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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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Commissioner announces new appointments at department

JUNEAU – Commissioner Larry LeDoux today announced three new appointments in the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development.

Linda Thibodeau has been named State Librarian and Director of the Division of Libraries, Archives and Museums. She replaces Kay Shelton, who retired.

The Division operates the Alaska State Library and Historical Collections, the Alaska State Archives, and the Alaska State Museum in Juneau and the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka. The Division also provides services to local and school libraries, local archives, and local museums statewide.

“I’m excited about working with our two museums, two library locations and the archives as we collect, preserve and share Alaska’s treasures and offer support services to museums, archives and libraries around Alaska,” Thibodeau said. “Our challenge is to find efficient ways to improve these mandated services, both online and in person.”

Thibodeau was an educator in the Anchorage and Juneau school districts for 32 years serving variously as speech therapist, special education teacher, classroom teacher, librarian and administrator. For the past four years, Thibodeau has worked for the Department of Education & Early Development, including two years as Deputy Director of the Division of Libraries, Archives and Museums.

Thibodeau holds a bachelor of arts degree in speech pathology and audiology from the University of Oregon; a master of arts degree in special education, speech pathology and audiology from the University of Oregon; and master of library science degree from the University of Arizona.

“We had several strong candidates for the post, but Ms. Thibodeau stood out for her knowledge of Alaska – its schools, libraries, archives, historical societies and museums – and her passion for education,” Commissioner LeDoux said. “The Division of Libraries, Archives and Museums is a vital element of the department’s role of furthering education in Alaska.”



EDUCATION
& EARLY DEVELOPMENT

Erik McCormick has been named Director of the Division of Assessment, Accountability & Information Science. He replaces Les Morse, who was previously named Deputy Commissioner of the department.

“Mr. McCormick is well-known and highly regarded by the school districts around the state,” Commissioner LeDoux said. “He is very well-qualified and I am confident he will do a great job.”

McCormick has worked for the department since 1995 variously as a statistical statistician, school finance specialist, and research analyst. He has served as the Data Management Unit Supervisor for the department since 2002. McCormick holds a bachelor of arts degree in economics from the University of Arizona.

Marcy Herman has been named Special Assistant to the Commissioner. She replaces Richard Luther, who retired. Herman’s duties will include serving as a liaison with the Legislature. She has worked as a contract manager and estimator for Channel Construction and an administrative assistant for Capital Community Broadcasting, both in Juneau.

“I look forward to working with Ms. Herman in the important task of translating our vision for Alaska education into reality,” Commissioner LeDoux said.

The State Board of Education & Early Development approved the appointments on October 27.

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