

Department of Education & Early Development
Office of the Commissioner

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April 7, 2011

The Honorable Bill Stoltze
The Honorable Bill Thomas, Jr.
Co-Chairs, House Finance Committee
Alaska House of Representatives
Alaska State Capitol Room 519
Juneau, Alaska 99801

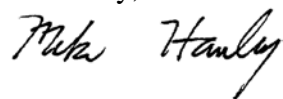
Dear Mr. Chairmen:

This letter responds to questions from this morning's House Finance Committee meeting related to the Alaska Performance Scholarship and CSHB104 (EDC).

- Representatives Thomas and Stoltze requested information on the eligibility of home and private schools for the performance scholarship. Please see attached regulation 4 AAC 43.040. (Attachment A)
- Representative Costello asked if Nine Star Education and Employment Services students would be eligible for the Alaska Performance Scholarship. Yes. Nine Star students are issued high school diplomas from the Nenana School District.
- Representative Thomas raised a concern about schools in his election district reporting potential difficulties in providing the required curriculum of the performance scholarship. Attached is a survey that the Department of Education and Early Development (EED) conducted in February 2011 of all 53 districts and Mt. Edgecumbe. Fifty of the district superintendents indicated that they will be able to offer the required curriculum for the performance scholarship. (Attachment B) EED recognizes the different information that has been shared but wanted the committee to see what has been communicated to the department and confirmed during the superintendent fly-in.

If you have questions or would like additional information related to this response or the Alaska Performance Scholarship, please contact me at mike.hanley@alaska.gov or at 465-2802.

Sincerely,



Mike Hanley
Commissioner