



RENEWAL
Charter School
APPLICATION
for

FY 2016

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development
801 W 10th Street, Suite 200
P.O. Box 110500
Juneau, AK 99811-0500

DIRECTIONS

Application for a Renewal Charter

Parties interested in submitting a renewal application for a charter school should familiarize themselves with all applicable state statutes and regulations contained within this document.

Local School Districts/School Boards may have developed a Charter Schools renewal application form for approval at the local level that requires additional information, however for the purposes of seeking State Board of Education & Early Development approval, **this renewal application form MUST be used.** Sufficient evidence must be presented to address all sections of this renewal application form for the department to deem the renewal application compliant and forward to the State Board of Education for approval.

Timeline:

Applicants must follow all local procedures to seek Charter School approval by their local boards.

Not later than 30 days after a local school board's decision to approve a renewal application for a charter school, the local school board must forward the renewal application to the State Board of Education & Early Development for review and approval by mailing to the department:

- (1) the complete renewal application filed with the local school board, including all supporting documents required;
- (2) the written decision of the local school board;
- (3) all other materials considered by the local school board in support or in opposition to the renewal application; and
- (4) the minutes of the local school board meeting at which the charter was approved.

In the event the local school district/local board has a separate renewal application form that differs from the state required form, **it is the responsibility of the Charter School to transfer complete responses to the department form.**

An original and 4 copies of the EED Charter School Renewal Application Form should be mailed to:

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development
Attn: Charter School Program Manager
801 W. 10th Street, Suite 200
P.O. Box 110500
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500

Please also submit via email a pdf of the renewal application form to Todd.Brocious@alaska.gov

A renewal application approved by a local school board and submitted to the department *must be received by the department at least 90 days* before the next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education and Early Development. See schedule at: [www.education.state.ak.us/State Board/](http://www.education.state.ak.us/State_Board/)

A renewal application for a charter school approved by a local school board may not be submitted to the department more than 12 months before the expiration of the existing contract.

Required Format:

1. Not more than 200 pages single-sided, *unbound*, in 12 point font.
2. ALL pages numbered in consecutive order (i.e. 1, 2, 3, ...200).
3. A table of contents.
4. Follow in numerical order the numbered sections and sub-elements of the application.
5. ALL numbered sections and sub-elements must be addressed.

Upon receipt, the renewal application will go through a technical review committee to determine if any additional information is necessary. Addressing each section with sufficient detail and evidence examples will decrease the likelihood of additional information being requested.

Once the technical review committee agrees the applicant has demonstrated compliance, the renewal application will be scheduled to be addressed by the State Board of Education & Early Development at their next meeting.

Charter School Renewal Application

Please provide narrative responses to the following areas. If referencing evidence within a document that is included as an appendix, please also provide sufficient detail in the narrative response for review purposes.

Section 1: Establishment of the Charter at the local level

- i. Provide the primary purpose of the charter and how it specifically differs from other educational options available in the community. Provide a narrative to describe how the charter has changed since the last application. *AS 14.03.265(a)(1-3)*

Rilke Schule is Alaska's only German immersion school. We are a 50/50 German language immersion model that is only available through this charter program.

The changes to our Charter include:

PURPOSE – No changes.

CONTACT INFORMATION – The school's main APC Contact has been updated

PROVISIONS FOR AN ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE - Rilke's APC members all have changed and their contact information has been included.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE - Rilke's role in how it works with its associated nonprofits has been modified to reflect a stronger leadership role with its principal.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

- **RILKE SCHULE GOALS** - Section 10 – Language changed to indicate that staff development is not coordinated with German government entities.

- **CURRICULUM** - Over the last five years, the APC has modified its textbooks and programs in math and science. A list of materials used with the curriculum that aligns with the Common Core State Standards has been included.

- **ASSESSMENT AND GRADING** – To determine placement of students, several forms of assessment will be utilized for Language Arts to include; AIMSweb, DRA's, AMP and teacher-designed assessments and recommendations. Removed language referring to academic boot camp as it is no longer offered. Rilke Schule, in the past, utilized a unique German grading structure that differed from ASD. The APC has now aligned our grading structure with the ASD.

- **SCHEDULE AND CALENDAR** - Rilke Schule has lengthened the schedule on Fridays by 15 minutes.

- **PROOF OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT** – Removed all previous language. Rilke Schule students participate in all state standardized testing. All ASD testing standards are adhered to.

ADMISSIONS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES – Rilke Schule now admits new students, from 1st – 8th grades, into the program only by leveled German language proficiency assessments on the first day of 1st grade. Rilke Schule now specifies that the ASD calendar is made use of for all planning purposes.

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES – No changes.

FUNDING ALLOCATION AND ANNUAL PROGRAM BUDGET -

Changed to reflect current Rilke funding based upon increased student count.

METHOD BY WHICH THE CHARTER SCHOOL SHALL ACCOUNT FOR RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES - No changes.

LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF THE FACILITY - Rilke Schule has a new facility and address.

TEACHERS/ADMINISTRATORS IN THE CHARTER SCHOOL - Rilke Schule admin and faculty have changed since 2009. An updated list is provided.

OTHER STAFF IN THE CHARTER SCHOOL - A list of current staff has been provided.

PUPIL - TEACHER RATIO - Rilke Schule's pupil-teacher ratio has changed since 2009. In accordance with the ASD PTR formula, the ratio is 24.9/1.

NUMBER OF STUDENTS SERVED - Student count has changed, 486 students are projected for the '15-'16 school year. The school now accepts up to 520 students.

TRANSPORTATION - new language- The parents/guardians of students Rilke Schule are responsible for providing timely transportation for their child to and from school. Nonetheless, ASD Policy 333.99 regarding transportation dictates: On a space available basis, charter school students may access school bus transportation on those regular school bus routes that run within the attendance area where the charter school is located. Transportation access is subject to the following:

a. Charter school students may only access those school bus routes that are appropriate to their school level, i.e., elementary school, middle school or high school.

b. Charter school students who reside within a mile and a half of the charter school are not eligible for transportation unless they must cross a designated hazardous road area.

Rilke Schule is a K - 8 school that runs on a middle school schedule with an abbreviated Friday schedule. These factors need to be considered when requesting transportation services.

FOOD SERVICE - No changes.

TERM OF THE CONTRACT - No changes.

TERMINATION CLAUSE - No changes.

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE FOR RECEIPT OF USE OF PUBLIC MONEY - No changes.

STATE REQUIREMENTS - No changes.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS - No changes.

- ii. Provide evidence of the local school board approval of the reapplication for the charter school marked as Appendix A. *AS 14.03.250(b)*

Attached is Appendix A; Anchorage School Board minutes showing approved vote on charter renewal.

- iii. Provide evidence of the signed contract between the charter school and the local school board containing all required elements under AS 14.03.255(c) marked as Appendix B. *AS 14.03.255(c)(1-14)*

Evidence of contract between Rilke Schule and the ASB is attached as Appendix B

- iv. Provide either the charter school's bylaws marked as Appendix C **or** an indication on the signed assurance page that the bylaws previously submitted to the department in the initial application or previous renewal applications have not changed. *4 AAC 33.110(a)(4)*

Rilke Schule's APC, updated the Bylaws February 10th 2014. The updated bylaws are attached as Appendix C

- v. Provide evidence of the Academic Policy Committee (APC) consisting of parents of students attending the school, teachers, and school employees. Evidence includes a list of the members of the APC and their qualifications, as well as the written minutes from meetings where the charter school met with the academic policy committee to fulfill the requirement of at least once each year monitoring the progress in achieving the committee's policies and goals. Mark as Appendix D. *AS 14.03.250(a), AS 14.03.255(b)(4), 4 AAC 33.110(a)(1)*

List of current APC members is on page 1 of the charter. Appendix D provides written minutes from meetings where the charter school met with the APC to fulfill the requirement to monitor progress in achieving committee's goals.

References: AS 14.03.250. Application for charter schools, AS 14.03.255(c)(1-14) Organization and operation of a charter school, AS 14.03.265 Admission, 4 AAC 33.110 Charter school application and review procedure.

Use the reviewer rating template below to fill in the page numbers to depict the location of the responses for each sub-element. Do not use the reviewer's notes column.

Reviewer Rating Template		
Section 1	Page Number location(s) of response(s) including Appendices	Reviewer's notes Rating: Compliant/Noncompliant
Purpose	32	

Evidence of board approval	56-60	
Evidence of signed contract with all required elements	See required element below (items 1-14) 61-68	
1. Description of educational program	6, 7	
2. Specific levels of achievement for the education program	21, 22 107-116	
3. Admissions Policy and Procedures	22, 23, 62	
4. Administrative Policies	23, 24	
5. Statement of Charter funding	24	
6. Method of accountability for receipts and expenditures	24, 25	
7. Location and description of facility	25, 149-184	
8. Name of teachers who by agreement will teach in the charter	25, 26	
9. Teacher to student ratio	26, 27	
10. Number of students to be served	27	
11. Term of contract (not to exceed 10 years)	28	
12. Termination Clause	28	
13. Statement of state and federal law	61	

compliance		
14. Exemptions or requirements included in contract	23	
Evidence of bylaws or assurance	69	
Evidence of APC, including list of names/qualifications, meeting minutes	4,5,86	

Section 2: Organization and Administration

- i. Provide information on how the charter school is administered to ensure that the terms of the contract required by AS 14.03.255 (c) are being met; including who is responsible and what mechanism(s) they use. *AS 14.03.255(b)(2)*

The terms required for AS 14.03.255 (c) and (b) are outlined throughout Rilke Schule's charter and bylaws (Appendix C) attached. Rilke Schule is an Anchorage School District school and submits to Anchorage School Board oversight regarding these terms.

- ii. Provide the written administrative policy manual utilized by the charter or an indication on the signed assurance page that the policy manual submitted to the department in the initial application or previous renewal applications has not changed. Mark as Appendix E. *4 AAC 33.110(a)(13)*

Rilke Schule follows the ASD administrative policy as is stipulated throughout the attached Rilke Schule charter. See attached statement signed by APC chair (Appendix E).

- iii. Provide evidence that the charter school met regularly with parents and with teachers of the charter school to review, evaluate, and improve operations of the charter school, including any review recommendations. *AS 14.03.255(b)(3)*

Attached within appendix D are APC agendas and minutes that demonstrate the work done in review/maintenance of school operations and program.

- iv. Provide evidence that the charter school met with the APC at least once a year to monitor progress in achieving the committee's policies and goals. *AS 14.03.255(b)(4)*

Attached within appendix D are agendas that indicate that the APC meets monthly throughout the school year.

- v. Provide a description of the school schedule and calendar. *4 AAC 33.110(a)(9)*

Rilke Schule follows the ASD calendar but has a modified daily schedule that has had Dept of Education and ASB oversight. This already approved and working daily schedule can be seen in our charter under "Schedule and Calendar"

- vi. If applicable: Provide information on alternative educational options for students not wishing to attend the charter if the charter school is the only school in the community. *4 AAC 33.110(a)(12)*

Not applicable.

References: AS 14.03.255. Organization and operation of a charter school, 4 AAC 33.110 Charter school application and review procedure.

Use the reviewer rating template below to fill in the page numbers to depict the location of the responses for each sub-element. Do not use the reviewer's notes column.

Reviewer Rating Template		
Section 2	Page Number location(s) of response(s) including Appendices	Reviewer's notes Rating: Compliant/Noncompliant
Description of administrative oversight	63, 64, 65, 67	
Evidence of written administrative policy manual or assurance	106	
Evidence of regular parent and teacher contacts for continuous improvement	86, 100, 102	
Evidence of annual APC meeting	86-105	
Description of school schedule and calendar	189-191 21	

Alternative options for students if no other educational program exists	May be "not applicable" N/A	
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Section 3: Educational Program and Student Achievement

- i. Provide a description of the educational program to be offered at the charter school including specific teaching methods that benefit an age group, grade level or specific type of student and examples of curriculum utilized. *AS 14.03.255(c)(1), AS 14.03.265(a)(1-3), 4 AAC 33.110(a)(5)*

Attached in Rilke's charter, under curriculum, are descriptions of our educational program including materials utilized.

- ii. Provide evidence of a written instructional program that addresses state content standards under 4 AAC 04 and aligns with the content on the statewide assessment system under 4 AAC 06.710-4 AAC 06.790 marked as Appendix F. *4 AAC 33.110(a)(6)*

Appendix F includes the Rilke Schule ASD report card and includes student assessments and proficiencies. The report card also includes The Alaska School Performance index

- iii. Provide a description of plans for serving special education, vocational education, gifted, and bilingual students. *4 AAC 33.110(a)(10)*

Under "Special Education Services" of Rilke Schule's charter is a description of our special education, bilingual, and gifted services.

- iv. Provide the written objectives for program achievement desired by the charter. Include information on the progress of the charter to date in reaching the objectives. Include in this section information on ASPI star rating, comparisons of state assessments for the school to district and state averages, as well as student performance by disaggregated groups. Include a synopsis of how students in your school are performing. Also include information on how the charter addresses the needs of students who do not perform at acceptable levels of proficiency. *4 AAC 33.110(a)(7)*

Rilke Schule has an ASPI rating of 5 stars. Rilke has continually reached its objectives and this data can be reviewed in Appendix F. Under "Rilke Schule Vision", "We Believe In The Following Values" and "Rilke Schule Goals" of the Rilke Schule charter are written objectives and desired outcomes.

- v. Provide a description of the mechanisms for student assessment utilized in addition to those required by state law. *4 AAC 33.110(a)(5)*

Rilke Schule follows all ASD standards for assessments as well as A1, A2 and B1 German language proficiency testing.

References: AS 14.03.255. Organization and operation of a charter school, AS 14.03.265 Admission, 4 AAC 33.110 Charter School application and review procedure.

Use the reviewer rating template below to fill in the page numbers to depict the location of the responses for each sub-element. Do not use the reviewer's notes column.

Reviewer Rating Template		
Section 3	Page Number location(s) of response(s) including Appendices	Reviewer's notes Rating: Compliant/Noncompliant
Description of educational program	10-20	
Evidence of written instructional program that addressees content standards and aligns with statewide assessment system	21	
Description of plans for serving special education, vocational education, gifted and bilingual students	21	
Evidence of written objectives for program achievement, progress on meeting objectives, comparisons of disaggregated assessment data to district and state averages, and plans to address students who do not perform at acceptable levels	21, 22 107-116	
Description of the mechanisms for student assessment in addition to those required by state law	21	

Section 4: Professional Development

- i. Provide a description of and schedule for staff development activities. 4 AAC 33.110(a)(8)

Rilke Schule administration provided for all ASD required trainings on dates prescribed on the ASD calendar. Rilke Schule program specific trainings take place during beginning of the school year inservice time and continue during faculty meetings held every Friday morning before the school day begins.

References: 4 AAC 33.110 Charter School application and review procedure.

Use the reviewer rating template below to fill in the page numbers to depict the location of the responses for each sub-element. Do not use the reviewer's notes column.

Reviewer Rating Template		
Section 4	Page Number location(s) of response(s) including Appendices	Reviewer's notes Rating: Compliant/Noncompliant
Description of and schedule for planned professional development	40	

Section 5: Facility

- i. Provide the location for the charter school, description of the facility and lease information. AS 14.03.255(c)(7)(d), 4 AAC 33.110(a)(15)

Rilke Schule's location is 1846 E. 64th Ave. Anchorage AK 99507 starting in school year 2015-16. Please see attached for facility lease and building plans.

- ii. Describe the plans for the charter school's facility and any plans for projected growth. 4 AAC 33.110(a)(15)

As is the impetus for this charter renewal, the newly constructed facility is Rilke Schule's 20 year home. Rilke has no plans for growth beyond our new facility. Our kindergarten enrollment will follow the historical trends from the last 2 years, for a sustained student population average of 500 students. Rilke's APC will take action to adjust enrollment if attrition rates fluctuate to avoid future growth.

References: AS 14.03.255. Organization and operation of a charter school, 4 AAC 33.110 Charter School application and review procedure.

Use the reviewer rating template below to fill in the page numbers to depict the location of the responses for each sub-element. Do not use the reviewer's notes column.

Reviewer Rating Template		
Section 5	Page Number location(s) of response(s) including Appendices	Reviewer's notes Rating: Compliant/Noncompliant
Description of facility and location of the charter school including addressing district leased space if applicable	25, 178-184	
Evidence of a written facility plans	40, 149-184 25	

Section 6: Admission

- i. Provide the written admission policies and procedures utilized by the charter. Please include evidence that the school is ensuring an equal and bias-free access to all eligible students. Mark as Appendix G. *AS 14.03.255(c)(3), 4 AAC 33.110(a)(11)*

Rilke Schule utilizes the ASD Lottery process and admission policies. As with other immersion language programs Rilke Schule cannot accept students after kindergarten unless a potential student can pass German proficiency tests. Proficient German speakers are extremely important to the program and will be allowed enrollment, beginning in 1st grade, if language proficiency is demonstrated through Rilke Schule's assessment practices. Students who are not able to demonstrate proficiency at the grade level for which they apply are deemed at a significant disadvantage due to insufficient skills that would predictably negatively impact grade level progression.

- ii. Provide a written student recruitment process, including a lottery or random drawing mechanism for enrollment if applicants exceed the school's capacity. Please include information in this section describing enrollment and waitlist numbers for the past 3-5 years. Mark as Appendix H. *AS 14.03.265(b), 4 AAC 33.110(a)(17)*

Rilke Schule does not currently have a need to recruit as demand has remained steady. The school makes use of the ASD Lottery system. Waitlist info is found in Attachment H.

References: AS 14.03.255. Organization and operation of a charter school, AS 14.02.265 Admission, 4 AAC 33.110 Charter School application and review procedure.

Use the reviewer rating template below to fill in the page numbers to depict the location of the responses for each sub-element. Do not use the reviewer's notes column.

Reviewer Rating Template		
Section 6	Page Number location(s) of	Reviewer's notes

	response(s) including Appendices	Rating: Compliant/Noncompliant
Evidence of written admission policies and procedures	22, 23	
Evidence of a written student recruitment process, including enrollment and waitlist numbers	140	

Section 7: Fiscal

- i. Provide a written budget summary and financial plan, including a statement of the charter school's funding allocation from the local school board and costs assignable to the charter school program budget. Information in this section should explicitly detail the amount and sources of the revenue streams; the specific indirect rate (not to exceed 4%) and details of what the indirect rate charges cover; as well as the charter's eligibility to receive additional revenue over the 2.65 mills required in the foundation formula. Projected budget marked as Appendix I. *AS 14.03.255(c)(5), 4 AAC 33.110(a)(14)(A)*

Rilke Schule has included its 2015-16 budget in Appendix I. Rilke Schule's other revenue sources are the German Government grant called PASCH, which is between 14,000 and 15,000 Euros annually, private donations, and community fundraising.

- ii. Provide a signed assurance that:
- the charter school follows all district approved practices to account for receipts and expenditures;
 - the charter school has been successful in ending each year with a zero or positive fund balance;
 - all audit reports to date indicate the school has met its obligation to ensure the fiscal integrity of the school's financial operation. *AS 14.03.255(b)(1)(c)(6)*

Rilke Schule follows all Anchorage School District accounting guidelines and works closely with the ASD Budget and Finance Department to ensure compliance.

References: AS 14.03.255. Organization and operation of a charter school, AS 14.02.265 Admission, 4 AAC 33.110 Charter School application and review procedure.

Use the reviewer rating template below to fill in the page numbers to depict the location of the responses for each sub-element. Do not use the reviewer's notes column.

Reviewer Rating Template		
Section 7	Page Number location(s) of	Reviewer's notes

	response(s) including Appendices	Rating: Compliant/Noncompliant
Evidence of a budget plan	24, 64, 141-147	
Evidence of assurance	45, 24, 141-147 63, 64, 65, 68	

Section 8: Transportation

- i. Provide the district charter school transportation policy, if proposed or adopted, marked as Appendix J. 4 AAC 33.110(a)(19)

The parents/guardians of students Rilke Schule are responsible for providing timely transportation for their child to and from school. Nonetheless, ASD Policy 333.99 regarding transportation dictates:

On a space available basis, charter school students may access school bus transportation on those regular school bus routes that run within the attendance area where the charter school is located. Transportation access is subject to the following:

- a. Charter school students may only access those school bus routes that are appropriate to their school level, i.e., elementary school, middle school or high school.
- b. Charter school students who reside within a mile and a half of the charter school are not eligible for transportation unless they must cross a designated hazardous road area.

Rilke Schule is a K – 8 school that runs on a middle school schedule with an abbreviated Friday schedule. These factors need to be considered when requesting transportation services.

References: AS 14.03.255. Organization and operation of a charter school, AS 14.02.265 Admission, 4 AAC 33.110 Charter School application and review procedure, AS 14.09.010 Transportation (e)(1-3)(f)(g), 4 AAC 27.057 Charter School Transportation policy.

Use the reviewer rating template below to fill in the page numbers to depict the location of the responses for each sub-element. Do not use the reviewer's notes column.

Reviewer Rating Template		
Section 8	Page Number location(s) of response(s) including Appendices	Reviewer's notes Rating: Compliant/Noncompliant
Plans for pupil transportation	148	

Charter Schools Assurance Page

By signing this document, the school district files its assurance that the statements, documents and/or information listed below is in compliance with all state and federal laws and regulations.

The charter school bylaws previously submitted to the department in the initial application or previous renewal applications have not changed. 4 AAC 33.110(a)(4)

The charter school administrative policy manual submitted to the department in the initial application or previous renewal applications has not changed. 4 AAC 33.110(a)(13)

The charter school follows all district approved practices to account for receipts and expenditures. AS 14.03255(b)(1)(c)(6), 4 AAC 33.110(a)(14)(B)

The charter school has been successful in ending each year with a zero or positive fund balance. AS 14.03255(b)(1)

All audit reports to date indicate the charter school has met its obligation to ensure the fiscal integrity of the school's financial operation. AS 14.03255(b)(2)(c)(13)

Name of the School District: Anchorage School District

Name of the Charter Program: Rilke Schule Charter

Name of Superintendent: Ed Graff, Superintendent

Signature of Superintendent: Ed Graff Date: 7/22/15

Alaska State Charter School Statutes

Sec. 14.03.250. Application for charter school.

(a) A local school board shall prescribe an application procedure for the establishment of a charter school in that school district. The application procedure must include provisions for an academic policy committee consisting of parents of students attending the school, teachers, and school employees and a proposed form for a contract between a charter school and the local school board, setting out the contract elements required under AS 14.03.255(c).

(b) A decision of a local school board approving or denying an application for a charter school must be in writing, must be issued within 60 days after the application, and must include all relevant findings of fact and conclusions of law.

(c) If a local school board approves an application for a charter school, the local school board shall forward the application to the State Board of Education and Early Development for review and approval.

(d) If a local school board denies an application for a charter school, the applicant may appeal the denial to the commissioner. The appeal to the commissioner shall be filed not later than 60 days after the local school board issues its written decision of denial. The commissioner shall review the local school board's decision to determine whether the findings of fact are supported by substantial evidence and whether the decision is contrary to law. A decision of the commissioner upholding the denial by the local school board may be appealed within 30 days to the State Board of Education and Early Development.

(e) If the commissioner approves a charter school application, the commissioner shall forward the application to the State Board of Education and Early Development for review and approval. The application shall be forwarded not later than 30 days after the commissioner issues a written decision. The State Board of Education and Early Development shall exercise independent judgment in evaluating the application.

(f) A local school board that denied an application for a charter school approved by the state board on appeal shall operate the charter school as provided in AS 14.03.255 - 14.03.290.

[This statute applies to charter school applications filed with a local school board on or after July 1, 2014.]

Sec. 14.03.253. Charter school application appeal.

(a) In an appeal to the commissioner under AS 14.03.250, the commissioner shall review the record before the local school board. The commissioner may request written supplementation of the record from the applicant or the local school board. The commissioner may

- (1) remand the appeal to the local school board for further review;
- (2) approve the charter school application and forward the application to the State Board of Education and Early Development with or without added conditions; or
- (3) uphold the decision denying the charter school application; if the commissioner upholds a local school board's decision to deny a charter school application and the applicant appeals to the State Board of Education and Early Development, the commissioner shall

immediately forward the application and record to the State Board of Education and Early Development.

(b) In an appeal to the State Board of Education and Early Development of a denial of a charter school application under (a)(3) of this section, the state board shall determine, based on the record, whether the commissioner's findings are supported by substantial evidence and whether the decision is contrary to law. The state board shall issue a written decision within 90 days after an appeal.

[This statute applies to charter school applications filed with a local school board on or after July 1, 2014.]

Sec. 14.03.255. Organization and operation of a charter school.

(a) A charter school operates as a school in the local school district except that the charter school (1) is exempt from the local school district's textbook, program, curriculum, and scheduling requirements; (2) is exempt from AS 14.14.130(c); the principal of the charter school shall be selected by the academic policy committee and shall select, appoint, or otherwise supervise employees of the charter school; and (3) operates under the charter school's annual program budget as set out in the contract between the local school board and the charter school under (c) of this section. A local school board may exempt a charter school from other local school district requirements if the exemption is set out in the contract. A charter school is subject to tests required by the department.

(b) A charter school shall

- (1) keep financial records of the charter school;
- (2) oversee the operation of the charter school to ensure that the terms of the contract required by (c) of this section are being met;
- (3) meet regularly with parents and with teachers of the charter school to review, evaluate, and improve operations of the charter school; and
- (4) meet with the academic policy committee at least once each year to monitor progress in achieving the committee's policies and goals.

(c) A charter school shall operate under a contract between the charter school and the local school board. A contract must contain the following provisions:

- (1) a description of the educational program;
- (2) specific levels of achievement for the education program;
- (3) admission policies and procedures;
- (4) administrative policies;
- (5) a statement of the charter school's funding allocation from the local school board and costs assignable to the charter school program budget;
- (6) the method by which the charter school will account for receipts and expenditures;
- (7) the location and description of the facility;
- (8) the name of the teacher, or teachers, who, by agreement between the charter school and the teacher, will teach in the charter school;
- (9) the teacher-to-student ratio;
- (10) the number of students served;
- (11) the term of the contract, not to exceed a term of 10 years;
- (12) a termination clause providing that the contract may be terminated by the local school board for the failure of the charter school to meet educational achievement goals or fiscal management standards, or for other good cause;

(13) a statement that the charter school will comply with all state and federal requirements for receipt and use of public money;

(14) other requirements or exemptions agreed upon by the charter school and the local school board.

(d) A school district shall offer to a charter school the right of first refusal for a lease of space in an existing school district facility or in a facility within the school district that is not currently being used as a public school, if the chief school administrator determines the facility meets requirements for health and safety applicable to public buildings or other public schools in the district. If the school district requires lease payments by a charter school, the school district shall negotiate a lease agreement with the charter school for an amount that does not exceed the true operational costs calculated on a square foot basis for space leased under this subsection.

Sec. 14.03.260. Funding for charter school.

(a) A local school board shall provide an approved charter school with an annual program budget. The budget shall be not less than the amount generated by the students enrolled in the charter school less administrative costs retained by the local school district, determined by applying the indirect cost rate approved by the department up to four percent. Costs directly related to charter school facilities, including rent, utilities, and maintenance, may not be included in an annual program budget for the purposes of calculating the four percent cap on administrative costs under this subsection. A local school board shall provide a charter school with a report itemizing the administrative costs retained by the local school board under this section. The "amount generated by students enrolled in the charter school" is to be determined in the same manner as it would be for a student enrolled in another public school in that school district and includes funds generated by grants, appropriations, federal impact aid, the required local contribution, the local contribution under AS 14.17.410(c), special needs under AS 14.17.420(a)(1), and secondary school vocational and technical instruction under AS 14.17.420(a)(3). A school district shall direct state aid under AS 14.11 for the construction or major maintenance of a charter school facility to the charter school that generated the state aid, subject to the same terms and conditions that apply to state aid under AS 14.11 for construction or major maintenance of a school facility that is not a charter school.

(b) The program budget of a charter school is to be used for operating expenses of the educational program of the charter school, including purchasing textbooks, classroom materials, and instructional aids.

(c) The charter school shall provide the financial and accounting information requested by the local school board or the Department of Education and Early Development and shall cooperate with the local school district or the department in complying with the requirements of AS 14.17.910.

(d) The expenses of housing nonresident students who attend the charter school, including room, board, and other reasonable housing expenses, may not be paid for with state money but may be paid for with funds contributed by sources other than the state.

Sec. 14.03.263. Charter school grant program. [Repealed, Sec. 1 ch 100 SLA 2003]. Repealed or Renumbered

Sec. 14.03.264. Charter school grant program.

(a) A charter school that is established on or after the effective date of this section may receive a one-time grant from the department equal to the amount of \$500 for each student enrolled in the school on October 1 of the first year in which the school applies for the grant. The charter school shall use a grant received under this section to provide educational services. In this subsection, "educational services" includes curriculum development, program development, and special education services.

(b) The department shall establish by regulation procedures for the application for and expenditure of grant funds under (a) of this section.

(c) If the amount appropriated in a fiscal year for the charter school grant program is insufficient to meet the amounts authorized under (a) of this section, the department shall reduce pro rata the per pupil grant amount by the necessary percentage as determined by the department. If a charter school grant is reduced under this subsection, the charter school may apply to the department in a subsequent fiscal year for the balance of the grant amount.

Sec. 14.03.265. Admission.

(a) The program of a charter school may be designed to serve

- (1) students within an age group or grade level;
- (2) students who will benefit from a particular teaching method or curriculum; or
- (3) nonresident students, including providing domiciliary services for students who need those services, if approved by the board.

(b) A charter school shall enroll all eligible students who submit a timely application, unless the number of those applications exceeds the capacity of the program, class, grade level, or building. In the event of an excess of those applications, the charter school and the local school board shall attempt to accommodate all of those applicants by considering providing additional classroom space and assigning additional teachers from the district to the charter school. If it is not possible to accommodate all eligible students who submit a timely application, students shall be accepted by random drawing. A school board may not require a student to attend a charter school.

(c) In addition to other requirements of law, a charter school shall be nonsectarian.

Sec. 14.03.270. Teacher or employee transfers, evaluations, and negotiated agreements.

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

(b) All provisions of an existing negotiated agreement or collective bargaining agreement applicable to a teacher or employee of a district apply to that teacher or employee if employed at a charter school in that district, unless the district and the bargaining unit representing the teacher or employee agree to an exemption.

(c) A teacher in a charter school shall be evaluated in an equivalent manner as all other teachers in the district, except that if there is no administrator assigned to the charter school, the local school board, with the agreement of the charter school, shall designate a school district administrator in that district to evaluate a teacher in a charter school.

Sec. 14.03.275. Contracts; duration.

A contract for a charter school may be for a term of no more than 10 years.

Sec. 14.03.280. Regulations.

The State Board of Education and Early Development may adopt regulations under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act) necessary to implement AS 14.03.250 - 14.03.290.

Sec. 14.03.290. Definitions.

In AS 14.03.250 - 14.03.290,

- (1) "academic policy committee" means the group designated to supervise the academic operation of a charter school and to ensure the fulfillment of the mission of a charter school;
- (2) "charter school" means a school established under AS 14.03.250 - 14.03.290 that operates within a public school district;
- (3) "local school board" means a borough or city school board or a school board of a regional educational attendance area;
- (4) "parent" means a biological, adoptive, or foster parent, or an adult who acts as guardian of a child and makes decisions related to the child's safety, education, and welfare;
- (5) "teacher" means a person who serves a school district in a teaching, counseling, or administrative capacity and is required to be certificated in order to hold the position.

Sec. 14.07.165 Duties.

The [State Board of Education and Early Development] shall adopt

- (4) regulations requiring approval by the board before a charter school, state boarding school, or a public school may provide domiciliary services.

Sec. AS 14.09.010 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(e) A school district that provides transportation services under this section shall provide transportation services to students attending a charter school operated by the district under a policy adopted by the district. The policy must:

- (1) be developed with input solicited from individuals involved with the charter school, including staff, students, and parents;
- (2) at a minimum, provide transportation services for students enrolled in the charter school on a space available basis along the regular routes that the students attending schools in an attendance area in the district are transported; and
- (3) be approved by the department.

(f) If a school district fails to adopt a policy under (e) of this section, the school district shall allocate the amount received for each student under (a) of this section to each charter school operated by the district based on the number of students enrolled in the charter school.

(g) Nothing in (e) of this section requires a school district to establish dedicated transportation routes for the exclusive use of students enrolled in a charter school or authorizes a charter school to opt out of a policy adopted by a school district for the purpose of acquiring transportation funding.

Sec. AS 14.17.450(d) is amended to read:

(d) If a charter school has a student count of at least 75 but less than 150 for the current year and is in the first three years of operation or had a student count of at least 75 in the previous year of operation,

- (1) the adjusted student count for the school shall be calculated by multiplying the student count by the student rate for a school that has a student count of 150; and

(2) not later than February 15, the charter school shall submit for approval of the governing board of the district a plan for the following school year that includes a statement about whether the school will continue to operate if the student count remains the same that year and, if so, a projection of the funding anticipated from the state and other sources, a proposed budget, and a description of anticipated changes to the school staff, program, and curriculum; if the school intends to close if the student count remains the same the following year, the plan must describe transfer plans for students, staff, facilities, and materials.

Alaska State Charter Schools Regulations

4 AAC 27 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 AAC 27.057. Charter school transportation policy.

(a) A local school board shall adopt a charter school transportation policy that describes the transportation services that will be provided by the district to students attending a charter school operated by the district if

(1) a district provides transportation services under AS 14.09.010; and

(2) the district operates a charter school or an application for the establishment of a charter school in the district is pending with the district under AS 14.03.250.

(b) A district must submit to the department an application for approval of its charter school transportation policy on a form provided by the department.

(1) not later than April 15, 2015, if a charter school is in operation in the district on July 1, 2014; or

(2) not later than 30 days after approval of a charter school by a local school board, if a charter school is approved by a local school board after July 1, 2014, and a charter school transportation policy approved by the department is not in effect in the district.

(c) The application to the department must include

(1) evidence that the charter school transportation policy was developed in compliance with AS 14.09.010(e)(1); and

(2) the charter school transportation policy adopted by the local school board that provides transportation service for charter school students in compliance with AS 14.09.010(e)(2); and

(3) other documents or information the department needs to evaluate a charter school transportation policy adopted by a local school board.

(d) Not later than 60 days after receipt by the department of an application for approval of a charter school transportation policy, the department will grant approval for a charter school transportation policy if the charter school transportation meets the requirements of AS 14.09.010 and this section.

(e) If a district seeks to amend an approved charter school transportation policy, it must submit an application for approval of an amendment of the charter school transportation policy on a form provided by the department not later than April 15 of the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year when the proposed amendment will take effect. An application for approval of an amendment of a charter school transportation policy must meet the requirements of (c) of this section.

(f) Not later than 60 days after receipt by the department of an application for approval of an amendment of a charter school transportation policy, the department will grant approval for the amendment of a charter school transportation policy if the amendment meets the requirements of AS 14.09.010 and this section. (Eff. 4/8/2015, Register 214)

Authority: AS 14.07.020

AS 14.07.060

AS 14.09.010

4 AAC 33.110 is repealed and readopted to read:

4 AAC 33.110. Charter school application and review procedure.

(a) The application procedure required by AS 14.03.250(a) for the establishment of an initial or renewed charter for a charter school must be in writing and must be available upon request at the school district's central office. The local school board must require an applicant to submit sufficient information so that the local school board may conduct a thorough review of the proposed charter school. An application must conform to the content areas and formatting standards set out at the department's website at

http://education.alaska.gov/Alaskan_Schools/Charter . An application, upon final approval by the State Board of Education and Early Development, will operate as the charter for the school. In addition to the requirements of AS 14.03.250(a), an application must include, at a minimum,

- (1) a list of the members of the academic policy committee and their qualifications;
- (3) the length of the term of the contract required under AS 14.03.255(c);
- (4) the charter school's bylaws;
- (5) a description of the education program to be offered at the charter school and mechanisms for student assessment to be utilized in addition to those required by state law;
- (6) a written instructional program that addresses state content standards under 4 AAC 04 and that aligns with the content on the statewide student assessment system under 4 AAC 06.710 – 4 AAC 06.790;
- (7) written objectives for program achievement;
- (8) a description of and schedule for staff development activities;
- (9) a school schedule and calendar;
- (10) plans for serving special education, vocational education, gifted, and bilingual students;
- (11) written admissions policies and procedures;
- (12) if the charter school is the only school in the community, an alternative option for students not wishing to attend the charter school;
- (13) a written administrative policy manual;
- (14) a written budget summary and financial plan, including
 - (A) a statement of the charter school's funding allocation from the local school board and costs assignable to the charter school program budget; and
 - (B) the method by which the charter school will account for receipts and expenditures;
- (15) a written plan for the charter school's facility;
- (16) a written plan that addresses the teacher-to-student ratio, including projected enrollment figures;
- (17) a written student recruitment process, including a lottery or random drawing mechanism for enrollment if applicants exceed the school's capacity;
- (18) a requested or existing exemption for the charter school from a written collective bargaining contract;
- (19) a plan for pupil transportation and the district charter school transportation policy, if proposed or adopted;

(20) the written termination clause that must appear in the contract between the charter school and the local school board;

(21) proof of compliance with applicable law; and

(22) other documents or information the district needs to evaluate the proposed charter school.

(b) Not later than 30 days after a local school board's decision to approve an initial application or a renewal application for a charter school, the local school board must forward the application to the State Board of Education and Early Development for review and approval under AS 14.03.250(c) by mailing to the department

(1) the complete application filed with the local school board, including all supporting documents required by (a) of this section;

(2) the written decision of the local school board;

(3) all other materials considered by the local school board in support or in opposition to the application; and

(4) the minutes of the local school board meeting at which the charter school was approved.

(c) An initial application for a charter school approved by a local school board may not be submitted to the department under subsection (b) more than 12 months before the planned start-up date for the new school. A renewal application for a charter school approved by a local school board may not be submitted to the department under (b) of this section more than 12 months before the expiration of the existing contract.

(d) An initial application and a renewal application approved by a local school board and submitted to the department under (b) of this section must be received by the department at least 90 days before the next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education and Early Development.

(e) The State Board of Education and Early Development will review an initial application or a renewal application approved by the local school board and submitted to the department under (b) of this section. The State Board of Education and Early Development will consider an initial application or a renewal application in the order in which it is received.

(f) Not later than 60 days after a local school board issues a decision to deny an initial application or a renewal application for a charter school, an applicant may file a notice of appeal to the commissioner under AS 14.03.250(d). In the notice of appeal, the applicant must specify the grounds for its appeal, stating which, if any, finding of fact or conclusion of law in the local school board's decision is alleged to be in error. If the applicant alleges that a finding of fact is in error, the applicant shall specify in the notice of appeal the evidence in the record before the local school board that supports a contrary finding of fact. With the notice of appeal, the applicant must file with the commissioner

(1) the complete application submitted to the local school board, including all supporting documents required by (a) of this section;

(2) the written decision of the local school board;

(3) any other materials considered by the local school board in support or in opposition to the application;

(4) the minutes of the local school board meeting at which the charter school was approved or denied, or if the minutes are not yet available, the date on which the minutes will be available for review by the department; and

(5) within ten working days of receipt of the commissioner's written request for a hearing transcript, a transcript of any recorded testimony presented to the local school board regarding the charter school application.

(g) The commissioner will review an appeal of a local school board decision denying an initial or renewal application for a charter school under AS 14.03.250(d).

(h) If the commissioner upholds the denial of an application, the applicant may file an appeal of the commissioner's decision to the State Board of Education and Early Development within 30 days of the issuance of the commissioner's decision. The commissioner will forward the appeal to the State Board of Education and Early Development immediately for consideration at its next meeting. The State Board of Education and Early Development will issue a decision within 90 days after the filing of an appeal of a commissioner's decision upholding a denial of an application.

(i) If the commissioner approves an initial or renewal application by overturning a denial by the local school board, the commissioner will forward the application and record to the State Board of Education and Early Development not later than thirty days after the commissioner issues a written decision of approval. The State Board of Education and Early Development will consider the application at its next meeting.

(j) The State Board of Education and Early Development will not approve an application that contains insufficient information to determine compliance with applicable law.

(k) A decision of the State Board of Education and Early Development granting or denying approval for a charter school application is a final agency action for purposes of an appeal to the superior court. (Eff. 4/27/96, Register 138; am 3/31/2002, Register 161; am 7/26/2002, Register 163; am 8/6/2004, Register 171; am 4/18/2015, Register 214)

Authority: AS 14.03.250 AS 14.03.280 AS 14.07.060
AS 14.03.253 AS 14.07.020

4 AAC 33 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 AAC 33.113. Amendment of charter.

A charter school may apply to a local school board for an amendment to its charter during the term of its contract with the local school board. If a local school board approves an amendment to the charter, an amended contract must be executed to conform to the amended charter. The local school board must forward an amended charter and amended contract to the department. A charter school may make district-approved changes to its program that do not require an amendment to its charter without review by the state Board of Education and Early Development, except that a change of program that involves the addition of an elementary or secondary program must be approved by the local school board and the State Board of Education and Early Development. (Eff. 4/18/2015, Register 214)

Authority: AS 14.03.250 AS 14.07.020 AS 14.07.060
AS 14.03.280

4 AAC 33 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 AAC 33.115. Operation of charter schools.

(a) The department may audit the charter school's program during the term of the contract under AS 14.03.255(c) and may take any action necessary to ensure compliance with federal and state law, including the withholding of money under AS 14.07.070. Notwithstanding any provision of a charter or contract, a charter school must comply with state and federal law. A change in state

or federal law taking effect during the term of an existing contract or charter will override an inconsistent provision of a contract or charter. (Eff. 4/18/2015, Register 214)

Authority: AS 14.03.250 AS 14.03.280 AS 14.07.060
AS 14.03.255 AS 14.07.020

4 AAC 33 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 AAC 33.117. Charter school grant program.

(a) A charter school that is established on or after July 1, 2014, may apply to the department for one-time grant funding under AS 14.03.264. An applicant charter school must

- (1) apply on a form prescribed by the department;
- (2) provide evidence in its application that demonstrates that grant funding will be used to provide educational services as defined under AS 14.03.264(a); and
- (3) file its application with the department not later than September 15 to receive funding based on student enrollment on October 1 of the same fiscal year.

(b) A charter school that received reduced grant funding in a prior fiscal year as permitted under AS 14.03.264(c) may apply for the balance of the grant amount using the procedures described in (a) of this section.

(c) The department will notify a newly approved charter school of its eligibility for grant funding under AS 14.03.264 promptly after approval of the charter by the State Board of Education and Early Development. (Eff. 4/18/2015, Register 214)

Authority: AS 14.03.264 AS 14.07.020 AS 14.07.060

4 AAC 33 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 AAC 33.119. Definitions.

In 4 AAC 33.110 – 4 AAC 33.119,

- (1) "charter school" has the meaning given in AS 14.03.290;
- (2) "commissioner" means the commissioner of education and early development;
- (3) "department" means the Department of Education and Early Development;
- (4) "local school board" has the meaning given in AS 14.03.290.

(Eff. 4/27/96, Register 138; am 3/31/2002, Register 161; am 7/26/2002, Register 163; am 8/6/2004, Register 171; am 4/18/2015, Register 214)

Authority: AS 14.03.250 AS 14.07.020 AS 14.07.060
AS 14.03.280

**RILKE SCHULE
APPENDIX A****Special Meeting - REVISED (Monday, June 22, 2015)**

Generated by Katy Grant on Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Members present

Kameron Perez-Verdia, Tam Agosti-Gisler (via phone), Eric Croft (via phone), Bettye Davis, Pat Higgins, Kathleen Plunkett, Elisa Snelling

Meeting called to order at 5:35 PM

A. Call to Order, Roll Call, Flag Salute

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Flag Salute

B. Approval of Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda

The revised agenda was approved as presented.

C. Public Comment

1. Public Comment

Ms. Starr Marsett testified in support of the middle school model.

Ms. Suzanne LaFrance testified in support of the middle school model.

Mr. Dan Loring testified in support of the middle school model and teacher collaboration. He also spoke about transparency and under performing schools.

D. Consent Agenda

Ms. Davis MOVED to amend the consent agenda by bringing back an amendment for the middle school model that was voted on at the last meeting on June 15th (failed with a 3-3 vote) for consideration at today's meeting.

President Perez-Verdia took a 5 minute at-ease.

Ms. Davis withdrew her motion and plans to present this at the August 3rd School Board meeting.

Mr. Higgins and Superintendent Graff discussed timing for additional staff if this amendment were brought back at the August 3rd meeting.

1. Voting on Consent Agenda items

Resolution: To approve the Consent Agenda.

To approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Kathleen Plunkett, second by Elisa Snelling.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yea: Kameron Perez-Verdia, Tam Agosti-Gisler, Eric Croft, Bettye Davis, Pat Higgins, Kathleen Plunkett, Elisa Snelling

2. ASD Memorandum #263 - Approval of Best Value General Contractor for Eagle River Elementary School Component Renewal Project

Resolution: To approve and authorize the superintendent to award a best value contract for the Eagle River Elementary School Component Renewal, to Consolidated Contracting & Engineering, LLC.

To approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Kathleen Plunkett, second by Elisa Snelling.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yea: Kameron Perez-Verdia, Tam Agosti-Gisler, Eric Croft, Bettye Davis, Pat Higgins, Kathleen Plunkett, Elisa Snelling

3. ASD Memorandum #264 - Approval of Best Value General Contractor for Mountain View Elementary School Renewal Project

Resolution: To approve a best value contract for the Mountain View Elementary School Renewal, to Roger Hickel Contracting, Inc.

To approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Kathleen Plunkett, second by Elisa Snelling.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yea: Kameron Perez-Verdia, Tam Agosti-Gisler, Eric Croft, Bettye Davis, Pat Higgins, Kathleen Plunkett, Elisa Snelling

4. ASD Memo #292 Rilke Schule German School of Arts & Sciences Charter Renewal Application

Mr. Higgins MOVED that the school board approve the renewal of the charter for Rilke Schule German School of Arts & Sciences for an additional ten years, chartering the school through the 2024/25 school year.

Mr. Higgins spoke about questions on the charter renewal, timing, and postponing vote until August.

Superintendent Graff discussed the timing of the charter renewal coming forward, public process, and opportunity for discussion and answering Board questions before the vote.

Mr. Perez-Verdia asked if there would be a negative impact on Rilke Schule to postpone voting until August.

Mr. Jason Storter, APC Chair, spoke about the timing of the charter renewal; Rilke Schule has been working with the State Board of Education to make the September 1st deadline in the lease agreement, the State Board is waiting on the charter renewal from the district to move forward in order to make the deadline.

Board members discussed the timing for the charter renewal application.

Mr. Higgins MOVED to table Memorandum #292 until the first meeting in August (8/3/15).

Mr. Graff spoke about the process and timeline of presenting the memo to the Board (allowing review before the meeting), discussion and answering questions (at tonight's meeting), and the administration's review (and

approval) of presenting the Rilke Schule Charter renewal to the Board.

Ms. Plunkett expressed concern with postponing the memo, not giving Rilke Schule enough time to make their deadline for the new lease.

Ms. Snelling expressed concern with the process; charter renewal was first publicly reviewed with the APC on November 7, 2014, then a large gap in time, now a rush to get renewed and submitted.

Mr. Higgins WITHDREW his motion to table the memo.

Mr. Higgins expressed concerns with the Rilke Schule Inc (RSI) (a non-profit associated with Rilke Schule) and public funds. Mr. Storter responded that RSI was previously the landlord for Rilke Schule (all payments going through RSI) but that is no longer the case, the Rilke Schule APC is directly on the lease for the new building. Mr. Graff added that the lease has been vetted through the Purchasing department and meets ASD Policy requirements. Mr. Higgins also expressed concern with the Charter Renewal and lottery policies (a change in the process within the Charter Application).

Ms. Snelling disclosed that her three children attend Rilke Schule.

Ms. Snelling discussed her review of the Charter Application document, had multiple questions and expressed many concerns. Ms. Snelling and Mr. Storter discussed School Board Policy 333.5, missing information, curriculum, APC administrative policies, the 2015-2016 Rilke Schule budget, contracted services (i.e. maintenance contract for new building), number of students served (attrition model), teacher/principal evaluation process, PTR, transportation, use of public money, and student nutrition. Mr. Graff added that if services or policies are not specifically noted in the charter, the charter school uses ASD policies, procedures, and contracts.

Mr. Higgins expressed concern about the "annual activity fee" of \$125 listed in the Charter Renewal, reads as if must pay the fee to be able to attend the school. Mr. Graff and Mr. Higgins discussed the fee, waivers, and other schools and programs that collect money for field trips and intensives or require parent volunteer time.

Board members, Mr. Storter, and administration discussed the Student Nutrition program; currently, Rilke Schule does receive a modified lunch program and Student Nutrition is working with the school to continue this service at their new building. Meal service is not included in the charter renewal (no change from their current Charter), the expectation is that families will provide their own lunches; if Student Nutrition does provide a lunch program, this will be an added service. There was also discussion on free and reduced meals.

Mr. Higgins asked about the lottery program and change in the Charter Renewal language (regarding native German speaking students). Mr. Graff and Mr. Higgins discussed the lottery process for Rilke Schule; students lottery in for Kindergarten, 1st graders must pass an assessment (only change in language is that this can be done at any time during the 1st grade year instead of the first quarter of 1st grade).

Mr. Higgins and Mr. Storter discussed the RSI, their role in the school and their financial records (reviewing).

Mr. Higgins expressed concern about policy compliance and language in the Charter Renewal.

Mr. Higgins MOVED to table memorandum #292 Rilke Schule German School of Arts & Sciences Charter Renewal Application until the August 3rd School Board meeting.

Board members discussed the postponement of the Charter Renewal. There were concerns expressed about putting the Charter forward with the language as is, and there were concerns expressed about postponing. The Board and Administration had conversation about approving the Charter Renewal and giving the Administration authorization to make the "technical" changes to the language to clarify and verify that the Charter is in alignment with Board Policy.

Vote on motion to table memorandum #292 Rilke Schule German School of Arts & Sciences Charter Renewal Application until the August 3rd School Board meeting.

Motion by Pat Higgins, second by Elisa Snelling.

Final Resolution: Motion Fails

Year: Bettye Davis, Pat Higgins, Elisa Snelling

Nay: Kameron Perez-Verdia, Tam Agosti-Gisler, Kathleen Plunkett

Not Present at Vote: Eric Croft

Amendment #1: Language regarding fees and lottery be in alignment with Anchorage School District Policy.

Motion by Tam Agosti-Gisler, second by Bettye Davis.

Motion Passes

Yea: Kameron Perez-Verdia, Tam Agosti-Gisler, Bettye Davis, Pat Higgins, Kathleen Plunkett, Elisa Snelling

Not Present at Vote: Eric Croft

Amendment #2: to amend the motion to include authorization for the administration to make needed technical changes in language to ensure alignment with School District Policy 333.5.

Motion by Pat Higgins, second by Bettye Davis.

Motion Passes

Yea: Kameron Perez-Verdia, Tam Agosti-Gisler, Bettye Davis, Pat Higgins, Kathleen Plunkett, Elisa Snelling

Not Present at Vote: Eric Croft

Main Motion as amended: To approve the renewal of the charter for Rilke Schule German School of Arts & Sciences for an additional ten years, chartering the school through the 2024-25 school year.

Motion by Pat Higgins, second by Kathleen Plunkett.

Motion Passes

Yea: Kameron Perez-Verdia, Tam Agosti-Gisler, Eric Croft, Bettye Davis, Pat Higgins, Kathleen Plunkett, Elisa Snelling

5. ASD Memorandum #295 - Personnel Report

Resolution: To approve the Personnel Report

To approve the Consent Agenda

Motion by Kathleen Plunkett, second by Elisa Snelling.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yea: Kameron Perez-Verdia, Tam Agosti-Gisler, Eric Croft, Bettye Davis, Pat Higgins, Kathleen Plunkett, Elisa Snelling

E. Superintendent's Report

1. Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Graff acknowledged the passing of Vincent Casey, former Board Member, School Board President, he served on the NAACP and Equal Rights Commission. Services will be Friday, June 26th at 12:00 (First CME Church, 3600 McInnes St.)

Summer Graduation takes place this Thursday at East High School for just over 20 2015 graduates.

The Education Center will be closed June 29-July 5.

F. Adjournment

1. Adjournment

Ms. Davis MOVED to adjourn the Special Meeting.

Mr. Higgins seconded. The Special Session of the School Board adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Draft

CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT

THIS CONTRACT is between Rilke Schule, whose address is 1946 E. 64th Ave Anchorage, AK 99507, hereafter "Charter School," and the Anchorage School Board, whose address is 5530 E. Northern Lights Blvd., Anchorage, AK 99504 hereafter "School Board."

WHEREAS, Charter School desires to operate within the Anchorage School District (hereafter "School District") in conformance with Alaska Statutes 14.03.250-290 and School District policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, the School Board has reviewed and approved Charter School's application, subject to any amendments or conditions noted by the School Board;

WHEREAS, by resolution adopted June 15th 2015 (date), the School Board conditionally granted the application contingent upon the negotiation and execution of a contract acceptable to Charter School and School Board and subject to certain other conditions, including approval by the State Department of Education and Early Development; and

WHEREAS, the parties contemplate that the application, as amended by this contract, between Charter School and the School Board, will constitute the agreement between the parties regarding the governance and operation of Charter School;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements contained in this contract, the parties agree as follows:

Charter School shall provide an educational program in the School District subject to the terms and conditions of this contract, commencing on the first day of for the school year 2015/16. Services will be provided in accordance with the Charter School Calendar identified below.

1. Compliance with Regulatory Requirements: Charter School warrants that it will comply with all local, state and federal laws and regulations applicable to public schools and all requirements imposed by School District policy and regulation on the operation of charter schools.
2. Educational Program: Charter School shall provide an educational program that shall advance students' mastery of basic skill areas including mathematics, science, health, reading, language arts and social studies, appropriate to the age of students included in the program. Provision will also be made for physical education,

music, art, and instructional technology within the educational program. The educational program shall be designed as described in the attached charter application.

3. Achievement Levels: Charter School's educational program shall result in students attaining the following specific levels of achievement as described in the attached final District-approved charter application.
4. Administrative Policies and Procedures: Charter School has requested and received authorization for the following exemptions from School District policies and procedures (list by number and title on an attached sheet of paper):

Charter School agrees and warrants that it will comply with all other School District policies and procedures except those pertaining to textbook, program, curriculum and scheduling requirements as approved by the School Board.

- a. Admission Policies and Procedures: Charter School will operate for 10 years as set forth below.. Eligible students are those who are grade-appropriate for that school. Charter School shall accept students into its program using the District Lottery Procedures as described below.

Charter School affirms that any eligible student who applies in a timely fashion will be admitted, up to the maximum number of students that can be accommodated by the program. If more eligible students apply than can be accommodated, admission to the program will be determined by a drawing using the District's adopted Lottery Procedures. Charter school also affirms that it will not discriminate in its policies or program against any individual on the basis of any classification protected under law or district policy.

- b. Academic Policies: Academic policies and goals for Charter School shall be established by the Academic Policy Committee. The Academic Policy Committee shall meet with the Charter School principal/administrator at least four times yearly, to monitor progress in achieving the committee's policies and goals.

The Academic Policy Committee shall include 9 persons, including parents of students attending Charter School, teachers at Charter School, and other Charter School employees. Students shall be included if the Charter School is for grades 9-12. Membership shall be determined in accordance with procedures developed and approved by the committee.

5. Funding: School District shall allocate funding for Charter School based on a per-pupil allocation for the students enrolled in the Charter School, computed in a manner consistent with the method in which the District receives revenues from the State less administrative costs retained by the District determined by applying the indirect cost rate approved by the State Department of Education and Early Development. The District may allocate additional revenue beyond the per pupil allocation based on the approved program for the charter school; this increase must be approved by the School Board.
6. School District Charges: Charter School shall operate under the terms of the approved program budget. The program budget was developed utilizing anticipated School District funding based on a per-pupil allocation for the students enrolled in the Charter School. The per-pupil allocation is computed in a manner consistent with the method in which the District receives revenues from the State, less administrative costs retained by the District, to be determined by applying the indirect cost rate approved by the State Department of Education and Early Development. Charter School's funding allocation from School Board for purposes of creating the program budget was \$4,340,352.00. The approved program budget includes the revenues identified above. In addition, revenues generated for special populations of students, revenues from grants, and special revenue funds beyond the per-pupil allocation may be approved by the School Board.

Operating revenues actually provided to Charter School by School District may exceed or be less than the approved program budget since actual revenues shall be determined from actual student enrollments in Charter School during the year in which Charter School is operating. School District will adjust the funding to reflect actual student enrollment. Actual student enrollment shall be determined in the same manner that the State of Alaska uses to determine student enrollments and state revenues generated in the School District.

7. Student Fees and Charges: A Charter School may not charge tuition to students who reside within the Anchorage School District. Fees charged to students by the Charter School, including but not limited to supply and activity fees, shall be retained by the Charter School and included in the Charter School program budget.
8. Budget and Accounting: The Charter School's funding allocation for its first school year under this contract, subject to adjustment based on state funding and enrollment and a statement of costs assignable to the Charter School program budget, are attached as part of the final District-approved charter application. The budget will be amended on an annual basis to reflect any changes in Charter School's funding allocation or assigned costs for subsequent school years. On or before the 15th day of November of each year, the Charter School shall provide an annual budget for the following school year to the administration for approval.

Charter School acknowledges that adjustments to the Charter School budget may be necessary if the estimated revenues are revised due to School Board, legislative and/or Assembly action.

Charter School shall account for receipts and expenditures by using and complying with the School District's accounting, audit and other fiscal procedures. Charter School shall establish, maintain, and retain appropriate financial records in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules and regulations, and will make such records available to the School District, as requested. Charter School agrees that it shall comply with all local, state and federal requirements for receipt and use of public money.

9. Facility: Charter School shall be operated at the following location:
1846 E 64th Ave
Anchorage AK 99507

The facility to be used is 34500 square feet, containing 28 classrooms, administrative offices, and other facilities described as follows (attach additional sheets if necessary): 1 ELL room, School nurse's office, psychologist's room, Speech services room, Special Ed room, Teachers lounge, work room
Charter School guarantees that the facility complies with all local, state and federal health and safety requirements applicable to other

public schools in the School District and that compliance will be maintained at all times.

Charter School guarantees that it will comply with all District policies and procedures, and all applicable state and local laws and regulations, in obtaining leased or rented space.

10. Teachers and Staff: At the time of executing this contract, the parties anticipate that the following teachers will, by agreement, teach in the Charter School (attach additional sheets if necessary:

Jessica Martin, Michael Helgesen, Nicole Crawford, Judith Keihl-Teckel, Bryan Soares, Tyler Schlagenhau, Heather Tarrant, Shaila Green, Carrie Bass, Lynette Brickwell, Peter Birnbaum, Elizabeth Cooper, Debra Schlicht, Catherine Radtke, Claudia Bittnermaier, Corinne Kubenc, Bree Anna Brown, Sasha Johnson, Susan Oakley, Tobias Radtke, Tim Whitteley, Trond Fløystad, Kevin Downie, Mary Collins, Will Doniere, Nadebe Hayes

At the time of executing this contract, the parties anticipate that the following individual(s) will, by agreement, act as a principal/administrator in the Charter School and shall hold the title of: Dean Ball - Principal

Charter School shall promptly provide School District with written notice of any proposed changes to the school's staff.

Charter School agrees that certificated staff shall be evaluated in an equivalent manner as other teachers and administrators in equivalent positions in the District. Evaluation procedures for certificated staff must be identical to the District's procedures, unless the charter school application approved by the District for attachment to this contract includes a detailed description of the evaluation procedures to be used in the charter school, in which case the Charter School may use that District-approved procedure. 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.

Unless the School District and any association representing an employee agree to an exemption, all provisions of any existing negotiated or collective bargaining agreement applicable to any employee shall remain in effect while the employee provides services at Charter School. All waiver requests and written responses from the appropriate bargaining units are included in this contract and are attached hereto.

11. Pupil-Teacher Ratio: Charter School shall maintain the following pupil-teacher ratio: 25-1
12. Enrollment: Charter School shall enroll a minimum of 150 students and a maximum of 520 students at all times. Student enrollment may be adjusted pursuant to the admissions procedures set forth above if there is increased student demand to attend Charter School.
13. School Calendar: Charter School warrants that it will operate at all times designated in the attached school year calendar. The school day shall be hr 45 mins ~~hours~~ long and will start at 8:15 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday
Friday 8:15 - 11:45 5 hr 30 mins long
14. Retirement: All employees of the Charter School shall be members of the Teacher's Retirement System or the Public Employee's Retirement System and be subject to the requirements of those systems.
15. Contract Term: This contract shall be effective upon complete execution and shall be reviewed annually. The contract has been approved for a period of 10 fiscal years and will terminate on 2025 June 30 (date). (No contract may be approved for a term in excess of ten years). Charter School may apply for a contract extension or reapply for a new contract during the last year of the existing contract period.

Although this contract is for the operation of Charter School for a period of 10 years, any financial commitment on the part of the School District contained in this contract is subject to annual appropriation by the School Board and the parties agree that School District has no obligation to fund the financial obligations under this contract other than for the current year of the contract term. The parties also agree that the School District has no obligation to

provide the services described within this contract other than for the current year of the contract term.

16. Termination: This contract may be terminated by School Board for Charter School's failure to meet educational achievement goals or fiscal management standards, for a default in any material provision of this agreement or for other good cause. The School Board shall provide at least 30 days written notice to Charter School of its intent to terminate this contract and the reasons therefore. If Charter School fails to remedy the cause for termination within the time provided in this notice, then this contract shall automatically terminate at the end of the stated time. Any unused funds remaining shall immediately be returned to the School District upon such termination. Charter School may terminate the contract on an annual basis. In such event, Charter School shall notify the District by February 1 of a given school year of its intent to cease operations the following year.
17. Risk Management: Charter School agrees to adequately protect against liability and risk through an active risk management program. This program shall include purchase of insurance coverages, as directed by the Anchorage School District risk manager in the following amounts: \$1,000,000. Charter School agrees that it will coordinate all risk management activities through the District's risk management office. Charter School shall not compromise, settle, negotiate, or otherwise affect any disposition of potential claims asserted against it without the School District's prior written approval.

Charter School agrees to operate in such a manner as to minimize the risk of injury or harm to students, employees, and others. Charter School shall comply with all Board policies and regulations, and comply with all applicable federal and state laws, concerning student welfare, safety and health, including, without limitation, Board policies and laws addressing the reporting of child abuse, accident prevention and disaster response, and any state regulations governing the operation of the school facilities.


18. Contract Compliance: Charter School agrees to oversee its operations to ensure that the terms of this contract are met. Charter School agrees to meet regularly with parents, teachers/staff, and students (where appropriate) to review, evaluate, and improve operations of the Charter School. Charter School agrees to meet

with the Academic Policy Committee at least quarterly to monitor progress in achieving the Committee's policies and goals.

19. Indemnification: To the extent not covered by insurance, Charter School agrees to indemnify and hold the School District, its Board, agents and employees harmless from all liability, claims, and demands on account of injury, loss or damage, including, without limitation, claims arising from bodily injury, personal injury, sickness, disease, death, property loss or damage or any other losses of any kind whatsoever which arise out of or are in any manner connected with Charter School's operations.

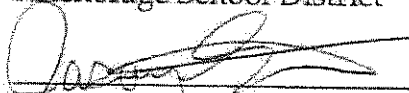
In addition to the mutual covenants and agreements set forth above, School District and Charter School agree to be bound by those agreements, promises, and covenants set forth in the final approved Charter School Application, a copy of which is attached, except as those terms are amended by this contract, and the bylaws and policies of the Anchorage School District, and federal, state and local statutes and regulations.

Dated July 15, 2015



School Board President
Anchorage School District

Dated July 10, 2015

 Jason Starter

Charter School Authorized Agent
Anchorage School District

(Revised 5/28/09)