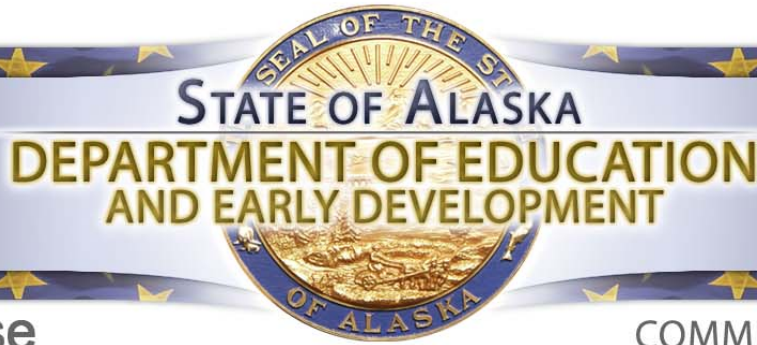


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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 17, 2014

State Board Adopts Regulations, Proposes Others

JUNEAU -- The State Board of Education & Early Development, meeting March 13 & 14 in Juneau, sent out for public comment two proposed regulations and adopted two regulations. For the meeting packet, see http://education.alaska.gov/State_Board/pdf/14_march_packet.pdf.

The board approved renewed charters for Star of the North Charter School in Fairbanks and Kaleidoscope Charter School in Kenai.

The board approved waivers from a state requirement that 70 percent of operating funds be spent on instruction. Waivers were granted to Alaska Gateway, Galena, Klawock, Yakutat, and Yupiit school districts. The waivers apply after the fact to fiscal year 2013.

The board approved the department's major maintenance grant fund list.

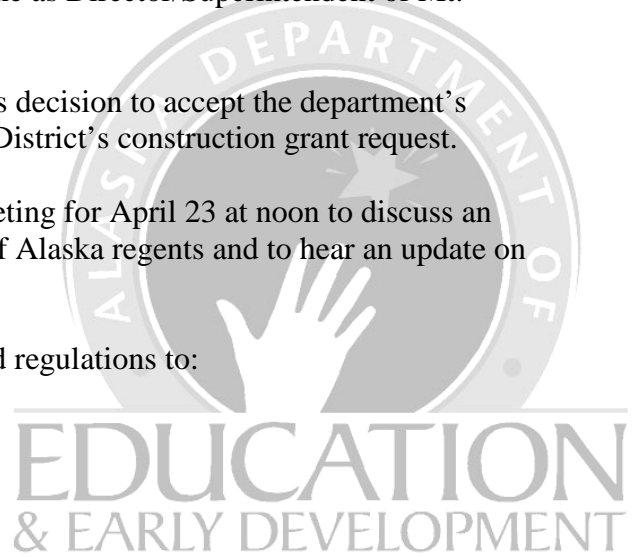
The board approved a resolution supporting the Governor's Education Opportunity Act, citing provisions for funding, charter schools, residential schools, student assessments, high school credits, and vocational and technical education.

The board approved the appointments of Lisa Miller as Executive Secretary to the Commissioner, effective May 1, and Troy Thayne as Director/Superintendent of Mt. Edgecumbe High School, effective July 1.

The board adopted an administrative law judge's decision to accept the department's ranking of a Northwest Arctic Borough School District's construction grant request.

The board scheduled a video/teleconference meeting for April 23 at noon to discuss an agenda for a joint meeting with the University of Alaska regents and to hear an update on legislation.

The board sent out for public comment proposed regulations to:



- Amend school accountability regulations of the Alaska School Performance Index (ASPI), to provide a different metric for alternative schools, which serve high-risk students; change the way of calculating the graduation rate indicator for very small schools; change the criteria for requiring a 4-star or 5-star school to complete an improvement plan; and change the date for providing preliminary ASPI scores to schools, among other changes.
- Amend regulations to requirements for obtaining a Type B superintendent certificate. The proposal would allow an applicant to substitute five years of employment in a leadership position on a school district’s management team for five years of employment as a teacher and administrator.

The board adopted regulations to:

- Use the latest version of Praxis tests for teachers and set the minimum acceptable scores.
- Clarify eligible costs and how school districts must report pupil transportation expenditures under the Uniform Chart of Accounts.

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