



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Education
& Early Development**

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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May 6, 2025

Subject: With Gratitude During Teacher Appreciation Week

Good afternoon educators,

As we mark National Teacher Appreciation Week during this first week of May, we wanted to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude for the incredible work you do each and every day. Your dedication to educating Alaska's children lays the foundation for a brighter future, not only for them, but for our entire state.

Education is the cornerstone of a thriving society, and you, alongside your students and their families, are at the heart of that effort. Because of your commitment, our students are gaining the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need to lead meaningful, impactful lives and contribute positively to their communities.

As we continue our work with Governor Dunleavy and the Legislature to strengthen Alaska's educational outcomes, and transition to the new role of the U.S. Department of Education, please know that every step we take is grounded in a deep respect for teachers and a steadfast commitment to student success.

We are proud to stand with you and to prioritize efforts that directly support the work closest to our students: teaching and learning in Alaskan classrooms. Just as you center student learning each day, we are committed to ensuring that our policies and actions support and empower you.

As you walk into your classrooms, please carry with you the assurance that the Department of Education and Early Development is here to support you, today and every day. Alaskans deeply appreciate all that you do. Great teachers who consistently elevate student learning deserve our respect, our gratitude, and the space to let your excellence shine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Karen B. Morrison".

Karen B Morrison

Deena M. Bishop, Ed.D., Commissioner
Karen Morrison, Deputy Commissioner