



Rilke Schule  
Academic Policy Committee Minutes  
Thursday 19 January 2023  
6:00PM @ Rilke Schule

In accordance with Alaska State Statute, the Rilke Schule APC, under contract with the Anchorage School Board, operates this charter school. The purpose of the Academic Policy Committee is to provide strategic governance for the school and its future. The board meets publicly to conduct the business of the school. The board is comprised of voting and advisory members representing parents, faculty and staff. Parent-elected representatives serve staggered, three-year terms with elections every February. The Academic Policy Committee values public comments and encourages all interested parties to submit written public comments on any subject to [apc\\_rilke@asdk12.org](mailto:apc_rilke@asdk12.org). Fifteen minutes are reserved at the beginning and end of each regular meeting for public comments. *Next scheduled meeting February 15, 2023*

Present: Colvin, Strauch, Vincent-Lang, Wileman, Truog, Olson, Robertson, Weyrens, Parker, Hotch  
Present via Zoom: Jessica Frey, Shawna Popovici, Joslyn Blanchard

- I. Call to order at 6:07 P.M., delay related to connectivity issues with the Zoom attendees. Performance Chair Parker moved to amend the Meeting Agenda by having the Executive Session related to the new Principal Contract between topics B. and C. under New Business, and to adopt the Minutes from the 14 December 2022 Meeting and the 21 December 2022 Special Meeting. Strategic Planning Chair Wileman seconded. All Members in favor. Upon motion duly made and seconded, with all members voting in favor, Agenda amended as stated and Minutes adopted.
- II. Public Comment: *Members of the public are allowed 2 minutes each and comments must specifically pertain to items on this agenda. We respectfully request that commenters refrain from all identifying references to Rilke Schule teachers/staff/students.*
- III. Partner Organizations
  - A. RSV- Jessica Frey, RSV President
    1. Christkindlmarkt was a great success, and vendors want to return. The Papa Murphy fundraiser in December raised about \$400, which went to a special project for the benefit of Rilke students, at the request of Herr Vincent-Lang. RSV is encouraging the Rilke Community to consider Rilke Schule for Pick Click Give donations.
    2. RSV received a funding request for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Seward field trip, for a shortage of \$2,700. RSV wants to help, and they are looking at getting a tour bus company to donate partial bus cost. What should parents and teachers go to APC and RSV for in relation to funding requests? RSV plans to use money raised through events specifically for other events that don't bring in income.
    3. At this time, Herr Strauch suggests that if RSV is unable financially to cover this cost, that the parents of the kids going on the trip cover

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approximately \$100 for their children to attend, or the students hold a fundraising event to cover the extra cost.

**ACTION ITEM:** Herr Strauch will research to find out where the extra funding came from in the past years, as this event has routinely been more expensive than the 8<sup>th</sup> grade student fees will cover. RSV will look at their budget to see if they can support the requested amount. The three Rilke Boards will discuss funding requests, and Board responsibilities to handle various requests at the Spring Tri-Board meeting.

B. RSI- Shawna Popoviv, President

1. After careful consideration of the current and projected RSI budget, RSI voted to withdraw the funding request previously made to APC. RSI is not currently concerned that they will be required to apply for a license under Municipal codes, but this is a topic RSI will continue to follow.

**ACTION ITEM:** Chair Colvin and Herr Strauch will work with RSI to revise and renew the RSI MOU.

IV. Reports

A. Officers

1. Chair- Still working with the building owners on rent reduction. Hopeful for an update on that process for the February APC meeting. Continuing to support Board member projects.
2. Vice Chair- Approaching the critical enrollment period with online lottery opening February 1. New booth design and school fair presence at various upcoming Anchorage events.
3. Secretary- Keeping the records current, supporting various projects as needed.
4. Treasurer- see report. We have not heard any feedback on our submitted budget. In the first six months of our current budget, Rilke is spending less than under our projected budget by a sizable amount. Should finish the year with additional unallocated funds.

B. Principal- see report.

1. ASD is trying to be more competitive with teacher contracts, so they are now aiming to have contracts in place by the end of March this year.
2. DEED has 4 different curricula and ASD will get funding if they adopt one of the four. ASD has started reviewing the 4. Rilke is at the end of our curriculum contract at the end of this year. If we use what ASD implements, Rilke won't have to pay for the new curriculum and training. Herr Strauch suggests the APC strongly consider adopting the ASD curriculum.
3. Library update- will have to be remodeled. Shouldn't be a very big project. Installing bookshelves and moving away from the "computer center" concept to better suit our students' needs.
4. Currently discussing hiring and sharing a school Counselor with other charter schools. More info to come regarding how this would work and the cost.

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5. Met with Senator Kaufman over Zoom about the BSA and teacher retirement overhaul so we can recruit and retain teachers in AK. We also invited him to the school.
- C. Teachers- see report.
  - D. Committees:
    1. Facilities/Outdoor- Working with Herr Strauch to get the library remodeled. We will also get new wood chips in the spring.
    2. Performance-to be discussed in New Business.
    3. Strategic Planning- **ACTION ITEM**: Secretary to send out a Doodle to get a Strategic Planning meeting on the calendar. Will include RSI and RSV on the meeting invite.
- V. Old Business
- A. MOU with RSI- Strategic Planning Chair Wileman moved that APC approve RSI's rescinding of their prior funding request that was attached to the RSI MOU. Treasurer Truog seconded this request. All members in favor. Upon motion duly made and seconded, with all members voting in favor, APC approved RSI's rescinding of their prior funding request.
- VI. New Business
- A. Bylaws Revision-the bylaws need routine review and revision by the APC. **ACTION ITEM**: Treasurer Truog will send the Rilke Schule Bylaws to all members for review and revision. The first revision will be reviewed and read for the public at an APC meeting. If there are any changes, the changes can be made subsequent to this meeting, and the Bylaws will be read for the public and voted upon at a second meeting.
  - B. 2023 APC Election-Vice Chair Olson reports that there are 2 candidates so far in the candidate pool. Three seats will be open, all with 3 year terms. Accepting candidates until January 25. Online voting will be February 8-13. Vice Chair Olson will send out another email about these seats to the Rilke Community.
- VII. Executive Session- Performance Chair Parker moved to enter into Executive Session related to the new Principal Contract, for matters that are confidential. Strategic Planning Chair Wileman seconded. The APC entered into executive session at 7:31 P.M. The APC exited executive session at 8:49 P.M.
- C. (VI. New Business, continued) Principal Contract- Performance Chair Parker made a motion that the APC offer Herr Strauch a 3-year contract with the salary agreed upon in Executive Session. Vice Chair Olson seconded. All members voted in favor. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the APC offered Herr Strauch a 3-year contract as discussed in Executive session, with all details to be put into writing and further approved by ASD.
- VIII. Public Comment- None.
- IX. Adjournment –There being no further business to be transacted, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

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