

**To: Members of the State Board of
Education & Early Development**

July 1, 2025

From: Deena M. Bishop, Ed.D., Commissioner

Agenda Item: 2

◆ ISSUE

The board will be asked to approve a 30-day public comment period for the revised Early Education Program Standards (AS 14.07.165(a)(5)(A)).

◆ BACKGROUND

- The Alaska Reads Act was adopted in 2022, which included the Early Education Program Standards AS 14.07.165(a)(5)(A) and took effect July 1, 2023.
- In June 2024, HB148 passed. HB148 removes a phrase from AS 14.07.165(a)(5)(A). The language “meet Head Start Program Performance Standards” was removed.
- In fall of 2024, the Early Learning team created a crosswalk to reflect alignment with either Title 1 and/or NAEYC (federal standards).
- The draft proposed changes include the crosswalk, and Alaska Statutory requirements, and requirements unique to Alaska’s needs.
- On Tuesday, December 10, 2024, the Early Learning Team hosted a Zoom informational webinar with stakeholders outlining the proposed changes. Stakeholders gave feedback through a survey that opened on December 10, 2024 and closed on December 20, 2024.
- Based on the feedback received, the proposed changes move current Standard II, Social and Emotional Support, and current Standard VIII, Coaching, to a new supplemental section of the Early Education Program Standards that are not required for formula funding EEP-.5 ADM application.

◆ OPTIONS

This is a work session item. Action will take place under Agenda Item 6.