

STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT

Virtual Meeting
Regulatory Revisions - Administrative Order 360
Chapter 67 - Virtual Education Consortium

PUBLIC COMMENT

November 13, 2025
4:00 p.m.

Pages 1 - 7, inclusive

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S
 2 **JAKE ALMEIDA:** Okay, good afternoon,
 3 everyone. I'd like to welcome you to today's
 4 Administrative Order, or AO, 360 stakeholder input
 5 session on Chapter 67, Virtual Education Consortium
 6 regulations. Thank you for taking the time to join us.
 7 The purpose of this meeting is to hear
 8 directly from stakeholders and members of the public
 9 regarding regulatory burdens or barriers you believe
 10 should be addressed as part of Alaska's AO 360 reform
 11 project. Your input is critical in helping us shape
 12 meaningful changes that support students and schools.
 13 So to honor your time, this session will end promptly
 14 on the hour today.
 15 These stakeholder meetings are
 16 opportunities for us to listen to your perspectives
 17 before any regulations should be drafted, amended, or
 18 repealed. This is not the formal public comment
 19 process, however, under the Administrative Procedure
 20 Act or APA. That process would begin later after draft
 21 regulations have undergone official legal review and
 22 have been formally approved for public comment.
 23 So as part of our regulatory reform plan,
 24 the department must create a list of all the comments
 25 we receive during this stakeholder process, along with

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1 whether we intend to implement each recommendation that
 2 you as stakeholders make. And if we do not adopt a
 3 recommendation, we are required to explain why not.
 4 And that's why your feedback is so valuable to us as it
 5 will directly shape our department's analysis and
 6 inform you of the next steps.
 7 So to proceed today, we will first hear a
 8 short overview of the regulations for this meeting, and
 9 then we'll move into the comment period where you may
 10 share your input for verbal feedback, which will be
 11 recorded, summarized, and included in our department's
 12 reform plan. And written feedback will also be
 13 accepted for 30 days following this session. So please
 14 refer to the chat for links that I'm referring to for
 15 written and verbal comment on these regulations.
 16 So with that, I will now hand it over to
 17 Ms. Kathy Moffitt with our Innovation and Education
 18 Excellence division, and she will walk through Chapter
 19 67 and what the regulations are specifically. Over to
 20 you, Kathy.
 21 **KATHY MOFFITT:** All right, thank you,
 22 Jacob. Chapter 67 establishes the Alaska Distance
 23 Learning Consortium within the Department of Education
 24 and Early Development to make virtual education and
 25 professional development resources available to

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1 students and teachers across the state.
 2 Membership in the consortium is voluntary
 3 and limited to Alaska's school districts. A district
 4 may join by submitting a request from an authorized
 5 representative. Member districts gain access to
 6 consortium resources, may submit courses for inclusion
 7 in the statewide virtual course database, and may
 8 designate representatives to receive consortium
 9 communications and to vote in governing board
 10 elections.
 11 The consortium is governed by a board
 12 consisting of the commissioner of education or a
 13 designee, and up to six elected representatives from
 14 member districts. Representatives must be designated
 15 by their district, elected by a simple majority, and
 16 serve at least one year. When possible, the board
 17 includes representatives from each judicial district,
 18 one at-large member, and at least one representative
 19 from a regional educational attendance area.
 20 The governing board may adopt resolutions
 21 proposing regulations for State Board of Education
 22 consideration and may prepare bylaws which must include
 23 a purpose statement, mission, vision, governance rules,
 24 and meeting requirements. Bylaws must be reviewed and
 25 approved by the State Board of Education every three

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1 years.
 2 All governing board meetings are subject
 3 to the Open Meetings Act and follow Robert's Rules of
 4 Order.
 5 The department provides administrative
 6 support and technical assistance to the consortium,
 7 including information and procedures for district
 8 membership. The department establishes standards for
 9 consortium resources, and with input from the governing
 10 board employs a reading specialist. If recommended by
 11 the governing board, the department may establish a
 12 participation fee for school districts.
 13 The consortium must maintain a statewide
 14 database of virtual education courses aligned with
 15 department curriculum standards. It provides training
 16 and professional development for teachers delivering
 17 virtual instruction and adopts policies to recognize
 18 prior teacher experience.
 19 The consortium works with the department
 20 to employ a reading specialist, may recommend a
 21 district participation fee, and may provide
 22 recommendations to the State Board of Education on
 23 matters requiring approval.
 24 All virtual courses must meet, as stated,
 25 Alaska's content standards and the national standards

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1 for quality online courses. Professional development
2 offered through the consortium must meet the national
3 standards for quality online teaching.
4 The chapter also provides definitions for
5 terms, including commissioner, consortium, department,
6 governing board, school district, state board, and
7 virtual education.
8 And that, Jake, concludes our overview of
9 Chapter 67.
10 **JAKE ALMEIDA:** All right, thank you so
11 much for that, Kathy, appreciate it.
12 So we are now in the comment section of
13 the stakeholder meeting, and as stated before, there is
14 a link in the chat to sign up. If you would like to
15 provide verbal comment today, you just click on the
16 link, fill out a couple fields of information, and then
17 we look at the sign-up sheet and acknowledge you. And
18 as always, please state your name and any affiliation
19 you may have, and you may give your comment for two
20 minutes.
21 If you have specific questions about the
22 regulations, we're happy to answer those. If you're
23 just stating your comment, of course, we're just here
24 to listen and won't necessarily be engaging in back and
25 forth.

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1 So again, the sign-up sheet to give
2 comment right now is in the chat. If you're not able
3 to utilize that link, you of course can click on the
4 raise hand icon on the bottom of your Zoom task bar,
5 and we will acknowledge you that way as well.
6 So at this time we will just go on hold
7 and wait for anyone to sign up and -- that wishes to
8 provide comment, and if we do not have anyone at 20
9 after, we will just conclude from there. So we are on
10 hold waiting for people to give comment. Thank you so
11 much.
12 (Pause)
13 **JAKE ALMEIDA:** Okay, we will now go ahead
14 and conclude this public stakeholder meeting for
15 Chapter 67, Virtual Education Consortium regulations.
16 If you're watching this recording and would still like
17 to submit feedback regarding these regulations, you can
18 go to our website at education.alaska.gov/ao360, and
19 your comments will still be submitted for the record.
20 And for those of us still online, you can
21 still click on the links right and submit your feedback
22 that way. So thank you so much, and we will go ahead
23 and conclude this meeting. Have a good night.
24 (Meeting concluded)
25

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