

Local education laws adopted

Regulations supporting local education were adopted by the State Board of Education at its May meeting. Acting in response to the often voiced concerns of rural Alaskans, the board adopted regulations establishing every child's right to a public education in his local community.

Secondary schools are to be established in all communities which have an elementary school operated by the district or by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The secondary schools should be set up by Sept. 1, 1976, and must be operational by Sept. 1, 1977. Districts may request a further extension of time if construction or major renovation of a facility is necessary before a school may be started.

A local community may request that no secondary school or only a partial secondary school be established, if they

feel that it is in the best interests of their children.

The community's request not to have a secondary school must be through formal action at a public meeting by the local school committee. Review procedures are available to parents of students affected by a community's request not to establish a secondary school in that community.

Also provided for in the regulations is a program planning and evaluation for the new schools.

In other board action, the board approved the promulgation of regulations concerning bilingual education; adopted regulations concerning community schools and authorized the Dept. of Education to continue with its accreditation project.

The next meeting of the board is tentatively scheduled for June 15 and 16 in Juneau.