

Mike Hanley
Commissioner

P.O. Box 110500
Juneau, AK 99811-0500
education.alaska.gov



Eric Fry
Information Officer
907.465.2851
cell: 907.321.5564
eric.fry@alaska.gov

Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Board of Education Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Achievement Level Scores

JUNEAU – The State Board of Education & Early Development, meeting by audio-conference on August 24, has sent out for public comment proposed regulations that set the ranges of student scores within the four achievement levels of the Alaska Measures of Progress, the state's assessment of rigorous English and math standards for students in grades 3 to 10.

Students first took the Alaska Measures of Progress in April 2015. Students score on a scale that is divided into achievement levels 1 to 4, from low to high. Achievement levels 3 and 4 represent meeting the state's standards. Achievement levels 1 and 2 represent partially meeting the standards.

Test reports providing scale scores and achievement-level results for individual students, schools, and school districts will be available in mid-October.

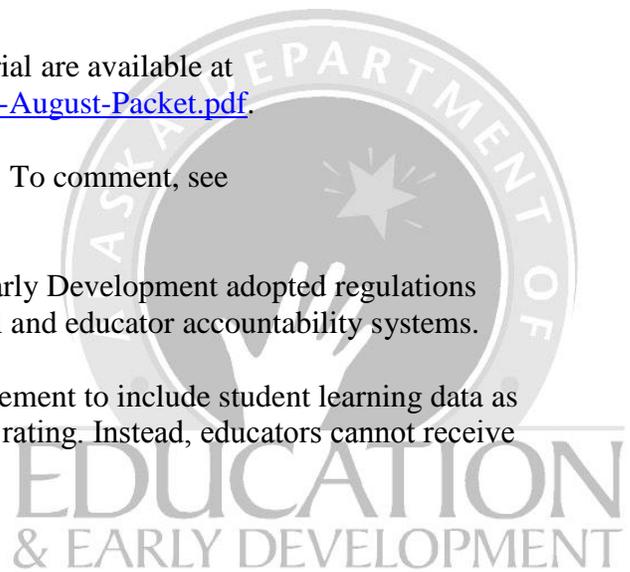
The Alaska Measures of Progress is not a pass/fail test, and it does not affect students' grades, grade promotion, or graduation. The only consequence for students is positive: To receive support for their learning.

The proposed regulations and background material are available at https://education.alaska.gov/State_Board/pdf/15-August-Packet.pdf.

Public comments are due by 4:30 September 24. To comment, see <https://education.alaska.gov/regs/comment.cfm>.

Additionally, the State Board of Education & Early Development adopted regulations that provide Alaska more flexibility in its school and educator accountability systems.

Specifically, the regulations eliminate the requirement to include student learning data as a percentage of an educator's overall evaluation rating. Instead, educators cannot receive



an overall rating of exemplary or proficient if they rated unsatisfactory on any standard, including student learning.

Use of student learning data in educators' evaluations has been postponed to the 2016-2017 school year, allowing districts more time to decide how to address the standard accurately and fairly.

The Alaska School Performance Index star ratings and accountability provisions for schools are "paused" for the current school year. The provision will give Alaska two consecutive years of results before the Alaska Measures of Progress is used for school accountability -- allowing the state to measure student growth, an important part of the accountability system.

The adopted regulations are available at https://education.alaska.gov/State_Board/pdf/15-August-Packet.pdf.

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