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## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 16, 2011**

## **State Board Seeks Public Comments on Latest Stage of Performance Scholarship Regulations**

JUNEAU-- The State Board of Education & Early Development is seeking public comment on proposed regulations that would set the high school courses required for eligibility for the Alaska Performance Scholarship.

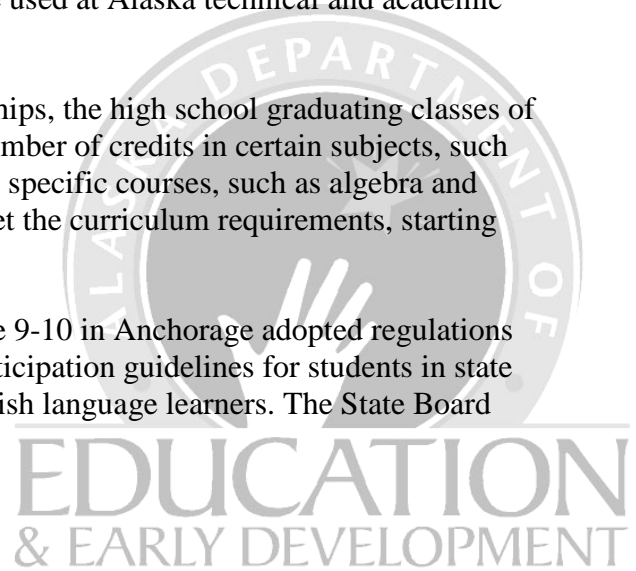
The proposed regulations, if approved, would take effect for the high school graduating class of 2015 and thereafter. The proposed regulations provide students with a menu of courses that meet the curriculum requirements for eligibility. The proposed regulations also allow school districts to submit other courses for state approval.

The public may see the proposed regulations and submit comments at <https://www.eed.state.ak.us/regs/comment.cfm>. The deadline to submit comments is November 10.

The Alaska Performance Scholarship, which took effect for the high school graduating class of 2011, awards scholarships to students who meet criteria for grade-point averages and assessment scores, and who complete a rigorous curriculum. Alaska Performance Scholarships, worth up to \$4,755 a year, may be used at Alaska technical and academic postsecondary institutions.

To be eligible for Alaska Performance Scholarships, the high school graduating classes of 2011 to 2014 must meet requirements for the number of credits in certain subjects, such as math. The newly proposed regulations set the specific courses, such as algebra and geometry, that students may choose from to meet the curriculum requirements, starting with the high school graduating class of 2015.

Additionally, the State Board at its meeting June 9-10 in Anchorage adopted regulations related to teacher certification, assessments, participation guidelines for students in state assessments, and proficiency standards for English language learners. The State Board



raised summer admission fees for the Alaska State Museums by one dollar, less a one-dollar discount to people 65 and older.

The State Board also changed the graduation requirements at Mt. Edgecumbe High School, a state-operated boarding school in Sitka; requested further information about the Early College of Alaska Charter School's application for state approval; and approved the renewal for 10 years of the charter for the Chinook Montessori Charter School in Fairbanks.

The State Board continued the term of Esther Cox as Chair and named Jim Merriner as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair and Janel Keplinger and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair.

The board packet is at [http://www.eed.state.ak.us/State\\_Board/pdf/11June\\_Packet.pdf](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/State_Board/pdf/11June_Packet.pdf).

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