

Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development
Approved Minutes
August 1, 2017
Audio conference originating in Juneau, AK

Chair Fields called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. First Vice-Chair Hull, and Second Vice-Chair Harmon were excused, Charles Michael, and LTC Toole were absent. After the pledge of allegiance, Member Hamilton made a motion to approve the agenda before them after removing agenda item #3, Member Gallahorn seconded the motion, and the board adopted the agenda for August 1. Board members declared no conflicts of interest.

Public comment

No public comment was received.

Agenda Item 1. The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) 2nd draft (continued review).

Sondra Meredith, Administrator of Teacher Education & Certification said public comment was received from about 15 members of the public, native corporations and one board member. Margaret MacKinnon, Federal Programs Coordinator, addressed several questions asked by Member Himschoot regarding assessments.

Agenda Item 2A. Budget Review, FY2018. Heidi Teshner, Director, Finance and Support Services reviewed the capital budget for FY2018, and explained the intent language. She highlighted that ninety-five percent of our budget is passed on to school districts, three percent is travel, and two percent is personal services.

Board comments

Member Michael said that he appreciates the department looking at End of Course assessments; he is also looking forward to future committee meetings.

Rebecca Himschoot gave an update on the Educator Excellence sub-committee meetings, they are working to narrow down a lot of great ideas to a few transformational recommendations. She appreciates all the hard work and guidance she has been given.

Kenny Gallahorn said his committee is working hard but has had a difficult time finding direction; he believes they are going to be on track after their next meeting.

Keith Hamilton had no comments.

Barbara Thompson said she and Sue Hull are members of the student learning committee; she is happy with how well they are functioning. They are working on their strategic priorities for their group; she also mentioned the group is working hard and will complete their work on time.

James Fields is on the safety and wellbeing committee and modernization committee; both committees are going well. They hope to give the department their recommendations in the next couple of months. He thanked everyone for their work on ESSA; and Member Himschoot for her questions regarding the state plan.

The meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.