

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

December 6, 2023

From: Dr. Deena Bishop, Commissioner

Agenda Item: 5B

◆ ISSUE

The board is being asked to open a period of public comment on proposed amendments to 4 AAC 06.775 (a), administering statewide assessments to students with disabilities. The amendments update the *Participation Guidelines for Inclusion of Alaska Students in State Assessments*, which define the assessment criteria of all Statewide Alaska Assessments.

◆ BACKGROUND

- The *Participation Guidelines for Inclusion of Alaska Students in State Assessments* were last updated in March 2022.
- In July 2023, the Alaska Reads Act went into effect, a component of which is a required early literacy screener to be administered statewide.
- The State selected mCLASS with DIBELS 8th edition in partnership with Amplify, as our state-adopted early literacy screener. mCLASS will be administered in 51 districts across the state this school year.
- Between July and August 2023, DEED worked with Amplify to update the *Participation Guidelines for Inclusion of Alaska Students in State Assessments* to reflect this new assessment.
- The final document was completed in August 2023.
- The proposed regulations and proposed *Participation Guidelines for Inclusion of Alaska Students in State Assessments*, can be found behind this cover memo. In addition, to allow for an easier review of the changes made, a track changes version of the proposed *Participation Guidelines for Inclusion of Alaska Students in State Assessments* can also be found behind this cover memo.
- Dr. Elizabeth Greninger, Assessments Administrator; Kelly Manning, Deputy Director, Division of Innovation and Education Excellence; and Carol Boatman, Director of Alyeska Reading Institute and Division of Innovation and Education Excellence, will be present to brief the board.

◆ OPTIONS

This is a work session item. Action will take place under Agenda Item 10B.