

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #4 (2007-2008)

August 27, 2007

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD POLICY REVISION: SECTION 333.5
APPLICATION FORM (SECOND READING)

ASD Goal: Ensure public accountability through effective communication with students, staff, parents, community and government at all levels.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve on Second Reading the attached proposed changes to Policy 333.5, Review of the Charter School.

PERTINENT FACTS:

When Charter School Policy was last revised, language in 333.5 implied that charter schools could create teacher evaluation criteria completely different from that used by other district schools. This is not, in fact, accurate and is contrary to language in the teachers' negotiated agreement.

The proposed language (Attachment A) states that charter schools can add specific indicators under existing teacher standards to clarify the expectations of their school so long as they do so in consultation with the teachers' union.

At its June 27 meeting, the Policy Subcommittee unanimously voted to forward this recommended language to the full Board for consideration. The full School Board unanimously passed the proposed changes on First Reading at their meeting on August 13, 2007.

CC/RG

Attachment

Prepared and approved by: Rhonda Gardner, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction

333.5 (k)(4)(b)

k. Teachers/Administrators in the Charter School

A teacher or principal may not be assigned to a charter school unless the teacher or principal consents to the assignment.

The application shall identify:

(1) the names of teachers who are interested in teaching in the charter school, if known;

a) It is understood that this shall not be a firm commitment, but an indication of interested and qualified teachers.

b) Current District teachers who are listed on the application maintain their current placement with the District until such time that they request and are granted a transfer. All teachers must meet District eligibility requirements prior to being hired to teach at the charter school, but need not satisfy all requirements at the time of application.

(2) whether a principal will be employed and may include the name of the principal, if known;

a) The principal must possess a current Alaska Type B Administrative Certificate and be either an existing principal in the District or be on the District's Eligible for Hire list for administrators. A retired District administrator may serve as a charter school principal if the administrator left the District in good standing, had satisfactory performance evaluations, and has a current Type B certificate.

b) If the charter school Academic Policy Committee desires to contract by addendum with a principal who is currently employed as a District principal, the Superintendent's approval is required prior to entering into the contract.

(3) if the employment of a principal is not anticipated, the charter school Academic Policy Committee shall identify who, by title(s) and name(s) if known, will perform each of the administrative functions of the charter school including:

a) the keeping of financial records;

b) the evaluation of staff;

c) the submission of appropriate information as required by the District;

d) the oversight of the charter school to ensure that the terms of the contract are being met;

e) meeting regularly with parents, teachers/staff, and students to review, evaluate, and improve operations of the charter school; and

f) meeting with the Academic Policy Committee at least quarterly to monitor progress in achieving the Committee's policies and goals;

(4) description of evaluation procedures

a) Charter school certificated staff shall be evaluated in an equivalent manner as other teachers and administrators in equivalent positions in the District.

b) If the proposed evaluation procedures for certificated staff are not identical to the District's procedures, then the charter school applicants shall include a detailed description of the evaluation procedures to be used in the charter school. The Performance Standards adopted by the State Board of Education and Early Development and the Anchorage School District for teachers and administrators must be included in any alternative evaluation procedures that are proposed for certificated staff. However, to clarify expectations, a charter school Academic Policy Committee may develop additional performance indicators that are relevant to the educational program of the charter school. To the extent required by contract, any changes to the evaluation procedures for teachers must be developed in consultation with the teacher's union, giving the union full opportunity to review and collaborate on those changes.

c) A charter school that hires an administrator who is not certificated may develop its own evaluation procedures for that administrator.