State School Board Meeting in Kodiak

Wednesday, 12 September 2012

State Board of Education Chairman Jim Merriner

Jay Barrett/KMXT

The Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development is holding its September meeting here in Kodiak, starting today. Chairman Jim Merriner will ring in the proceedings this morning at 8 a.m., over in the borough assembly chambers. It is open to the public.

The first item on the agenda is public comment, and not all of it will come from Kodiak – the meeting is being teleconferenced to a number of Legislative Information Offices around the state, including Anchorage, Barrow, Bethel, Fairbanks, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan, Kotzebue, Mat-Su, Nome, and Sitka.

Mount Edgecumbe High School items will occupy the first session, including going over the math curriculum with the school principal and math teachers joining via video conference.

Later in the morning Education Commissioner Mike Hanley will give a briefing on the schools requesting a waiver from the national No Child Left Behind law. President Obama offered schools the opportunity to opt out of the national program, though the schools will still have to meet state standards.

The meeting continues after lunch with discussion about operating expenses and later a business meeting. The meeting will recess at 3 p.m. and resume tomorrow morning at 8:30 a.m. Thursday’s session will be dominated by reports from directors and state officials, with Commissioner Hanley’s report at 10 a.m. The meeting is scheduled to adjourn before noon, when the board will tour area schools.

The 411-page agenda is available here (PDF).