

**To: Members of the State Board of  
Education & Early Development**

**January 26, 2021**

**From: Michael Johnson, Commissioner**

**Agenda Item: 8A**

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**◆ ISSUE**

The board is being asked to adopt the proposed amendments to 4 AAC 60.170(a), Programmatic requirements for pre-elementary schools. The amendments update the *State of Alaska Early Learning Guidelines*, which define the domains of development for pre-elementary children.

**◆ BACKGROUND**

- The *State of Alaska Early Learning Guidelines* were last updated in December 2007.
- In the spring of 2018, DEED posted a request for proposals to update the *State of Alaska Early Learning Guidelines* as part of the Preschool Development Grant to fulfill one of the proposed activities outlined in the grant. DEED awarded the grant to update the document to the Association for the Education of Young Children-Southeast Alaska (AEYC-SEA).
- Between July and September 2019, DEED worked with AEYC-SEA to gather stakeholder input for the project which included 15 university faculty and three regional focus groups (held in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau) including 65 participants.
- The project focused on four goals identified by stakeholders to ensure that the updated content was 1) current, 2) culturally responsive, 3) parent friendly, and 4) internet friendly.
- Content was evaluated for alignment to Alaska ELA and Math Standards, Head Start Framework, and CDC Milestones and for assurance that indicators and strategies were current. All 13 goals are measured in the Alaska Developmental Profile.
- The final document was completed in December 2019.
- The proposed regulation and proposed *State of Alaska Early Learning Guidelines* can be found behind this cover memo.
- Deborah Riddle, Division Operations Manager, will be present to brief the board.

**◆ OPTIONS**

Amend the proposed regulations and open a period of public comment.

Seek additional information.

**◆ ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt the proposed regulation changes to 4 AAC 60.170(a), Programmatic requirements for pre-elementary schools.

◆ **SUGGESTED MOTION**

I move the State Board of Education & Early Development adopt the proposed regulations to 4 AAC 60.170(a), Programmic requirements for pre-elementary schools that updates the *Early Learning Guidelines*.