

Personnel

4.19 TEACHER CERTIFICATION DELAY

The Alaska Association School Boards urges the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development to allow flexibility in teacher certification timelines, especially when the Department is behind in processing applicant paperwork.

Rationale:

Alaska School Districts are responsible for providing a local system of public education. Alaska School Districts recognize the quality of the teacher in the classroom is the most important school-based factor in improving student achievement. Boards of education are facing a shortage of qualified teachers in many hard-to-staff subject areas. Delays in the teacher certification process at a state level result in undue hardship on districts and applicants.

Submitted by: Lower Kuskokwim School District