



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

**Department of Education
& Early Development**

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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January 30, 2018

Dear Alaska Principal:

Butch and Cindy Moore lost their daughter Bree Moore to domestic violence in 2014. Bree was just 20 years old. Since that time, Butch and Cindy have become Alaska champions for the prevention of dating violence and have dedicated tremendous time and effort to building awareness of the need for more dating violence prevention efforts across our state. Far too many Alaska residents have been the victims of intimate partner violence. In recognition of February being national teen dating violence awareness and prevention month, the Moore's have produced a poster featuring their daughter Bree that they are providing to all middle and high schools across the state. They hope these posters will be used by schools to heighten awareness of the impact domestic violence has in Alaska, of the need for our teens to be taught what healthy relationships look like, what the signs of unhealthy relationships are, and how to seek help when necessary if relationships become unhealthy or even dangerous. Butch and Cindy have asked the Department of Education and Early Development to help distribute these posters to Alaska's schools. Utilizing this poster in your school may serve as a catalyst to reinforce this important training.

On June 30, 2017 Bree's Law took effect under the *Alaska Safe Children's Act*, requiring both teachers and students in grades 7-12 to receive training on dating violence prevention and intervention. Many of you are already aware of and have accessed resources made available through the Department of Education and Early Development such as the eLearning courses <https://education.alaska.gov/ELearning> and the Alaska Safe Children's Act LiveBinder <http://www.livebinders.com/play/play?id=2144135#anchor>. In an effort to continue to support your ongoing work to implement the *Alaska Safe Children's Act*, new state resources and materials developed by the Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and the Department of Education and Early Development, some of which will be developed in partnership with the Moore's, will be made available to your school in the coming months.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Johnson".

Dr. Michael Johnson
Commissioner