

Multicultural Education Concerns Advisory Committee (MECAC)



September 23, 2014
ANSEP Program
University of Alaska, Anchorage
6-8 pm

Agenda

1. **Welcome/Check-in:**
 - Review of MECAC Working Agreements
2. **Public Comment**
3. **Committee Engagement, Input & Recommendations:**
 - State of the Schools** Ed
 - Destination 2020
 - Attendance
 - New Assessment: Alaska Measures of Progress (AMPs)
 - Tour of ANSEP** Josephine
4. **Special Topics/Presentations:**
 - Growth in Education: Data Discussions for Parent Teacher Conferences**
Presenters: Jane Stuart, Executive Director, Assessment & Evaluation
Jennifer Knutson & Christine Dennis, Professional Learning
5. **Announcements/Handouts:**
 - Graduation Exam Law Change Jane
 - Budget Listening Sessions Ed
 - 6th Grade Placement Recap Ed
 - Picturing Anchorage Books Ed
 - Boys of Color Initiative (attached) Ed
 - NIEA Conference Opportunity Doreen
 - Cultural Dates of Significance (see back of page)
 - Parent Teacher Conferences: October 22-23rd
 - 10 Questions you might ask the teacher! (see back of page)
 - MECAC At-Large Member Application Period: November 15, 2014-January 15, 2015
6. **Questions/Concerns & Ideas:** Use the green half-sheet
7. **Parking Lot Items:**
 - Budget Reductions: What impact will reductions have on student achievement?
8. **Adjourn**

Next MECAC Meeting:
October 30, 2014
6-8 PM
Anchorage Chamber of Commerce
1016 W. 6th Avenue, Suite 303

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Cultural dates of significance:

Dates on which activities* cannot be scheduled

In order to maximize student involvement in school activities and to accommodate the needs of students and families, no after-school activity shall be scheduled or hosted by the district on the dates listed below.

*Activities include but are not limited to: sports team competitions, school open houses, academic competitions, dances, student performances, retreats and student government conferences. This prohibition does not include regular practices or regular club meetings.

The following are days on which activities shall not be scheduled. The board may add or subtract from this list at a single board meeting as long as the action is on the agenda and properly noticed in advance. [Anchorage School Board policy 350.2]

U.S. holidays	Observance	2014-15
	New Year's Day	Jan. 1, 2015
	Thanksgiving Day	Nov. 27, 2014
Religion	Observance	2014-15
Christianity	Christmas	Dec. 25, 2014
	Good Friday	April 3, 2015
	Easter	April 5, 2015
Christianity/ Orthodox	Christmas	Jan. 7, 2015
	Easter/Pascha	April 12, 2015
Islam	Eid al Fitr (Breaking of Fast)	July 29, 2014 +
	Eid al Adha (Feast of Sacrifice)	Oct. 5, 2014 +
Judaism	Rosh Hashana (New Year)	Sept. 25 [^] -26, 2014
	Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	Oct. 4, 2014 [^]
	Pesach (Passover)	April 4 [^] -5, 2015

[^]These holidays begin at sundown the *previous* day. Passover lasts seven days (while some observe eight), however our local Jewish community considers the first two days the most important for seders.

+These holidays begin at sundown the *previous* day. The Islamic calendar is based on lunar observation. Dates may vary based on local lunar sightings; visit www.alaskamasjid.com for more information.

10 questions you might ask the teacher:

1. What will you cover in this grade or subject this year?
2. What are your expectations for homework? Has my child missed any assignments?
3. How are my child's work habits?
4. Does my child read at the level you would expect for this grade?
5. Is my child able to do the math you would expect for this grade?
6. Is my child in different groups for different subjects?
7. Has my child missed any classes?
8. Does my child qualify for any special programs? Gifted, Title VII, English Language Learner?
9. Does my child get along well with other students?
10. How are you addressing state and district standards?