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Commissioner



Department of Education  
and Early Development

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STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**December 10, 2020**

### **State Board Receives COVID-19 Education Updates**

JUNEAU – The State Board of Education and Early Development, meeting virtually on December 9, engaged in discussions regarding the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts on Alaska’s schools.

The board received a medical update from leadership with the Department of Health and Social Services. The superintendent of Mt. Edgecumbe High School shared information on current COVID-19 mitigation measures, student successes, and continued challenges for teaching and learning. The director of the Division of Libraries, Archives, and Museums shared examples of how staff have adjusted public services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition to standing reports from department staff, the board received an update on the 2020-2021 school enrollment student count. The board also engaged in a discussion regarding the Mt. Edgecumbe High School endowment and potential land sales.

Lastly, the board approved its annual draft report to the Legislature and the minutes from the June 10-11, 2020 board meeting, September 16-17, 2020 board meeting, and October 21, 2020 work session.

The December 9 meeting packet and board meeting schedule are available at [https://education.alaska.gov/State Board](https://education.alaska.gov/State_Board). The next board meeting is scheduled to be held virtually on January 26-27, 2021.

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*The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development provides information, resources, and leadership to support over 130,000 students in 505 public schools across the state of Alaska. The mission of the department is to ensure an “**Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day.**”*

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