



**Alaska's Education Challenge
Committee Membership Announcement
March 31, 2017**

Alaska's Education Challenge presents real opportunity to put forth bold and innovative recommendations to transform the public education system and close our state's tragic achievement gap.

Over the past few weeks, Education Commissioner Dr. Michael Johnson has invited a range of Alaskans to serve on five committees. The five committees are being formed around the State Board of Education's five strategic objectives for Alaska's public education system: improve student learning, ensure excellent educators, modernize the education system, inspire tribal and community ownership, and promote safety and well-being. Members of the State Board of Education will co-chair each committee. Committee co-chairs were announced on February 28th.

As previously announced, each committee will consist of no more than 20 stakeholders and include diverse representation from the education community. Each committee will include parents, students, educators, legislators, tribal representatives, and educational partners. DEED has reached out to stakeholder associations and communities to nominate Alaskans for specific seats on each committee.

The list below details committee memberships as of March 31st. DEED has been excited by the tremendous interest from Alaskans to participate on a committee. Due to the volume of responses received, and in order to ensure balanced representation, DEED is still in the process of finalizing committee memberships. Selected committee members will receive a letter in the very near future detailing their committee meeting schedule and other information.

Please continue to check back weekly on the Alaska Education Challenge webpage for committee membership updates.

STUDENT LEARNING COMMITTEE			
Committee Member	Position	District/Organization	Committee Seat
Sue Hull	First Vice Chair	State Board of Education	Committee Co-Chair
Barbara Thompson	Member	State Board of Education	Committee Co-Chair
<i>pending</i>			Parent
<i>pending</i>			Parent
<i>pending</i>			Parent
<i>invitation sent</i>			Parent
<i>invitation sent</i>			Parent
<i>invitation sent</i>			Alaska State Legislature
<i>invitation sent</i>			Alaska State Legislature
Penny Vadla	School Board Member	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District School Board	Association of Alaska School Boards
Deena Bishop	Superintendent	Anchorage School District	Alaska Superintendents Association
Amy Jo Meiners	Teacher	Juneau School District	NEA-Alaska
<i>pending</i>			Tribal Leader
<i>pending</i>			Regional Tribal Non-Profit Representative
Wilfried Zibell	Student	Northwest Arctic Borough School District	Alaska Association of Student Governments
Marcia Olson	Education Specialist/CTE Coordinator		Department of Labor & Workforce Development
<i>invitation sent</i>			Career & Technical Education
April Blevins	Early Childhood Coordinator/Migrant Education Specialist	Lower Kuskokwim School District	Early Learning
<i>invitation sent</i>			Special Education
Nicole Schuh	Executive Director, Alaska Business Week	Alaska Chamber	Alaska Chamber
Kim Bautista	Principal	Anchorage School District	Alaska Association of Elementary School Principals
EDUCATOR EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE			
Committee Member	Position	District/Organization	Committee Seat
Rebecca Himschoot	Member	State Board of Education	Committee Co-Chair
John Harmon	Second Vice Chair	State Board of Education	Committee Co-Chair
<i>pending</i>			Parent
<i>pending</i>			Parent
<i>invitation sent</i>			Parent
<i>invitation sent</i>			Parent
<i>invitation sent</i>			Parent
Gary Stevens	State Senator	District P/Senate Education Committee	Alaska State Legislature
Justin Parish	State Representative	District 34/House Education Committee	Alaska State Legislature
Tam Agosti-Gisler	School Board Member	Anchorage School Board	Association of Alaska School Boards
Sean Dusek	Superintendent	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District	Alaska Superintendents Association
Tammy Smith	Teacher	NEA-Alaska	NEA-Alaska
<i>pending</i>			Tribal Leader
<i>pending</i>			Regional Tribal Non-Profit Representative
<i>invitation sent</i>	Student		Alaska Association of Student Governments
Richard Caulfield	Chancellor	University of Alaska Southeast	University of Alaska
Steve Atwater	Interim Dean	University of Alaska Fairbanks	University of Alaska
Sheryl Weinberg	Executive Director	Alaska's Educational Resource Center (SERRC)	Alaska's Educational Resource Center (SERRC)
Dan Carstens	Principal	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District	Alaska Association of Secondary School Principals
John Sedor	Attorney		Education Attorney
Betty Walters			Alaska Statewide Mentor Project

MODERNIZATION & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Committee Member	Position	District/Organization	Committee Seat
James Fields	Chair	State Board of Education	Committee Co-Chair
Sue Hull	First Vice Chair	State Board of Education	Committee Co-Chair
<i>pending</i>			Parent
<i>pending</i>			Parent
<i>pending</i>			Parent
<i>invitation sent</i>			Parent
<i>invitation sent</i>			Parent
<i>invitation sent</i>			Alaska State Legislature
Jennifer Johnston	State Representative	District 28/House Education Committee	Alaska State Legislature
Katrina Church-Chmielowski	School Board Member	Copper River School Board	Association of Alaska School Boards
Karen Gaborik	Superintendent	Fairbanks North Star Borough School District	Alaska Superintendents Association
Jessica Cook	Teacher	NEA-Alaska	NEA-Alaska
<i>pending</i>			Tribal Leader
<i>pending</i>			Regional Tribal Non-Profit Representative
Charles Michael	Student	Matanuska-Susitna School District	Alaska Association of Student Governments
Michael Partlow	Budget Analyst	Office of Management and Budget	Office of Management and Budget
Luke Fulp	Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations	Matanuska-Susitna School District	Alaska Association of School Business Officials
Tammy Van Wyhe	Superintendent	Copper River School District	Education Technology
Alexei Painter	Fiscal Analyst	Alaska Legislative Finance Division	Alaska Legislative Finance Division
Tim Navarre	Council Member	City of Kenai	Alaska Municipal League
<i>invitation sent</i>			Principal

TRIBAL & COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP COMMITTEE

Committee Member	Position	District/Organization	Committee Seat
Kenny Gallahorn	Member	State Board of Education	Committee Co-Chair
John Harmon	Second Vice Chair	State Board of Education	Committee Co-Chair
LTC Jason Toole	Military Advisor	State Board of Education	Committee Co-Chair
<i>pending</i>			Parent
<i>pending</i>			Parent
<i>invitation sent</i>			Parent
<i>invitation sent</i>			Parent
<i>invitation sent</i>			Parent
Tom Begich	State Senator	District J/Senate Education Committee	Alaska State Legislature
<i>invitation sent</i>			Alaska State Legislature
Tiffany Jackson	School Board Member	Aleutians East School Board	Association of Alaska School Boards
Kerry Boyd	Superintendent	Yukon Koyukuk School District	Alaska Superintendents Association
Tim Parker	President	NEA-Alaska	NEA-Alaska
<i>pending</i>			Tribal Leader
<i>pending</i>			Regional Tribal Non-Profit Representative
<i>invitation sent</i>	Student		Alaska Association of Student Governments
Chris Hladick or designee	Commissioner	Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development	Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
Kathie Wasserman	Executive Director	Alaska Municipal League	Alaska Municipal League
Liz Medicine Crow	President	First Alaskans Institute	First Alaskans Institute
<i>pending</i>		State of Alaska	Lieutenant Governor
<i>pending</i>			Alaska Chamber
<i>pending</i>			Community Advocate

SAFETY & WELL-BEING COMMITTEE			
Committee Member	Position	District/Organization	Committee Seat
James Fields	Chair	State Board of Education	Committee Co-Chair
Keith Hamilton	Member	State Board of Education	Committee Co-Chair
<i>pending</i>	School Nurse		School Nurse
<i>pending</i>			Parent
<i>pending</i>			Parent
<i>invitation sent</i>			Parent
<i>invitation sent</i>			Parent
Cathy Giessel	State Senator	District N/Senate Education Committee	Alaska State Legislature
<i>invitation sent</i>			Alaska State Legislature
Peter Hoepfner	School Board Member	Cordova School Board	Association of Alaska School Boards
Norma Holmgaard	Superintendent	Kashunamiut School District	Alaska Superintendents Association
Laura Mulgrew	Teacher	Juneau School District	NEA-Alaska
<i>pending</i>			Tribal Leader
<i>pending</i>			Regional Tribal Non-Profit Representative
<i>invitation sent</i>	Student		Alaska Association of Student Governments
Marcey Bish	Child Care Program Manager/CCDF State Administrator	Department of Health & Social Services	Department of Health and Social Services
Walt Monegan	Commissioner	Department of Public Safety	Department of Public Safety
Dean Williams	Commissioner	Department of Corrections	Department of Corrections
Mary McMahan	Principal	Matanuska-Susitna School District	Alaska Association of Secondary School Principals
Andrew Lessig	Member		Statewide Suicide Prevention Council
Jeff Lansing	Principal	Delta/Greely School District	School Counselor