



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Office of the Chief Clerk

State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
Phone: (907) 465-3725
Fax: (907) 465-5334

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Himschoot, Co-chair
Education Committee

FROM: Crystalline Jones, Chief Clerk

DATE: February 10, 2025

SUBJECT: Governor's Appointment(s)

The Speaker referred the following Governor's appointment(s) to the Education Committee:

Board of Education and Early Development

Kimberly Bergey – Palmer

Appointed: 7/25/2024

Expires: 3/1/2029

Kathryn McCollum – Wasilla

Appointed: 3/1/2025

Expires: 3/1/2030

Professional Teaching Practices Commission

Heidi Barnes – Wasilla

Appointed: 1/31/2025

Expires: 3/1/2027

Kimberly Bergey – Palmer

Appointed: 6/25/2021

Expired: 3/1/2024

Reappointed: 8/15/2024

Expires: 3/1/2027

This letter and a blank committee report are sent electronically. Resumes and contact information for the appointees can be found on the AK Leg Intranet under Miscellaneous Materials. Please cut and paste the board name and appointee(s) from the electronic letter on to the committee report when the committee considers the appointee(s) and return to the Chief Clerk's office. Use a separate committee report for commissioners. Multiple boards/appointees can be put on one committee report. If you have questions or need assistance, please call 465-3725.



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Education
& Early Development**

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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P.O. Box 110500
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500
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February 6, 2025

The Honorable Rebecca Himschoot, Co-Chair
House Education Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 411
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Andi Story, Co-Chair
House Education Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 403
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear House Education Co-Chairs:


Alaska Statute 14.07.168 requires that the State Board of Education and Early Development (board) prepare and present to the legislative committees having jurisdiction over education, an annual report that describes the efforts of the board to develop, maintain, and continuously improve a comprehensive quality public education system. The report must include:

- 1) A summary of the resolves and rationales provided in support of policy decisions made under AS 14.03.015;
- 2) Program and curriculum changes made, discussed, or recommended in meetings held under AS 14.07.125; and
- 3) Additional information relevant to efforts made to improve and maintain the public education system.

The report must be presented in person no later than the 30th legislative day of each regular session. Enclosed is the board's annual report approved on January 22, 2025. I respectfully request a meeting with your office to discuss a presentation date, whereby Chair James Fields may present the board's annual report by phone.

Please contact Jake Almeida, jacob.almeida@alaska.gov or (907) 465-6753, at your convenience to arrange a meeting.

Sincerely,


Deena Bishop, Ed.D.
Commissioner

Enclosure (1) AS 14.07.168 State Board Report to the Legislature January 2025

cc: Crys Jones, Chief Clerk, Alaska State Legislature

Chapter 03

State Board of Education

4 AAC 03.010. Organization. Repealed.

4 AAC 03.020. Duties of the officers. Repealed.

4 AAC 03.025. Advisory members of state board.

(a) In addition to the board members appointed under **AS 14.07.085**, the board will appoint, as advisory members of the board, (1) one military representative; and (2) repealed 3/31/2005; (3) one student advisory member elect and one student advisory member who are enrolled in a state public secondary education program; the student advisory member elect becomes the student advisory member under (e) of this section.

(b) The senior military commander in the state may designate the advisory member of the board representing the military. The designation must include a written statement of qualifications and a resume of the designee.

(c) The Alaska Association of Student Governments may nominate candidates for the appointment of a student advisory member elect under (a) of this section as follows: (1) the association may nominate not less than three and not more than five individuals who will not have reached the 12th grade at the time of appointment for consideration as the student advisory member elect; (2) the association may submit the names of nominees to the board; the department will provide the association with not less than 30 days advance notice of the date that the nominations must be submitted to the board; (3) if the association submits the names of nominees to the board, the association shall provide a written statement of qualifications or resume for each nominee and a letter written by each nominee stating the contributions that the nominee would make as the student advisory member to the board.

(d) The board will, at a regular meeting, select a student advisory member elect from among the individuals nominated under (c) of this section. The term of the student advisory member elect commences immediately upon selection by the board and terminates on June 30 of the same school year in which the student advisory member elect was appointed.

(e) The board will rotate the student advisory member elect to the position of student advisory member commencing on July 1 immediately following the school year in which the student was appointed student advisory member elect. The term of office of the student advisory member is one year and terminates on June 30 of the school year in which the term commenced.

(f) Advisory members and advisory members elect under this section are entitled to expenses, travel, and per diem allowances provided by law for members of state boards and commissions.

(g) Advisory members appointed under this section may participate in the work of the board, and may deliberate and debate matters brought to the attention of the board. An advisory member, except an advisory member elect, may cast an advisory vote, but an advisory vote is not counted in determining the disposition of board matters.

(h) Advisory members elect shall attend meetings but may not cast a vote.

4 AAC 03.030. Regular meetings. Repealed.

4 AAC 03.035. Special meetings. Repealed.

4 AAC 03.040. Procedure. Repealed.

4 AAC 03.050. Duties of the board. Repealed 2/11/89.

4 AAC 03.051. Notice of meeting. Repealed.

4 AAC 03.055. Agenda preparation and distribution. Repealed.

4 AAC 03.060. Appointment of staff members. Repealed 4/2/86.

4 AAC 03.070. Polling of board members. Repealed.

4 AAC 03.090. Adoption of regulations.

(a) Except as provided in (b) of this section, in **AS 14.03 - AS 14.60** and **AS 23.15**, if state law authorizes or directs action on a regulation by "the department" or "the Department of Education and Early Development", the regulation may not be adopted, amended, or repealed unless the adoption, amendment, or repeal is approved by the board.

(b) The commissioner of education and early development may adopt emergency regulations under **AS 44.62.250 - AS 44.62.270** without prior board approval.

4 AAC 03.091. Waivers.

(a) Innovation in education requires flexibility in applying regulations. A local school board may request a waiver from a regulation in this title to implement an innovative program that leads to improved student achievement.

(b) A waiver request from a local school board must be submitted in writing to the department and must (1) describe the innovative educational program and how it will improve student achievement; (2) specify the regulation to be waived; (3) provide criteria to measure the improvement in student achievement; and (4) specify the period of time for which the waiver is requested.

(c) In determining whether to grant the waiver, the board will consider the materials submitted, recommendations of the department, and written and verbal public comment.

(d) Except as provided in (e) of this section, if the board finds by a preponderance of evidence that the innovative educational program will improve student achievement, the board may waive the regulation for a period specified by the board.

(e) The board will not waive a regulation required by state or federal law or necessary for health and safety.

4 AAC 03.100. Bylaws. Repealed.

State Board Members



03/01/2023 - Date Reappointed

03/01/2028 - Term Expires

James K. Fields, State Board Chair

REAA Representative

E-mail: james.fields@alaska.gov (<mailto:james.fields@alaska.gov>)



03/01/2020- Date Reappointed

03/01/2025- Term Expires

Lorri Van Diest, Second Vice Chair

Third Judicial District

E-mail: lorri.vandiest@alaska.gov (<mailto:lorri.vandiest@alaska.gov>)



07/29/2024- Date Appointed

07/29/2029 – Term Expires

Kimberly Bergey

At-Large

E-mail: Kimberly.bergey@alaska.gov (mailto:Kimberly.bergey@alaska.gov)

Vacant

Second Judicial District



01/12/2021 - Date Reappointed

03/01/2026 – Term Expires

Sally Stockhausen, First Vice Chair

First Judicial District

E-mail: sally.stockhausen@alaska.gov (mailto:sally.stockhausen@alaska.gov)



LTC James Fowley

Military Advisor

E-mail: james.fowley@alaska.gov (mailto:james.fowley@alaska.gov)

(mailto:sally.stockhausen@k21schools.org)



07/10/2023 - Date Appointed

03/01/2028 - Term Expires

Barbara Tyndall

Fourth Judicial District

E-mail: barbara.tyndall@alaska.gov (<mailto:barbara.tyndall@alaska.gov>)



07/10/2023 - Date Appointed

03/01/2028 - Term Expires

Pamela Dupras

At-Large

E-mail: pamela.dupras@alaska.gov (<mailto:pamela.dupras@alaska.gov>)

No photo available

Joshua Pak

Student Advisor

No photo available

Vacant

Student Advisor - Elect

Article 2. State Board of Education and Early Development.

Sec. 14.07.075. Creation.

There is created at the head of the Department of Education and Early Development a Board of Education and Early Development consisting of seven members.

Sec. 14.07.080. Creation and term of office. [Repealed, § 14 ch 96 1967.]

Sec. 14.07.085. Appointment of members.

(a) The seven members of the board, no more than four of whom shall be members of the same political party as the governor, shall be appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of the legislature in joint session. In appointing board members, the governor shall consider recommendations made by recognized educational associations in the state.

(b) One member shall be appointed from each of the four judicial districts and three from the state at large with at least one member representing regional educational attendance areas.

(c) The members are entitled to the expenses, travel, and per diem allowances provided by law.

(d) A member may act and receive compensation from the date of appointment until confirmation or rejection by the legislature.

Sec. 14.07.090. Appointment of members. [Repealed, § 14 ch 96 SLA 1967.]

Sec. 14.07.095. Term of office.

The members of the board shall be appointed for overlapping five-year terms commencing on the March 1 following the date of the member's appointment. Except as provided in AS 39.05.080(4), a member appointed to fill a vacancy serves for the unexpired term of the member whose vacancy is filled. A vacancy occurring during a term of office is filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

Sec. 14.07.100. Executive officer. [Repealed, § 14 ch 96 SLA 1967.]

Sec. 14.07.105. Quorum and chair.

(a) Four members constitute a quorum.

(b) The board shall designate one member of the board as the chairperson who serves as chair of the board at the pleasure of the board.

Sec. 14.07.110. Appointment of commissioner. [Repealed, § 14 ch 96 SLA 1967.]

Sec. 14.07.115. Removal.

Members of the board serve at the pleasure of the governor.

Sec. 14.07.120. Term of office and vacancy. [Repealed, § 14 ch 96 SLA 1967.]

Sec. 14.07.125. Meetings.

The board shall meet at least quarterly. Meetings may be called by the chair or by a majority of the members of the board.

Meetings shall be held in Juneau unless a majority of the members of the board changes the place of a meeting.

Sec. 14.07.130. Removal of commissioner. [Repealed, § 14 ch 96 SLA 1967.]

Sec. 14.07.135. Legal assistance.

The Department of Law shall provide all legal services for the board.

Sec. 14.07.140. Commissioner administers department. [Repealed, § 14 ch 96 SLA 1967.]

Sec. 14.07.145. Commissioner of education and early development.

(a) The board shall appoint the commissioner of education and early development subject to the approval of the governor. The commissioner shall be the principal executive officer of the

department.

(b) The commissioner shall be appointed without regard to political affiliation and shall have at least a master's degree with five years' experience in the field of education since receiving it, with at least three of the five years in an exclusively administrative position.

(c) The commissioner serves at the pleasure of the board and may not be appointed by the board for a fixed term.

(d) The commissioner shall receive the salary set out in AS 39.20.080.

(e) The commissioner shall employ and remove all classified personnel in the department subject to AS 39.25 (State Personnel Act). The commissioner may employ and remove personnel in the exempt or partially exempt service subject to the approval of the board. Personnel in the exempt or partially exempt service have a right of appeal to the board if they are removed.

(f) [Repealed, § 5 ch 14 SLA 1996.]

Sec. 14.07.150. Budget and fiscal authority.

The commissioner has responsibility and authority for the preparation and execution of a budget and for the other fiscal affairs of the department, subject to the approval of the board.

Sec. 14.07.155. Partisan candidacy prohibited.

A member of the board may not be a candidate for partisan political office while serving as a member of the board.

Sec. 14.07.160. Bylaws.

(a) The board may adopt bylaws for the management of the department.

(b) The bylaws shall be written and distributed in a manner so as to be readily available to personnel of the department.

(c) This section may not be construed to allow the use of a bylaw rather than a regulation where the subject is of statewide importance or interest.

Sec. 14.07.165. Duties.

(a) The board shall adopt

(1) statewide goals and require each governing body to adopt written goals that are consistent with local needs;

(2) regulations regarding the application for and award of grants under AS 14.03.125;

(3) regulations implementing provisions of AS 14.11.014(b);

(4) regulations requiring approval by the board before a charter school, state boarding school, or a public school may provide domiciliary services;

(5) regulations establishing standards for an early education program provided by a school district for children who are four and five years of age; the regulations must include

(A) standards for a locally designed, evidence-based program that meets Head Start Program Performance Standards and other federal standards required for early education programs to receive federal funding;

(B) a requirement that a teacher in charge of a program hold a valid teacher certificate issued under AS 14.20 and

(i) have satisfactorily completed a minimum of six credit hours in early childhood education or complete the minimum credit hours within two years of the date the teacher's employment with the early education program begins; or

(ii) have two or more years of experience teaching kindergarten or another early education program and have completed additional coursework related to reading instruction, as required by the department;

(C) developmentally appropriate objectives for

children four and five years of age rather than academic standards appropriate for older children; the objectives must allow school districts to adapt the content of an early education program to be culturally responsive to local communities;

(D) accommodations for the needs of all early education children and their families regardless of socioeconomic circumstances; and

(E) standards for day in session requirements appropriate for children four and five years of age;

(6) regulations establishing standards for day in session requirements appropriate for kindergarten students.

(b) [Repealed, § 25 ch 2 SSSLA 2015.]

(c) Every five years, the board shall review the mathematics and English and language arts curricula used in the state to ensure the curricula are still effective and are being taught using best practices.

Sec. 14.07.168. Report to the legislature.

Not later than the 30th legislative day of each regular session of the legislature, the board shall prepare and present in person to the legislative committees having jurisdiction over education an annual report that describes the efforts of the board to develop, maintain, and continuously improve a comprehensive quality public education system, as provided for under the bylaws of the board. The report must include

(1) a summary of the resolves and rationales provided in support of policy decisions made under AS 14.03.015;

(2) program and curriculum changes made, discussed, or recommended in meetings held under AS 14.07.125;

(3) additional information relevant to efforts made to improve and maintain the public education system;

(4) a summary of implementation and utilization of the consortium established under AS 14.30.800, including a review of

consortium effectiveness and the participation rates of districts, teachers, and students.

Sec. 14.07.170. Additional powers and duties of board.

(a) The board may

(1) appoint unpaid advisory commissions;

(2) require school boards or school personnel to submit to the department, in the form the board may require, the district budget or any information or reports that are reasonably necessary to assist the department in carrying out its functions.

(b) The board shall review grant applications recommended under AS 14.11.013 and may approve grant applications under AS 14.11.015.

Sec. 14.07.175. Development of statewide assessment plan; review of education laws and regulations.

Sec. 14.07.180. Curricula approval and review; pilot program; incentives.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the board shall establish standards and a procedure for the review, ranking, and approval of mathematics and English and language arts curricula for school districts to use in each grade level as provided in this section. The board may include curricula delivered through virtual education in the standards and procedure established under this subsection. Standards established for the review, ranking, and approval of language arts curricula for early education programs and grades kindergarten through three must be based on phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, oral language skills, and reading comprehension.

(b) The department, in consultation with school districts, shall review mathematics and English and language arts curricula used in schools in the state and in other states and countries