To: Members of the State Board of October 09, 2024

**Education & Early Development** 

From: Dr. Deena Bishop, Commissioner Agenda Item: 11C

## **◆ ISSUE**

The board is being asked to consider opening a period of public comment on proposed regulations addressing an Office of Education Advocacy.

## **♦ BACKGROUND**

- An initiative to create an Office of Education Advocacy that will provide information and resources regarding educational issues to stakeholders, including parents, community members, and educational organizations. This office will work with the various teams within the department to create a centralized point of contact to receive information and resources to assist in navigating the educational processes in the state.
- The Office of Education Advocacy will serve as a contact resource, funneling questions to appropriate teams, and helping parents of students connect with proper channels for support.
- Staff of this office will assist stakeholders in navigating Alaska's education system; provide information and support on educational rights and policies; refer issues to the appropriate department or agency; and investigate complaints related to educational practices.
- A copy of the proposed regulations follows this cover memo.
- Commissioner Deena Bishop will be present to brief the board.

## **♦ OPTIONS**

Seek more information.

## **◆ SUGGESTED MOTION**

This is a work session item. Action will take place under Agenda Item 14C.