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**More information:** Eric Fry, 465-2851

## **State Board adopts five regulations; proposes others**

The State Board of Education & Early Development, meeting March 28, 2007, adopted five regulations and sent out for public comment three proposed regulations.

The board adopted the following regulations:

Amendments to 4 AAC 06.840 clarified the corrective actions the state may take when school districts have not made adequate yearly progress for four consecutive years.

Amendments to 4 AAC 52 (phase I) regarding children with disabilities changed state regulations to conform to the most recent federal regulations on the subject.

Amendments to 4 AAC 04.210 and 4 AAC 04.212 allowed secondary teachers of multiple subjects in K-12 schools with a student enrollment of 200 or less to demonstrate they are highly qualified in their subjects through the use of the state's multi-subject "high, objective, uniform standard of evaluation," known as the HOUSSE.

Amendments to 4 AAC 06.802 and 06.899 adopted, for the accountability system, the definition of economically disadvantaged students that is used in Alaska's eligibility guidelines for free and reduced-price meals.

Amendments to 4 AAC 06.805 allow a district to excuse, from one school year's administration of state reading and writing tests, those limited-English-speaking immigrants who enrolled in a United States school after the previous year's testing period. The district also may choose not to include those students' math scores in the determination of adequate yearly progress for a school year.

The state board also approved sending out for public comment the following regulations:

Amendments to 4 AAC 12.410 would correct the name of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

Amendments to 4 AAC 59.005 and 59.065 would regulate the retention and preservation of electronic records by state agencies.

Amendments to 4 AAC 52 (phase II) would change the state's regulations on children with disabilities to conform to the most recent federal regulations and to current practices, and would clarify the requirements for special education.

Additionally, the board approved waivers for the Bering Strait School District and the Kashunamiut School District from the requirement that they spend at least 70 percent of their operating budget on instruction. The waivers were granted based on their audited financial reports and refer to the previous school year.

The board approved three new charter schools: the Mat-Su Highland Tech Valley High Charter School, the Rilke Schule – German School of Arts & Sciences Charter School in Anchorage, and the Alaska Native Cultural Charter School in Anchorage.

The board approved the Department of Education & Early Development's Capital Improvement Projects list, which refers to school construction and maintenance projects.

The board's packet -- which includes the proposed regulatory language, background information, and written public comments -- is available at [www.eed.state.ak.us/State Board](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/State_Board).

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