



Rilke Schule  
Academic Policy Committee Minutes  
Wednesday 15 February 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 March 23, 2023*

Present: Colvin, Vincent-Lang, Olson, Robertson, Weyrens, Parker, Hotch  
Present via Zoom: Katie Kelly, Amber Brewer, Amber Hahn, Danielle Kalseth  
Guest of the Board: Student Council President  
Excused Absent: Strauch, Wileman  
Excused Tardy: Truog

- I. Call to order at 6:01 P.M. Vice Chair Olson moved to amend the Meeting Agenda by having Student Council Report between topics C. and D. after Teacher Representative's report, and to adopt the Minutes from the 19 January 2023 Meeting. Facilities Chair Hotch 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- Representative Absent.
  - B. RSI- Representative Absent. Chair Colvin for RSI. Quarterly meeting was last week. They discussed the MOU that is on this agenda. They are working to figure out if they can put on a German camp this summer, which would be a two-week offering.
- IV. Reports
  - A. Officers
    1. Chair Colvin- We had a very good strategic planning session, thanks to Strategic Planning Chair Wileman. We heard from the Landlord today for rent reduction. Reduction request was for a 10% reduction (5% reduction over 2 years), based on our 10% student enrollment decrease since Covid-19 closures. They denied the request, but offered a flat \$10,000 overall total reduction. This amount would be taken off of one monthly rent payment. Does the Board agree to take the \$10,000 reduction? Vice Chair Olson moves that we accept the

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\$10,000 reduction in one month's rent, Performance Chair Parker seconds. Further discussion whether this amount can be tied into a capital improvement for the building, or donated to RSI. Performance Chair Parker moves to amend the original motion to request that Chair Colvin inquire whether there is any room for negotiation on the categorization of the \$10,000 reduction instead of accepting the full amount as a reduction in rent. Vice Chair Olson seconds the amendment to the original motion. Vice Chair Olson volunteers to table the original motion until Chair Colvin explores further with the Landlord, as stated in the Amendment to the Original Motion. Teacher Representative Vincent-Lang seconds the motion to table the original motion. All Members present vote in favor of amending the original motion. Upon motion duly made and seconded, Amended Motion passes unanimously. All Members present vote in favor of tabling the original motion. Upon motion duly made and seconded with all Members voting unanimously, original motion is tabled.

2. Chair Olson- See New Business, election report. We have been continuing marketing efforts for enrollment and for the lottery.
  3. Secretary- Supporting the efforts to improve the Rilke Schule Library.
  4. Treasurer- See Report. Rilke has grant funds through 2024. An amount should remain after this school year. If enrollment goes up, our total budget will also go up. BSA (base student allocation) is hopefully going to go up. Chair Colvin asks if we should be out there supporting the BSA funding. Overall, Rilke will support the ASD's efforts to increase the BSA and share our voice with them. We will echo what ASD is putting out, while encouraging parents to continue reaching out to their own representatives and the Governor's office regarding increased funding.
- B. Principal- see report. Adding a Counselor mid-year is likely not budgeted for this school year.
- ACTION ITEMS:** Treasurer Truog will clarify with Herr Strauch whether a part-time Counselor is budgeted this school year. Herr Strauch will discuss with 2-3 other charter principals how this would work.
- C. Teachers-see report. Also resurrecting spelling bee after spring break. Grades 3-8, winner per class, then winners will go to Rilke's school-wide competition. Rilke can't do district wide this year because we are starting late, but we will seek to participate in subsequent years.
- D. Student Council Representative-
1. Student Council has done fundraisers, social events, a t-shirt design competition earlier in the year, worked to get the snack shack together, which may expand to the lunch room. Student Council plans to have one more social event or dance this year, which they are fundraising for.
  2. Currently fundraising to purchase gagaball pit materials. The gagaball pit would be funded and built under Herrs Honer and Radke supervision by Student Council and placed next to the playground in

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the wood chip area. Board discussion regarding permanency of gagaball pit, floodplain rules, and insurance cover.

3. Student Council is also fundraising to fund the remainder of the field trip for year end, but they are likely not going to meet that goal.

Vice Chair Olson motions for Herr Strauch to support the construction and design of a gagaball pit. Treasurer Truog seconded. Upon motion duly made and seconded, with all members voting in favor, motion passes.

**ACTION ITEM:** Herr Strauch will work with Student Council to further their goals of building a gagaball pit.

E. Committees:

1. Facilities/Outdoor-For the library refresh, we are looking for an electrician to volunteer to cap the unutilized outlets in the library area. Herr Strauch and Facilities Chair Hotch will come in during spring break to remove the tables from the walls inside of the alcove, and remove the bookshelves that are currently situated in the hallways. ASD will do patch work and touch up paint. Treasurer Truog has an electrician that he can contact.
2. Performance-We have the final version of the principal contract and should have signatures soon. Because there was not a performance review built into the temporary contract that Herr Strauch is currently operating as Interim Principal under, we will instead seek community feedback at the end of this school year.
3. Strategic Planning- Strategic Planning Chair Wileman not present. Follow up meeting March 28.

V. Old Business

- F. Dress Code Policy Status- Our dress code policy is different in the charter than in the website description. We will revise the dress code under the 2025 charter submission, and the Director of charter schools has confirmed that we can leave the web site description as it is.
- G. Bylaws Update- Treasurer Truog will do this under an ad hoc committee, and will soon be sending out an editable version to send back to him. Tentative timeline is for the first reading to be in March, second reading in April, and vote in May. Vice Chair Olson and Secretary Weyrens are on the ad hoc committee, and Chair Colvin reports that if we have changes we have to send it to the Director of Charter Schools.
- H. Strategic Plan Update-addressed.
- I. Principal Permanent Contract Status-addressed.

V. VI. New Business

- A. Invitation to Fulda \$3,500- This is under the Principal's spending threshold. Frau Robertson inquires whether 5 days of professional leave can be approved for this trip? Performance Chair Parker reaffirms that the dollar amount is within the Principal's purview, and the professional leave approval is a question for your union. Herr Strauch can ask inquire with Chair Colvin regarding his professional trip leave.

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- B. Fundraising Efforts- Student Council Representative requested to please send the APC information on how much they lack for the field trip after the RSV funds are put toward the trip.
- C. MOU RSI-APC will provide space for RSI to provide clubs, have keys to building, keep insurance. This has been vetted by ASD purchasing. The MOU document was not provided by the Board before the meeting. This topic will be moved to the March meeting for review.
- D. Election Results and Seating of New Members
  - 1. Candidate- Katie Kelly
  - 2. Candidate- Mark Truog
  - 3. Candidate- Maggie WeyrensPerformance Chair Parker moved to accept results from the election as presented. Facilities Chair Hotch seconded. Motion passes unanimously. Seating for Officer and Chair roles will commence at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

VI. VII. Public Comment- No public comment.

VII. VIII. Executive Session- No Executive Session.

VIII. Adjournment – There being no further business to be transacted, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 P.M.

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