

Dr. Michael Johnson  
Commissioner

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Department of Education  
and Early Development

Juneau, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 9, 2022**

## **State Board of Education Quarterly Meeting Held in Anchorage**

ANCHORAGE – Wednesday, Commissioner Dr. Michael Johnson informed Gov. Mike Dunleavy and the State Board of Education and Early Development of his retirement during the Board's quarterly meeting. The Commissioner will continue to serve through June 30, 2022. The State Board of Education will name an acting Commissioner and begin the search for the next Commissioner.

During its business meeting, the Board approved Heidi Teshner and Lacey Sanders as Deputy Commissioners.

The Board approved the initial application for the Knik Cultural Charter School, approved an amendment for Academy Charter School to expand to high school, and renewed the charter for Ketchikan Charter School.

The Board approved Suzzuk (Mary Huntington) as Superintendent of Mt. Edgecumbe High School (MEHS) and Miranda Bacha as MEHS Principal. Travis Vaughan was approved as the Sitka Community Representative on the MEHS Advisory Board, and Jerilyn Kelly was approved as the Parent Representative on the MEHS Advisory Board.

The Board also approved regulations establishing a Seal of Biliteracy, three facilities publications, and alternate assessment scores.

Chair James Fields was reelected as Board Chair. Sandy Kowalski was voted as First Vice Chair and Sally Stockhausen was voted as Second Vice Chair. The Board also approved the FY2023 DEED budget, FY2023 meeting dates, and the consent agenda.

The Board's next meeting will be special meeting on July 13, 2022.

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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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