

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #140 (98-99) (REVISED) January 25, 1999

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: REVISION TO SCHOOL BOARD POLICY, SECTION 333: CHARTER SCHOOLS (SECOND READING)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize revisions to the School Board Policy 333 and Contract on Charter Schools as shown on Attachments A and B on Second Reading.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The School Board adopted the current Charter School Policy 333 and accompanying contract in June of 1997; at that time, the School Board committed to reviewing the Charter School Policy and Contract after the first year of experience with the charter schools in the Anchorage School District.

Since last June, the School Board Policy Subcommittee has worked through the current Policy 333 for Charter Schools, section by section, with the Administration and our attorneys. Five Subcommittee meetings were held in June, July, September, and October. School Board members and the Administration provided suggestions to the initial drafts of the policy based on one year's experience. The initial draft was revised substantially after discussion and feedback from the current charter schools and others.

Input on the proposed changes was solicited from all of the charter schools, the Anchorage Council of PTAs, the Municipality of Anchorage's Office of Building and Public Safety, and the various labor unions whose members are impacted by the Charter School Policy in late September. The Subcommittee and the

Administration asked each entity to review this proposed draft, section by section, with their staff, their Academic Policy Committees, their Executive Boards, and other interested parties, and provide written comments and/or suggestions for changes to the proposed draft prior to final revisions by the School Board Policy Subcommittee in mid-October.

The Administration compiled the written input for the Policy Subcommittee and all input provided by the deadline was carefully considered at the October 17 Subcommittee meeting. Written input was received from the Family Partnership Charter School, the Village Charter School, the Aquarian Charter School, the Municipality of Anchorage Department of Building and Public Safety, and the Anchorage Education Association. The October 17 Subcommittee meeting was attended by the Administration and representatives from the Village Charter School, the Aquarian Charter School, and the *Anchorage Daily News*.

The School Board agreed that the Administration would make final revisions to both the Policy and the Contract and then forward the proposed Charter School Policy 333 and Contract changes to the full School Board later in the fall. The Administration has completed their final revisions for consideration and action by the full School Board on First Reading.

The School Board took public oral and written testimony on December 14, 1998, on the proposed changes to the Charter School Policy on First Reading. The School Board amended sections 333.25, Modifications to Approved Charter School Application/Contract; and 333.3 (sections 3, 5, and 21, Application Form at that meeting. In addition, the Administration was directed to provide information on charter school housing in the major school districts in Alaska (Mat-Su, Fairbanks, Juneau, Kenai, and Anchorage) under a future Superintendent's Report; this information is provided under separate Memorandum #190 Charter School Housing in Alaska School Districts.

BC/CC

Attachment

Prepared by: Carol Comeau, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction

Approved by: Carol Comeau, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction