

Academic Policy Committee Minutes

WORK SESSION

October 28, 2020 ZOOM

**PUBLIC ACCESS** youtube link below

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCH-pEO4HvVA6h0fD8bSylw>



*Building Student Excellence Through Traditional Cultural Learning*  
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Status: Present – P Excused – E Absent – A Guest – G Phone - PH

ANCCS APC Board Members				
Martha Gould-Lehe (Founder), <b>President</b>	P	Heidi Olson, <i>Parent</i>	PH	Adam Leggett (Community Seat) P
Daryl Griggs (Parent), <b>Vice President</b>	A	Sheila Sweetsir, Principal, (Founder) <i>Ex Officio</i>	P	Diane Gilila (Staff) P
Dawson Hoover (Parent), <b>Treasurer</b>	P	Quentin Simeon (Community Seat)	P	Darrell Vincek, ASD Director of Charter Schools <i>Ex Officio</i> P
Melissa Kahler-Afelin (Staff) <b>Secretary</b>	P	Emily Edenshaw (Parent)	P	
		Elizabeth Hancock (Founder)	P	
<b>Guests:</b> Lizzie Acuna ANCCS Staff Daniel Greenwood ANCCS STAFF Peggy Farnes ANCCS STAFF		Leah Kellerby ANCCS STAFF Danielle Riha ANCCS STAFF Georgianna Starr ANCCS STAFF Denise Ray ANCCS STAFF		Brandy Phares ANCCS STAFF Jennifer Stoneburner ANCCS STAFF Don Savage ANCCS Parent

ANCCS Founders Council				ANCCS Elders Council									
Martha Gould-Lehe	P	Rosemary Savage		Sheila Sweetsir	P	Elizabeth Hancock	P	Agnes Baptiste		Lucy Brown			
Virginia Juettner		Deborah Pungowiyi		Lisa Dolchek		Janann Kaufman		Edgar Blatchford		Anthony Nakazawa			
Max Dolchek <i>Remembered Fondly for faithful service.</i>													

Item	Open of Meeting	Follow-Up
<b>1.</b>	<p><b>WORKSESSION BEGAN at 5:48PM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Charter Alternative School Start Opening Proposals to ASD Superintendent and ASD School Board explanation by Darrell Vincek and discussion that ANCCS has an option to submit an alternate proposal for ANCCS by ANCCS APC Board voting. It cannot be less restrictive than what ASD has proposed. Timeline and final approval was discussed for superintendent awareness and review per safety and liability concerns.</li> <li>287 total students in count per final submission of enrollment numbers</li> <li>Review of ANCCS parent Data with 88 parent surveys completed: 47.3% shared no, and 30.8% yes, 22% shared unsure, a split in the middle with the data presented. Half in favor of opening and returning, and half no and undecided</li> <li>Concern from board member Quentin S. regarding inconsistencies with student education, and Elizabeth H shared a</li> </ul>	

	<p>yo-yo would be detrimental as well for student success</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emily E. shared a mitigation plan could help keep things open and safe but needs to be strong and well planned</li> <li>• Diane Gilila shared she is living the experience and commented on extended leave of absence with quarantine and additional days 10-14 and running through households.</li> <li>• Melissa shared that loss of staff and no professionals to take place, quality of educational experience, equity for students once we open those that cannot come back or are having to stay home due to quarantine. Commented on the building physical structure and keeping students apart or sanitizing taking place in the old building.</li> <li>• Elizabeth shared 10-14 days of loss of instruction and classroom physical structure would cause the entire class to be quarantined if a positive took place, she shared students are just getting into the groove and use to online learning and it is getting better</li> <li>• Emily shared the mitigation plan is hard and challenging, she shared concern for intergenerational homes and elders getting sick, airing on the side of caution and there are so many unknowns at this time related to COVID 19, HVAC issues regarding the building</li> <li>• Staff data was shared and split 50/50 with ready for students to return</li> <li>• Adam shared that he is concerned for student success and missing school, he shared that schools have been found to not be super spreaders, he also shared that a month of time of continuing virtual school won't make or break a student and is in favor of having them come back for success and having a solid mitigation plan in place</li> <li>• Martha shared virtual needs to remain an option for students at ANCCS</li> <li>• Quentin shared that creating an online and in person curriculum will be challenging</li> <li>• Martha shared that in person learning will share the highest student success result</li> </ul> <p><b>WORK SESSION ENDED AT 6:37PM</b>  <b>Quorum established at 6:38PM and meeting was called to order</b></p>	
<p><b>2.</b></p>	<p><b>Announcements:</b> n/a</p>	
<p><b>3.</b></p>	<p><b>Public/General Comments:</b></p> <p>Don Savage: He would like to share he had TB when he was younger, he is single parent, he has a 10-15% chance of surviving if COVID happens to him, he is the livelihood for his family and if he dies would greatly impact his children, following COVID mitigation in school will be challenging with young children, I cannot see putting people in harms way for education and I feel for kids that need school as a safe harbor but we cannot people in harms way.</p> <p>Lizzie Acuna ANCCS Staff: Asking to postpone opening and delaying opening until January due to holidays approaching, flu season, consistency for students and families with staying online, referenced keeping bubble small and keeping contact with family members per Dr Zink recommendations, and I do not want my child to have long term consequences,</p> <p>Starr ANCCS STAFF: Online learning is not optimal but is the safest option for now, numbers are spiking and hospital beds are few in the state, we have to look at our population as the Native school, the case numbers among Alaska Natives is spiking in our community, shared personal connection and family experience with COVID19 where family member had to quarantine for 4 weeks, long-term health impacts of COVID, for the safety of students and staff I am asking for school not to reopen.</p> <p>RAY: Please consider the staff of the school, at least half of our staff is a higher age group and at risk, scary thinking going</p>	

	<p>back to school with community numbers as high as they are. 6<sup>th</sup> grade has over thirty students and cannot keep kids apart</p> <p>Pavadore: Classroom sizes are an issue, and considerations for physical distancing, the idea of going back to school right now and us with young children in the home will be in and out of the building and hard to teach in person, as well as sending students home and missing out,</p> <p>Greenwood: Echos what other staff is voicing, growing size of bubbles is a concern and how my family will be connected to three different schools, as well as some of his students having siblings in multiple schools, suggests to think outside the box and meet in small groups safely for those struggling students,</p> <p>Farnes: Concerns with having students quarantine will impact parents having to quarantine and miss work once schools open, where do students go when they are not picked up on time, if a teacher is out having to get a sub is hard and will just be twice as hard. I have an office without a window and balancing my services between kids at home and in school.</p> <p>Kellerby ANCCS STAFF: opportunity to be creative, general distance model, and address diverse needs in creative ways.</p>	
4.	<b>Agenda: Motion was made by Emily E. approve the 10-28-20 agenda, seconded by Elizabeth.</b>	Motioned passed
<b>Unfinished Business</b>		<b>Vote/Follow-Up</b>
5.	<b>Minutes:</b> n/a and left for November meeting	Unanimously Approved
<b>Updates/Reports</b>		<b>Follow-Up</b>
6.	<p><b>ANSEP Memorandum still pending review from David Whiting and edits coming back to APC for final review. -Adam L. shared that there could be additional funding source to support the pilot from ANSEP based on his discussion with a community member. This item was moved to next meeting date.</b></p> <p><b>Open Meetings Act Training is Oct 29 5:30-7:30 It is an online training and the link will be shared. Board members are encouraged to attend.</b></p>	Next Board meeting
7.	<p><b>Principals Comments: Sheila shared thoughts and comments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Input from the survey shared a lot of concern for vulnerable population regarding students, staff, elders.</li> <li>• The survey highlighted that our families are split with coming back to school or staying distanced learning.</li> <li>• Online learning is not easy and has given challenges for staff and students, but we are making gains every day and being creative and problem-solving better ways to make things work.</li> <li>• The data is split 50% for and against opening and finding staff coverage for staff being out will be challenging</li> <li>• Thinking outside of the box and how do we reach our struggling students, and how do we reach Pre-K-2<sup>nd</sup> and creating workgroups to solve some of those student needs</li> <li>• In the meantime, for stability right now I think what is best is to remain online, and work on our plan and our</li> </ul>	

	student learning plan alternatives and school start opening together.	
<b>8.</b>	<b>Fundraising:</b> NONE	
	<b>New Business</b>	<b>Vote</b>
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>Closing Comments from the board:</b></p> <p>Melissa KA: Appreciative for the open dialogue to do what is best for the students and do it safely with a solid plan. Advocate for continued creative problem solving and planning but keep students online for now until we get the plan right.</p> <p>Quentin: Appreciative for the opportunity to wait and then working together to come up with good solid plan</p> <p>Heidi: I Think of a mother who got COVID and was a part of our board with no underlying condition died as a result of the virus.</p> <p>Elizabeth: Making sure we are not sacrificing health for education, stay in our distance model until the end of second quarter, concerns with staff out due to flu season,</p> <p>Diane: I feel similar to everyone else, and I would agree with staying in the distance model until the end of second quarter, and perhaps develop a committee on the learning options and continued planning with the staff and the board, discussed options presented needed more discussions, I personally experienced how long staff can be out, and would like to continue online for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and evaluating.</p> <p>Emily: Gratitude to the board and teachers advocating for our community and our youth, thank you to Martha and Sheila for our leadership, I value being a part of this process and protect our future leaders, We need to listen to the research available and make a plan that is the best for us for the beginning of the year, We should remain online and continue what we have been doing so far. My heart is telling me and concluding that we need more data for a better plan.</p> <p>Dawson: I would like to wait until January and evaluate month to month, and we are blessed to be in a position where we are able to make a plan and have a choice to wait. It feels like we would be rushing if we opened in November.</p> <p>Adam: Thank everyone for their comments and feedback, and all the different perspectives, November is too soon to come up with a robust plan and to be successful we need planning time. I feel the younger students are falling behind and do better in person learning but would like to continue as is until after the break. We will see that schools will not be super spreaders and we can come up with a plan that will help kids get back safely and effectively after the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.</p> <p>Martha: Summarized that the board shared perspectives that ANCCS would stay distanced for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.</p> <p>Quentin made a motion for ANCCS to remain in distance education platform until the end of the second quarter, Emily Seconded</p> <p>Adam added commentary regarding a special APC meeting to review planning for in person learning prior to start of third quarter in December. Darrell shared that other charters have also planned more small group interventions despite staying virtual for specific student groups.</p> <p>Board Voted and Passed unanimously</p>	Passed Unanimously

	<b>Executive Session None</b>	
	<b>Upcoming Events/Public Comments</b>	<b>Follow-Up</b>
<b>10.</b>	<b>Public/General Comments:</b> Open Meeting Act training Oct 29 at 5:30PM	
<b>11.</b>	<b>Upcoming Events: Work Session then Executive session for ANCCS School Start Planning</b>  <b>Next APC Meeting in NOV TBD ; 5:30 PM via Zoom</b>	
	<b>Close of Meeting</b>	<b>Follow-Up</b>
<b>12.</b>	<b>Adjournment:</b> 7:29pm	Motion Passed Unanimously

Attachments:  
Submitted by:

Approved on: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary/President Signature \_\_\_\_\_