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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 19, 2016

Rebecca Himschoot of Sitka Named to State Board of Education & Early Development

JUNEAU – Rebecca Himschoot, a teacher in Sitka, has joined the State Board of Education & Early Development. She holds the public seat for the First Judicial District, replacing Kathleen Yarr, whose term expired. Ms. Himschoot's term expires on March 1, 2021.

Ms. Himschoot teaches science at Keet Gooshi Heen Elementary School in Sitka. She also has served as an education specialist at the Katmai and Lake Clark National Parks, the assistant director of education at the Scientific Center of Kuwait, and a teacher in Kuwait, Hawaii, and Sand Point, Alaska.

Ms. Himschoot received a Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching in 2012 and the Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship this year.

She holds a bachelor of arts degree in Russian language education from Western Washington University, a bachelor of arts degree in elementary education from the University of Alaska Southeast, and a master of arts degree in administration and curriculum from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington.

“It is an honor to serve on the State Board of Education and Early Development, and to play an active role as the board works toward their stated goals of modernizing Alaska's schools, increasing local control of schools, and ensuring the highest quality educators for all Alaska children,” Ms. Himschoot said. “We have many opportunities to work in partnership with families, communities, districts, the Department of Education & Early Development, and lawmakers as we navigate the new federal Every Student Succeeds Act and Alaska's budget challenges. I am honored to bring the voice of a practicing teacher to the important conversation surrounding public education in Alaska.”

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