

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

MEMORANDUM #23 (2011-2012)

September 26, 2011

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: ANNUAL REVIEW/END-OF-YEAR REPORT FOR  
HIGHLAND TECH HIGH CHARTER SCHOOL FY 2010-2011

ASD Core Value: *Every student deserves the opportunity to achieve his or her potential.*

PERTINENT FACTS:

School Board Policy 333.10 on Charter Schools requires an annual review of each charter school. To be specific, the policy states:

“The charter school will be subject to review of its operations and finances by the School Board. The charter school will be subject to review of its operations and finances by the School Board. Annually, the Academic Policy Committee will submit a concise written report and make a presentation to the School Board and the public no later than September 15 of each school year. This report will include, but is not limited to, information of the attainment of student performance expectations, including copies of the Terra Nova and SBA reports; recommendations for remediation for poor student performance; school goal attainment; trends in student/staff enrollment and mobility; an end of year preliminary financial statement showing revenues and expenditures; minutes of the meetings of the governing body of the charter school; descriptions of charter school activities; copies of any leases signed by the charter school; current bylaws of the Academic policy Committee; notification of establishment of 501 © (3) status; list of officers in any PTA/PTO or other parent organization; any changes in facility location; any major changes planned for the following school year; a list of the Academic Policy Committee for the past and coming school years, including officers, and staff members by position; a list of employees and job titles; and other information requested by the School Board.”

Representatives from Highland Tech Charter School will be available to present their annual report to the School Board. Their report is presented to the School Board as Attachment A. The Administration will also present remarks at the appropriate time. Mary Meade-Olberding, Charter School Supervisor for the

Anchorage School District, worked closely with the Administration and Academic Policy Committee of this school. Ms. Meade attended APC meetings and provided assistance to these groups on working within the confines of the Anchorage School District and Charter School Law, policies and regulations.

For a small school, Highland Tech Charter experienced a significant change in staff again in 2010-2011 as the assistant principal and three teachers moved on to pursue personal priorities. Additionally, Highland Tech Charter welcomed its first class of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. As demonstrated on the Standards-Based Assessments, Highland Tech had a year of mixed success. While meeting Annual Measurable Objects in language arts, as a school, they fell short in mathematics. To remedy this shortfall they will be addressing teaching and learning within their mathematics program and analyzing their placement tests, end of level assessments, and standards within each level to ensure tight alignment with Alaska State Standards in mathematics. They will also be disaggregating the data by content strand to ensure targeted instruction to meet individualize needs.

Highland Tech's student-centered, competency-based model eliminates seat time, which can (and does) lead to students completing graduation requirements at different points during a traditional school year. Therefore, their graduation rate did not meet the established AYP threshold as they again had students of various ages graduate in May 2011. However, for the first time, Highland Tech Charter will hold a December graduation for students who complete all requirements between May 2011 and December 2011.

Highland Tech uses a standards-based approach to assessing academic success and works closely with the Reinventing Schools Coalition (RISC), receiving annual training and support from RISC. Students are required to complete standards at a proficient level (equals a traditional grade of "B") in order to receive mastery credit towards graduation. Student performance in over 840 standards across eight content areas is their main measure of achievement. Staff at Highland are able to track individual and group attainment of standards using a comprehensive software program called "Educate;" and students, parents, and staff use this system to monitor progress, set pacing goals and communicate student performance in their eight content areas.

During the 2010-2011 school year, Highland Tech continued their long-standing award-winning robotics program. They were also selected as the state winner in the Real World Design Challenge (RWDC), and are now integrating the RWDC into their elective wheel. Their students were actively involved in designing their prom, school lock-ins, advisory fundraisers, career fair, blood drives and a spaghetti dinner. Students exercise leadership in a variety of ways, such as

through the Project Playlist process that requires students to take charge of their learning and school culture.

Highland Tech Charter was approached in May 2010 by Microsoft's Partners in Learning program about joining the Innovative Schools Network at its highest level, Mentor School. The principal and a teacher participated in the World Wide Innovative Education Forum in Cape Town, South Africa in October 2010. Throughout the 2010-2011 school year Highland Tech participated as a member of the worldwide community. Individual teachers networked with other educators around the world. Additionally, a *Global Learning* group began to meet during lunch to connect Highland students to other students around the globe. This year they have a motivated group of students and teachers who are extending learning beyond their walls to learn with and from others around the world.

Exciting things are happening at Highland Tech Charter School and the word is spreading throughout our community about this vibrant and innovative program.

CC/EG/MM

Attachment

Prepared by: Mary Meade-Olberding, Supervisor, Charter Schools

Approved by: Ed Graff, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

GLRESR15 Budgetary Basis

As of 06/30/2011

Budget Version: RR

Account Key	Object	Budget	YTD Actuals	Encumbrances	Balance	
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 1211	EXTRA HELP CLASSIFIED	1,023.00	1,022.80	0.00	0.20
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 1320	SECONDARY TEACHERS	605,363.00	605,362.97	0.00	0.03
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 1330	ADDED DUTY CERTIFICATED	4,750.00	4,750.00	0.00	0.00
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 1371	SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS	19,038.00	19,037.77	0.00	0.23
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 1380	PERSONAL LEAVE	4,219.00	4,218.44	0.00	0.56
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 1801	MAINTENANCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 2100	GROUP LIFE	819.00	819.00	0.00	0.00
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 2200	GROUP MEDICAL	151,040.00	151,040.00	0.00	0.00
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 2500	WORKERS' COMPENSATION	4,588.00	4,587.68	0.00	0.32
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 2550	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	614.00	613.87	0.00	0.13
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 2600	SOCIAL SECURITY	1,244.00	1,243.76	0.00	0.24
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 2610	MEDICARE	9,026.00	9,025.65	0.00	0.35
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 2700	CERTIFICATED RETIREMENT	76,636.00	76,635.35	0.00	0.65
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 2701	INCREMENTAL TRS INCREASE	62,744.00	62,743.26	0.00	0.74
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 3010	CONT.SERVICES -	5,000.00	250.00	5,019.13	(269.13)
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 3220	CONTRACT SVCS, COPIER	8,100.00	5,100.00	2,900.00	100.00
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 3600	TRAVEL OUT OF DISTRICT	1,000.00	406.00	0.00	594.00
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 4010	OFFICE SUPPLIES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 4040	TEACHING SUPPLIES	53,097.00	3,244.91	50,184.00	(331.91)
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 5400	EXPENDABLE EQUIPMENT	3,714.00	3,013.49	950.00	(249.49)
155001	HIGHLAND TECH REG INSTRUCTION 5415	FURNITURE AND FIXTURES	39,543.00	312.96	42,783.00	(3,552.96)
Total 155001			1,051,558.00	953,427.91	101,836.13	(3,706.04)
155002	HIGHLAND TECH SUPPORT STUDENTS 1240	NURSES	31,203.00	31,202.70	0.00	0.30
155002	HIGHLAND TECH SUPPORT STUDENTS 2100	GROUP LIFE	74.00	73.30	0.00	0.70
155002	HIGHLAND TECH SUPPORT STUDENTS 2500	WORKERS' COMPENSATION	228.00	227.20	0.00	0.80
155002	HIGHLAND TECH SUPPORT STUDENTS 2550	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	31.00	30.28	0.00	0.72
155002	HIGHLAND TECH SUPPORT STUDENTS 2600	SOCIAL SECURITY	1,949.00	1,948.60	0.00	0.40
155002	HIGHLAND TECH SUPPORT STUDENTS 2610	MEDICARE	456.00	455.70	0.00	0.30
155002	HIGHLAND TECH SUPPORT STUDENTS 2800	PUBLIC EMPLOYEES	6,865.00	6,864.60	0.00	0.40
155002	HIGHLAND TECH SUPPORT STUDENTS 2801	INCREMENTAL PERS INCREASE	3,546.00	3,545.97	0.00	0.03
155002	HIGHLAND TECH SUPPORT STUDENTS 4050	HEALTH SUPPLIES	106.00	104.87	0.97	0.16
Total 155002			44,458.00	44,453.22	0.97	3.81
155003	HIGHLAND TECH SUPP SVCS INSTR 1211	EXTRA HELP CLASSIFIED	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00	0.00
155003	HIGHLAND TECH SUPP SVCS INSTR 2500	WORKERS' COMPENSATION	9.00	8.74	0.00	0.26
155003	HIGHLAND TECH SUPP SVCS INSTR 2550	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	2.00	1.29	0.00	0.71

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

GLRESR15 Budgetary Basis

As of 06/30/2011

Budget Version: RR

Account Key	Object	Budget	YTD Actuals	Encumbrances	Balance
155003	HIGHLAND TECH SUPP SVCS INSTR 2600 SOCIAL SECURITY	75.00	74.41	0.00	0.59
155003	HIGHLAND TECH SUPP SVCS INSTR 2610 MEDICARE	18.00	17.41	0.00	0.59
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,304.00</b>	<b>1,301.85</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2.15</b>
155004	HIGHLAND TECH ADMIN SUPPORT 1191 TECHNICAL CLASSIFIED	34,303.00	34,302.60	0.00	0.40
155004	HIGHLAND TECH ADMIN SUPPORT 1201 CLERICAL	34,369.00	34,368.54	0.00	0.46
155004	HIGHLAND TECH ADMIN SUPPORT 1211 EXTRA HELP CLASSIFIED	5,703.00	5,702.50	0.00	0.50
155004	HIGHLAND TECH ADMIN SUPPORT 1381 PERSONAL LEAVE CLASSIFIED	225.00	225.00	0.00	0.00
155004	HIGHLAND TECH ADMIN SUPPORT 2100 GROUP LIFE	120.00	119.30	0.00	0.70
155004	HIGHLAND TECH ADMIN SUPPORT 2200 GROUP MEDICAL	28,320.00	28,320.00	0.00	0.00
155004	HIGHLAND TECH ADMIN SUPPORT 2500 WORKERS' COMPENSATION	544.00	543.03	0.00	0.97
155004	HIGHLAND TECH ADMIN SUPPORT 2550 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	73.00	72.51	0.00	0.49
155004	HIGHLAND TECH ADMIN SUPPORT 2600 SOCIAL SECURITY	4,554.00	4,553.04	0.00	0.96
155004	HIGHLAND TECH ADMIN SUPPORT 2610 MEDICARE	1,065.00	1,064.79	0.00	0.21
155004	HIGHLAND TECH ADMIN SUPPORT 2800 PUBLIC EMPLOYEES	14,976.00	14,975.77	0.00	0.23
155004	HIGHLAND TECH ADMIN SUPPORT 2801 INCREMENTAL PERS INCREASE	3,838.00	3,837.56	0.00	0.44
155004	HIGHLAND TECH ADMIN SUPPORT 3010 CONT.SERVICES -	1,820.00	1,550.10	0.00	269.90
155004	HIGHLAND TECH ADMIN SUPPORT 4010 OFFICE SUPPLIES	2,143.00	1,550.31	88.00	504.69
155004	HIGHLAND TECH ADMIN SUPPORT 4060 MEALS & FOOD	99.00	98.25	0.00	0.75
	<b>Total</b>	<b>132,152.00</b>	<b>131,283.30</b>	<b>88.00</b>	<b>780.70</b>
155005	HIGHLAND TECH OPS & MAINT 3200 RENTAL-LAND & BUILDINGS	469,965.00	469,964.28	0.00	0.72
155005	HIGHLAND TECH OPS & MAINT 3530 TELEPHONE	6,200.00	4,063.86	232.51	1,903.63
155005	HIGHLAND TECH OPS & MAINT 3540 REFUSE	1,450.00	0.00	441.17	1,008.83
	<b>Total</b>	<b>477,615.00</b>	<b>474,028.14</b>	<b>673.68</b>	<b>2,913.18</b>
155007	HIGHLAND TECH SE SUPPT STUDNTS 1231 TEACHERS ASSISTANTS	44,335.00	44,334.35	0.00	0.65
155007	HIGHLAND TECH SE SUPPT STUDNTS 1360 SPECIAL SERVICE TEACHERS	54,231.00	54,231.00	0.00	0.00
155007	HIGHLAND TECH SE SUPPT STUDNTS 2100 GROUP LIFE	150.00	149.62	0.00	0.38
155007	HIGHLAND TECH SE SUPPT STUDNTS 2200 GROUP MEDICAL	41,322.00	41,321.45	0.00	0.55
155007	HIGHLAND TECH SE SUPPT STUDNTS 2500 WORKERS' COMPENSATION	718.00	717.59	0.00	0.41
155007	HIGHLAND TECH SE SUPPT STUDNTS 2550 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	95.00	94.79	0.00	0.21
155007	HIGHLAND TECH SE SUPPT STUDNTS 2600 SOCIAL SECURITY	2,678.00	2,677.86	0.00	0.14
155007	HIGHLAND TECH SE SUPPT STUDNTS 2610 MEDICARE	1,390.00	1,389.26	0.00	0.74
155007	HIGHLAND TECH SE SUPPT STUDNTS 2700 CERTIFICATED RETIREMENT	6,812.00	6,811.44	0.00	0.56
155007	HIGHLAND TECH SE SUPPT STUDNTS 2800 PUBLIC EMPLOYEES	9,754.00	9,753.57	0.00	0.43
155007	HIGHLAND TECH SE SUPPT STUDNTS 2801 INCREMENTAL PERS INCREASE	3,300.00	3,299.06	0.00	0.94

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155007	HIGHLAND TECH SE SUPPT STUDNTS	3040 CONTRACTED ASD SERVICES	8,662.00	8,661.95	0.00	0.05
	Total 155007		173,447.00	173,441.94	0.00	5.06
155008	HIGHLAND TECH LIABILITY	6070 LIABILITY INSURANCE	10,091.00	10,091.00	0.00	0.00
	Total 155008		10,091.00	10,091.00	0.00	0.00
155013	HIGHLAND TECH ADMINISTRATION	1300 PRINCIPALS	170,155.00	170,154.96	0.00	0.04
155013	HIGHLAND TECH ADMINISTRATION	2100 GROUP LIFE	392.00	391.04	0.00	0.96
155013	HIGHLAND TECH ADMINISTRATION	2200 GROUP MEDICAL	27,140.00	27,140.00	0.00	0.00
155013	HIGHLAND TECH ADMINISTRATION	2500 WORKERS' COMPENSATION	1,239.00	1,238.76	0.00	0.24
155013	HIGHLAND TECH ADMINISTRATION	2550 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	167.00	166.58	0.00	0.42
155013	HIGHLAND TECH ADMINISTRATION	2610 MEDICARE	2,460.00	2,459.36	0.00	0.64
155013	HIGHLAND TECH ADMINISTRATION	2700 CERTIFICATED RETIREMENT	21,372.00	21,371.50	0.00	0.50
155013	HIGHLAND TECH ADMINISTRATION	2701 INCREMENTAL TRS INCREASE	23,175.00	23,174.79	0.00	0.21
155013	HIGHLAND TECH ADMINISTRATION	3600 TRAVEL OUT OF DISTRICT	1,463.00	1,462.98	0.00	0.02
155013	HIGHLAND TECH ADMINISTRATION	3613 OTHER	65.00	65.00	0.00	0.00
	Total		247,628.00	247,624.97	0.00	3.03
	Grand Total		2,138,253.00	2,035,652.33	102,598.78	1.89