

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

September 17, 2020

From: Michael Johnson, Commissioner

Agenda Item: 7A

◆ ISSUE

The board is being asked to open a period of public comment on 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 can be found behind this cover memo.
- Deborah Riddle, Division Operations Manager, will be present to brief the board.

◆ OPTIONS

Open a period of public comment on the proposed regulation changes.
Amend the proposed regulations and open a period of public comment.
Seek more information.

◆ ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION

Open a period of public comment on the proposed regulation changes.

◆ SUGGESTED MOTION

I move the State Board of Education & Early Development open a period of public comment on amendments to 4 AAC 60.170(a), Programmatic requirements for pre-elementary schools, whereby an updated version of the *State of Alaska Early Learning Guidelines* is proposed to be adopted by reference.