

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

October 5, 2023

From: Dr. Deena Bishop, Commissioner

Agenda Item: 2

◆ ISSUE

The board will hear a presentation from the Alaska Science Teachers Association.

◆ BACKGROUND

- The Alaska Science Teachers Association (ASTA) advocates and provides support for a strong science education for all K-12 Alaska students.
- The revised Science Standards for Alaska were adopted in June 2019 and some members of the ASTA Board were involved in the writing of the revised standards.
- ASTA helped develop the awareness presentations available on the DEED web site and compiled resources to move teachers forward to meeting the standards which support equity, rigor, and relevance.
- ASTA would like to see every school district provide professional development for teachers to embed the newer approach and to provide plenty of time during the school year to help students acquire the knowledge and skills needed to navigate modern challenges through science, technology, and engineering.
- Behind this cover memo are the following items:
 - ASTA PowerPoint Presentation;
 - A Shift for Science Education in Alaska; and,
 - Commonalities Among the Practices in Science, Mathematics and English Language Arts Venn diagram.
- Patty Brown, Alaska Science Teacher Association Board President, and Trisha Herminghaus, President, National Science Education Leadership, will be present to brief the board.

◆ OPTIONS

This is an information update. No action is required.