

Moore Settlement Agreement Amendment No. 1

The parties agree as follows:

Preamble

1. On January 26, 2012, the parties to *Moore v. State*, Superior Court Case No. AN-04-9756 CI, entered into a settlement agreement ("*Moore Settlement Agreement*") that provided for the dismissal of the lawsuit.
2. In the *Moore Settlement Agreement*, the parties agreed to create four educational initiatives intended to address educational underachievement in underperforming schools:
 - a. Two-Year Kindergarten and Related Pre-Literacy Programs;
 - b. Targeted Resources Grant Fund;
 - c. Teacher Retention Grant Fund; and
 - d. HSGQE Remediation Reimbursement Program.
3. The HSGQE (High School Graduation Qualifying Examination) Remediation Reimbursement Program ("HSGQE Initiative") was designed to partially reimburse school districts for the costs of providing high-quality HSGQE remediation to qualifying students, with documentation of reimbursable costs reviewed by the Department of Education and Early Development ("Department") and reimbursement limited to \$3,000 per student.
4. The parties to the *Moore Settlement Agreement* agreed that funding the four initiatives would be provided by a one-time legislative appropriation of \$18 million. The parties agreed that at least \$6 million would be directed to the initiative for pre-literacy programs. The funding of the other three initiatives, including the HSGQE Initiative, would be allocated according to the recommendations of the Moore Collaborative Committee ("Committee") established under the agreement.
5. Under the *Moore Settlement Agreement*, the parties indicated that the funding for the four initiatives would be managed and appropriations allocated so that the funding would be available for at least three years.

6. On May 29, 2012, the Committee allocated \$250,000 per year for fiscal years 2013-2016, for a total of \$1,000,000 to the HSGQE Initiative. For fiscal year 2013, the Committee reimbursed remediation costs under the HSGQE Initiative of approximately \$62,000. For fiscal year 2014, the Committee has reimbursed \$61,650 leaving a balance of approximately \$875,000 in the HSGQE remediation component.

7. The 2014 Legislature enacted legislation that repealed the requirement that students pass the HSGQE as a condition for receiving a high school diploma. *See* Sec. 3, ch. 15, SLA 2014. The legislation became effective July 1, 2014, thereby removing the need for HSGQE remediation focus or funding.

8. The parties seek with this amendment to redirect the funding allocated for the HSGQE Initiative to other purposes consistent with the *Moore* settlement.

9. The parties agreed in the *Moore* Settlement Agreement that if modifications to the agreement become necessary for logistical or other program reasons, the agreement may be modified in writing by joint agreement of the commissioner and CEAAC.

AMENDMENT TERMS

10. Unspent funding formerly allocated to the HSGQE Initiative will be redirected as follows:

a. \$450,000 will be allocated to the “Ed Connector” program currently being developed by CEAAC. The “Ed Connector” program will operate an interactive electronic portal accessible to eligible school districts to enhance district administrative capacity, increase collaboration and innovation by districts, and support and expand the cultural relevance of student learning. The portal will provide (1) a centralized resource for relevant researched and organized educational tools; (2) a mechanism for sharing materials, curricula, and models; (3) an interface for virtual dialogue and interaction; and (4) a centralized clearinghouse for advocacy opportunities. “Ed Connector” will create a consortium of stakeholders who regularly collaborate on educational solutions.

i. These funds will be expended at the rate of \$75,000 per year for six years, starting with fiscal year 2015.

ii. The Commissioner of the Department or a designee will have a seat on the steering committee of “Ed Connector” at least until all of Moore settlement funds are fully expended.

b. The remaining allocation to the HSGQE Initiative will be reallocated by the Moore Committee among the other three educational initiatives established under the *Moore* settlement:

- i. Two-Year Kindergarten and Related Pre-Literacy Programs;
- ii. Targeted Resources Grant Fund; and
- iii. Teacher Retention Grant Fund.

DATED this 4th day of August, 2014.

Alaska Department of Education and Early
Development

By: Mike Hanley
Mike Hanley, Commissioner

DATED this 27 day of July, 2014.

Citizens for the Educational Advancement of
Alaska's Children (CEAAC)

By: Kerry Boyd
Kerry Boyd, President

DATED this 27th day of July, 2014.

Citizens for the Educational Advancement of
Alaska's Children (CEAAC)

By: Charles Wohlforth
Charles Wohlforth, Executive Director