

**Alaska State Board of Education & Early Development**  
**Approved Minutes**  
**May 31, 2018**  
**In person/audio originating in Juneau, Alaska**

***Thursday, May 31, 2018***

Chair Fields called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. After the pledge of allegiance, the board adopted the agenda for May 31, 2018. Roll Call began at 9:10 a.m. Members Hamilton, Van Meter and Lorrington were excused. Board member Tiffany Scott declared a conflict of interest as she had an uncle on the council for AdvancED. Member Scott will not be able to vote on Agenda Item 10b.

**Public Comment**

There were no other public comments at this time.

**Work Session**

**Agenda Item 1. Alaska's Education Challenge.** Commissioner Johnson spoke about the five measurable goals and the three commitments. He also commented on strategies and the ways in which we can make the system better by targeting the commitments. The board was asked to approve the five measurable goals in partnership with the key education association leaders. The five measurable goals are:

- 1) That all students read at grade level by the end of 3rd grade. We are hoping to have students to read in their native language first proficiently;
- 2) Increase career, technical, and culturally relevant education to meet student and workforce needs. Graduates that take more than two Career Technical Courses (CTE) do better overall;
- 3) Close the achievement gap by ensuring equitable educational rigor and resources;
- 4) Prepare, attract, and retain effective education professionals;
- 5) Improve the safety and well-being of students through school partnerships with families, communities, and tribes.

Member Thompson commented on the first goal of reading well in any language. ESSA has a way to identify which language we can test in. Yupik is the first language that we may try to do this assessment in. We would like to eventually see this happen in multiple languages.

Chair Fields asked if the districts have to buy in? Is it mandated? Commissioner Johnson said that we need to work with our partners to set metrics on this. What measure are we going to use for things like CTE? We need to identify these metrics and set up delivery plans.

Commissioner Johnson recognized Heather Parker from the governor's office was present.

**Agenda Item 2. Bylaws.** There was some discussion on the open meetings act. We need to talk to our council re: open meetings re: standing rules. Recommendation at the end of the document re: standing rules. Rebecca will email additional rules re: reaching out to NASBE to Chair Fields. There was a request for a DEED staff person to look at the bylaws in other states in relation to standing rules.

**Agenda Item 3. Legislative and Budget Wrap Up.** Marcy Herman, Legislative Liaison talked about some of the bills and explained some of the issues that came up during session. Member Thompson had a question regarding HB64. Member Himschoot asked if there was a teacher on the task force to our knowledge. Marcy Herman said that there is one K-12 teacher on the task force. HB102 did not get through, although it will likely come back next year with new language. Chair Fields asked about the highlights of session. Marcy Herman, Legislative Liaison talked to the board about some of the highlights; including HB214, regarding teen dating violence awareness. They also established February as national teen dating violence awareness month. She also talked about HB297 foundation formula for school transportation, SB216 urban school districts combined high school, and SB142 Capital Budget. Member Thompson said that she is thankful and grateful to those that helped to get those bills passed. Commissioner Johnson pointed out that DEED staff Marcy Herman, Paul Prussing, Sana Efird, did amazing on the hill. Chair Fields thanked DEED staff for their time, commitment, and the many late nights on the hill.

**Agenda Item 4. Mount Edgecumbe Curriculum Discussion.** The board was asked to review changes and additions to the Mount Edgecumbe Curriculum (MEHS). Member Himschoot asked a few questions regarding the high school qualifying exam. Is MEHS considering using on-line textbooks? We are looking for specific curriculum. There is some talk about dual enrollment. Janelle talked about dual credit options and advanced placement. She has been working with Ed Northwest and UAS SE. She believes that we will end up with a combination of both. She has been exploring options with the university in regards to cost. Member Thompson would love for MEHS to explore more AP options and sees that as a positive. Member Kowalski mentioned that there are more options for those with diverse backgrounds. She talked about the cost structure. Commissioner Johnson concluded that he is grateful for Janelle – especially with the opening of the pool which taxed their resources and time and grateful for her vision and how much she cares for MEHS. Member Himschoot asked that Janelle pass their thanks on to the advisory board.

**Agenda Item 5. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).** Margaret Mackinnon, Federal Programs Coordinator updated the board on the fully approved ESSA plan from May 8th. It was initially submitted on September 18, 2017. The department received their approval letter from the United States Department of Education on May 16, 2018. Chair Fields thanked Margaret for her time and her work on this program. Member Thompson thanked her and recognized that this was Margaret Mackinnon's last board meeting.

**Agenda Item 6A. Assessment Scores.** Margaret Mackinnon, Federal Programs Coordinator updated the board. Speaking on behalf of Deb Riddle, she presented on the Performance Evaluation for Alaska's Schools (PEAKS). The major changes were to regulations related to the assessment achievement level scores on PEAKS for grade 9 math this year. There were changes to test Algebra 1. She talked about the impact data if these scores were adopted.

**Agenda Item 6B. AdvancED.** Educator and School Excellence Director Bob Williams talked about AdvancED performance standards. They had presented to the board at the last meeting. The board is being asked to adopt the new AdvancED Performance Standards in place of the outdated document which is adopted by reference in 2017.

**Agenda Item 7. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).** Margaret Mackinnon, Federal Programs Coordinator updated the board and talked about the few public comments that were made. She talked about the comments that were received at the Spring Leadership conference that had over 100 teachers and feedback she received from out in the field. She also suggested that there is a strict timeline that we have to meet, so that we are recommending that the board accept the regulations today. She also suggested that the state board can change this in the future as we learn if this works in this system. Staff can demonstrate that we did receive a lot of feedback. Margaret Mackinnon, Federal Programs Coordinator, discussed the ESSA Title One Committee of Commissioners. We discussed the public comments that were sent in. If we made any changes now we would have to go back to the USDOE, which is a lengthy process. What we want to communicate is that accountability systems are good for students, but we want people to know that we are accurately reflecting the systems that are struggling and does the system identify the strengths in the schools.

**Agenda Item 8A. Adoption of Alaska's Education Challenge Measurable Goals.** The board is being asked to approve the five measurable goals that were developed from the Alaska's Education Challenge. Member Thompson moved, Member Himschoot seconded the following motion: I move the State Board of Education and Early Development approve the Alaska's Education Challenge five measureable goals. The goals are:

- 1) That all students read at grade level by the end of 3rd grade
- 2) Increase career, technical, and culturally relevant education to meet student and workforce needs;
- 3) Close the achievement gap by ensuring equitable educational rigor and resources;
- 4) Prepare, attract, and retain effective education professionals;
- 5) Improve the safety and well-being of students through school partnerships with families, communities, and tribes.

The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote.

**Agenda Item 9. Adoption of Mt. Edgumbe Curriculum.** Member Van Diest moved, and Member Scott seconded the following motion: I move the State Board of Education & Early Development approve changes to the Mt. Edgumbe curriculum. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote.

**Agenda Item 10A. Assessment Scores.** Member Thompson moved, and Member Kowalski seconded the following motion: After considering all public comment, I move the State Board of Education & Early Development open a period of public comment on 4AAC 06.739 Assessment achievement level scores. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote.

**Agenda Item 10B. AdvancED.** Member Thompson moved, and Member Kowalski seconded the following motion: After considering all public comment, I move the State Board of Education & Early Development open a period of public comment on 4AAC 04.300 Standards for state accreditation of schools. Member Scott abstained from voting as she had a conflict of interest. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote.

**Agenda Item 11A. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).** Member Himschoot moved, and Member Kowalski seconded the following motion: After considering all public comment, I move the State Board of Education & Early Development adopt the proposed amendments to 4 AAC 04. 220 Paraprofessional standards, 4 AAC 04.900 Definitions, 4 AAC 06.055 Immunizations required, 4 AAC 06.260 Additional requirements, 4 AAC 06.737 Standards-based test, 4 AAC 06.775 Statewide assessment program for

students with disabilities, 4 AAC 06.776 Assessment of a student with limited English proficiency, 4 AAC 06.800 Purpose, 4 AAC 06.802 Requirements adopted by reference, 4 AAC 06.812 Alaska school performance index, 4 AAC 06.815 Annual measurable objectives, 4 AAC 06.820 Participation, 4 AAC 06.821 Academic achievement indicator, 4 AAC 06.822 Student growth indicator, 4 AAC 06.823 English learner progress indicator, 4 AAC 06.825 Graduation and attendance rates, 4 AAC 06.826 School quality and student success indicators, 4 AAC 06.830 Subgroups, 4 AAC 06.835 Star ratings, 4 AAC 06.840 Identification of priority and focus schools, 4 AAC 06.845, School Improvement Plan, 4 AAC 06.850 District improvement plan, 4 AAC 06.852 Technical assistance, 4 AAC 06.864 Priority schools, 4 AAC 06.868 Focus schools, 4 AAC 06.872 State system of support, interventions, 4 AAC 06.875 opportunity to review data, 4 AAC 06.880 Notice, 4 AAC 06.883 Jury service exemption, 4 AAC 06.885 School recognition, 4 AAC 06.888 Informal review of complaints, 4 AAC 06.895 Report card to the public, 4 AAC 06.899 Definitions, 4 AAC 12.300 Certification of teachers, 4 AAC 19.055 Reporting of evaluation results, 4 AAC 33.505 Public school growth and proficiency index, 4 AAC 33.540 Qualification, 4 AAC 34.055 Plan of service, 4 AAC 34.090 Definitions. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote.

**Agenda Item 12. Subcommittee Appointments.** Select members were asked to be on the subcommittees listed. Subcommittee assignments are not required to have a formal motion.

**Agenda Item 13. Selection of Meeting Dates.** Member Himschoot moved, and Member Van Diest seconded the following motion: I move the State Board of Education & Early Development set the following calendar for the 2018–2019 school year.

July 25, 2108 Special Business Meeting-Commissioner’s Report (Audio)  
August 22, 2018 Work Session-Commissioner’s Report (Audio)  
September 13-14 Regular Quarterly/Retreat – Sitka, AK  
October 24, 2018 Work Session-Commissioner’s Report (Audio)  
December 6-7, 2018 Regular Quarterly (Audio)  
January 23, 2019 Special Session – Legislative and Budget Report (Audio)  
March 28-29, 2019 Regular Quarterly – Juneau, AK  
April 24, 2019 Work Session-Commissioner’s Report (Audio)  
June 6-7, 2019 Regular Quarterly - (Audio)

The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote.

**Agenda Item 14. Selection of Officers.** Member Van Diest moved, and Member Thompson seconded the following motion: I move the State Board of Education & Early Development elect James Fields as Chair to serve from July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019.

Member Himschoot moved, and Member Kowlaski seconded the following motion: I move the State Board of Education & Early Development elect Barbara Thompson as First Vice-Chair to serve from July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019.

Member Kowalski moved, and Member Van Diest seconded the following motion: I move the State Board of Education & Early Development elect Rebecca Himschoot as Second Vice-Chair to serve from July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019.

The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote.

**Agenda Item 15. Mount Edgecumbe High School Advisory Board (MEHS) Appointments.** At this time, MEHS has not yet nominated their new members.

**Agenda Item 16. Standing Reports.** Written reports were from Libraries, Archives and Museums, Student Learning, Educator and School Excellence, Federal Programs, Mt. Edgecumbe High School, and the Attorney General's Report.

**Agenda Item 17. Commissioner's Report.** Commissioner Johnson gave his report. He honored those students that lost their lives and thanked Governor Walker; insisting that we continue standards of safety for our students. He asked that we celebrate Margaret Mackinnon for her last 42 years and announced that this would be her last meeting. He also acknowledged that this would be Erin's last meeting for a while as she would be celebrating a new baby by the time we have the next meeting.

**Agenda Item 18. Consent Agenda.** Member Himschoot moved and Member Van Diest seconded the following motion: I move the State Board of Education & Early Development approve the consent agenda consisting of approval of the minutes of the March 19 & 20, 2018 meeting and the minutes of the April 25, 2018 meeting. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote.

### **Board Comments**

Margaret Mackinnon thanked Commissioner Johnson for honoring her, and said that it had been an honor to work at the department. She enjoyed doing federal programs work and was looking forward to her next steps. She said that DEED will always be in her heart.

Member Thompson said that her farewell remarks were understated; and that she knows the department well. Her expertise will be missed. She wanted to thank her for all the work that she has done over the years.

Member Himschoot wanted to show her gratitude for Margaret Mackinnon. She is hoping that the board will plan to come to Sitka in September.

Member Kowalski commented on Margaret's experience and how her many roles have shaped our state.

Member Scott thanked Margaret for her dedication and commitment and hoped that she is looking forward to her next journey. She talked about celebrating the successes of our students in our state.

Member Van Diest thanked Margaret for her work on ESSA. She is excited to see how it unfolds and is happy that we had approved the five measurable goals.

Chair Fields thanked Margaret. He is hoping that we can have more face-to-face meetings. He thanked everyone that works at DEED and said it was evident that we have a heart for kids.

The meeting adjourned at 12:36 p.m.