there are more than two hours of public comment, the board may move to amend the agenda to extend the oral hearing. The board may amend its published agenda. Agenda times are estimates only, and the board may consider agenda items out of order without amending its agenda. The board also reserves the right to adjourn at a time later than estimated on the published agenda.

The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development provides information, resources, and leadership to support over 130,000 students in 503 public schools across Alaska. The mission of the department is to ensure an "Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day."

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