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Date: October 2, 2006

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State Board approves six regulations

The State Board of Education & Early Development, meeting September 28, 2006, in Kotzebue, adopted six regulations and put out for public comment three proposed regulations.

The board amended and adopted regulations to implement the Alaska Public School Performance Incentive Program. The amendment would incorporate principal feedback into any decision of the superintendent regarding the awarding of an incentive payment. The board also amended and adopted regulations for the English language proficiency assessment. The amendment would not change the exit criteria for English language proficiency and monitoring as previously noticed, pending approval from the U.S. Department of Education for changes to the exit criteria. The board also approved performance standards and grade level expectations for kindergarten through grade two, changed language in special education regulations to refer to an alternate program certificate, established options for teachers of foreign languages to demonstrate they are highly qualified, and amended regulations regarding special education intensive services.

The board also opened public comment periods for proposed regulations regarding changes to the “objective uniform standards” for teachers to demonstrate they are highly qualified; changes to the Professional Content and Performance Standards to add a requirement that teachers be familiar with the state’s grade level expectations; and updated minimum standards for school buses.

The board also renewed a waiver from high school graduation requirements for the Lake & Peninsula Borough School District, and approved changes to the board’s bylaws.

The board, acting on the school districts’ requests, also rescinded waivers from high school graduation requirements for the Southeast Island, Nome, Northwest Arctic and Lower Kuskokwim school districts.

Chairman Richard Mauer administered the Oath of Office to Lt. Col. Sonny Luu, newly appointed Military Advisor to the board.

The board packet for the meeting is posted on the department’s web site at:
http://www.eed.state.ak.us/State_Board/.

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