



MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Education & Early Development
Date: March 10-11, 2026

Thru: Dr. Deena Bishop
Commissioner
Telephone: (907) 465-2785

From: Paul Reid, Project Coordinator
Office of Education Advocacy
Subject: 21E OEA Division Standing Report

Office of Education Advocacy

Mission of the Office of Education Advocacy

The Office of Education Advocacy exists to empower Alaska's educational stakeholders through a centralized hub of resources and support. Its mission is to provide clear, accessible information, assist in navigating the education system, and act as a resource for parents, students, educators, community members, and elected officials. By serving as both an advocate and a connector, the OEA helps ensure that families, educators, and other stakeholders have the tools they need to address concerns, make informed decisions, and uphold the educational rights of students across the state.

Progress Update

The Office of Education Advocacy has continued its initial work under the leadership of the project coordinator, Paul Reid.

- **Resource Development:** The development of the Office of Education Advocacy website is complete and serves as the primary resource for stakeholders, which now serves as a central hub for information, guidance, and support. A formal complaint form has been developed and added to the OEA homepage.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Stakeholder engagement has grown steadily since the onset of opening the office. While the OEA homepage serves as a primary resource page, stakeholders find assistance via emails from the Commissioner's office, the Governor's office, the general contact email for the department, and through the general phone lines for the Department of Education & Early Development.

- **Direct Support and Consultation:** Mr. Reid has provided assistance to a wide range of stakeholders across a broad spectrum of education-related topics. He has served as a key point of contact for educators, charter school Academic Policy Committee (APC) boards, and families navigating Alaska's education system. Through resource sharing, consultation, and clear communication of applicable state statutes and regulations, he has supported stakeholders in understanding their rights, responsibilities, and available pathways within the system.
- **Network Building:** Efforts have been directed toward strengthening relationships across the education community to ensure families, educators, and districts are aware of OEA services. Internal collaboration with the department's subject matter experts is instrumental in providing accurate and reliable information and the internal network is continuing to strengthen with repetition of topics that arise from stakeholders.
- **Building Community Trust:** Stakeholder engagement is received with gratitude and aligns directly with the mission of providing support and resources to help all stakeholders navigate concerns at the local level throughout the state.
- **Serving in Education Improvement:** Mr. Reid is working on the State Board of Education subcommittee on improving Health and Safety in Alaska schools. Mr. Reid is also charged with providing professional guidance on reinstatement of the Presidential Fitness program which is an integral part of a multiplier of the Rural Health Transformation Program grant funds.