

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

**March 11, 2026**

**From: Dr. Deena Bishop, Commissioner**

**Agenda Item: 13**

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**◆ ISSUE**

The board is being asked to consider Resolution 02-2026 establishing the State of Alaska Blue and Gold Ribbon School Recognition Program.

**◆ BACKGROUND**

- The federal National Blue-Ribbon Schools Program, administered by the United States Department of Education, historically recognized schools demonstrating high academic achievement or success in closing achievement gaps. The federal program concluded in August 2025, with the 2024 award cycle serving as the final cohort.
- The Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development has expressed interest in continuing a comparable statewide program for school recognition.
- Resolution 02-2026 establishes a state-level Blue and Gold Ribbon School Recognition Program intended to mirror the structure and recognition model of the former federal program while using Alaska's statewide accountability data and eligibility criteria.
- The proposed program is designed to recognize public schools demonstrating either exemplary academic performance or meaningful student growth.
- Chair Sally Stockhausen will introduce the resolution.

**◆ OPTIONS**

This is a work session item. Action will take place under Agenda Item 20.