



**Commissioner Roger Sampson**  
Department of Education  
& Early Development  
801 W. Tenth Street, Suite 200  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1894  
[www.eed.state.ak.us](http://www.eed.state.ak.us)

Date: June 16, 2006

**More information:** Eric Fry, Information Officer, 465-2851.

## **State Board approves six regulations, proposes others**

The State Board of Education & Early Development met June 15 in Juneau.

The board adopted the following regulations:

- Repealed the requirement for pre-elementary school employees and elementary and secondary school district employees to obtain tuberculin skin tests.
- Clarified at what age a student with a disability may be included in a school district's average daily membership.
- Repealed 4 AAC 05.040, which pertains to the establishment of local schools, and 4 AAC 05.050, which pertains to requests that no local secondary school or only a partial school program be established.
- Revised the edition date of, and incorporated by reference, the Alaska Teacher Performance Review Handbook and Scoring Guide.
- Added a regulation to match federal law in setting corrective actions for school districts that are designated for corrective action under the No Child Left Behind Act.
- Addressed procedures for complaints regarding a district's or the state's administration of the No Child Left Behind Act.

The State Board also endorsed Alaska's newly created early learning guidelines, which apply to children from birth to age five.

Early learning programs are not required to follow the guidelines, but the federal government encourages early learning, child-care and Head Start programs to address the guidelines in their programs.

The guidelines were written over the past two years by stakeholders from across the state, including parents and staff at state education and health departments, universities, Head Start programs, public schools, public preschools and child care programs.

The guidelines are in the board packet for June 15.

The State Board also opened a period of public comment on seven proposed regulations.

The proposals would:

- set scores for the four levels of performance in the new 10<sup>th</sup> grade standards-based assessment, and amend passing scores for the High School Graduation Qualifying Examination;
- approve tests in world languages for teachers to show they are highly qualified;
- replace the term “special education waivers” with “special education alternate program certificates,” to comply with provisions of No Child Left Behind that refer to highly qualified teachers;
- amend rules for special education intensive services to clarify that such students must need and receive continuous care and personal attention;
- set kindergarten through grade two performance standards and grade level expectations so that students are prepared to demonstrate proficiency when they are third-graders.
- and establish an approval process for operation of statewide residential educational programs.

The proposed regulations and comment deadlines will be posted next week on the department’s web site at <http://www.eed.state.ak.us/regs/>. The proposals also are contained in the packet of the board’s June 15 meeting, which is available at: [http://www.eed.state.ak.us/State Board/](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/State_Board/).

Note that the proposals regarding assessments and boarding schools have an earlier comment deadline because they will be addressed at the board’s teleconferenced July 24 meeting. They are available now at: <http://notes5.state.ak.us/pn/pubnotic.nsf/?Open>.

The State Board set the following dates and locations for upcoming meetings: July 24, 2006, via teleconference; September 28-29, 2006, in Kotzebue; October 25, 2006, via teleconference; November 29-30, 2006, in Anchorage; January 26, 2007, via teleconference; March 15-16, 2007, in Juneau; and June 7-8, 2007, in Fairbanks.

###