UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT

TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

April 19, 2006

(Date of earliest event reported)

ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

1-8957 (Commission File Number) 91-1292054 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

19300 Pacific Highway South, Seattle, Washington (Address of Principal Executive Offices) 98188 (Zip Code)

(206) 392-5040

(Registrant s Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (*see* General Instruction A.2. below):

" Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

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- " Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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ITEM 2.02. Results of Operations And Financial Condition

Alaska Air Group, Inc. today issued a press release reporting financial results for the first quarter ended March 31, 2006. The press release is filed as Exhibit 99.1.

ITEM 5.02. Election of Directors

On April 19, 2006, the Board of Directors of Alaska Air Group elected R. Marc Langland as Lead Director of the Board and Chair of the Board s Governance and Nominating Committee. Mr. Langland succeeds Bruce Kennedy, who acted as Lead Director and Chair of the Board s Governance and Nominating Committee from 2002 through 2006.

ITEM 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit 99.1 Press Release dated April 20, 2006.

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<u>Signature</u>

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC. Registrant

Date: April 20, 2006

/s/ Brandon S. Pedersen Brandon S. Pedersen Staff Vice President/Finance and Controller

/s/ Bradley D. Tilden Bradley D. Tilden Executive Vice President/Finance and Chief Financial Officer

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