



Rilke Schule  
Academic Policy Committee Minutes  
Thursday, February 15, 2024  
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 21 March 2024*

Present: Connie Jessen, Mark Truog, Rebecca Colvin, Herr Strauch, Maggie Weyrens, Lisa Robertson, Robin Phillips, Katie Kelly  
Excused Tardy: Jason Hotch  
Excused Absent: Megan Olson  
Present Via Zoom: Herr Vincent Lang  
Guest of the Board: Frau Stacey

- I. Call to order & Adoption of Agenda and Minutes from 18 January 2024 Regular Meeting. Call to order at 6:04 P.M. Vice Chair Kelly moved to adopt agenda and minutes from January 18 Regular Meeting. Frau Robertson seconded. Chair Colvin moved to add new business item between D and E for Executive Session for Principal Evaluation. Upon motions duly made and seconded with all members present voting in favor, Agenda amended and Agenda 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- formed teacher appreciation committee. Discussed sign up genius renewal- last year RSV split this cost with Rilke, want to do that again. Talked about the show case for RSV Rilke gear, and we will now donate it to the school. It hasn't been used since December. Talked about Fur Rondy, plan on being in parade again with our new trailer. Need volunteers to decorate and walk in parade. Did a partnership with travel club with Kino Abend, huge success 58 kids ages 3 and up, sold out within 2 days, so will do it again first Friday of every month for the rest of the year for travel fundraiser. Kinderlauf fun run second Saturday in May. Other fundraisers we discussed will be put off until next year. Treasurer Truog requests a budget report from them before May.
  - B. RSI- no representative available. Their next meeting is on 22nd February. Full agenda. annual elections will be at their April meeting. 4 positions on the board, board needs 7 members. Treasurer Truog requests a budget report from them before May.

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#### IV. Reports

##### A. Officers

1. Chair Colvin- signed up for charter school fair that is on the 28th Feb. There is a sign up genius for it. Working on charter renewal group, helping a bit with strategic plan and supporting other board members as necessary.
2. Vice-Chair- also working with charter renewal. attended new business partnerships committee. Meeting again tomorrow. Hoping to get something for the Kinderlauf tshirts. want to start opening lines of communications. Have also been getting elections completed and helping with annual principal evaluation.
3. Secretary- working on charter group and helping to get grants workgroup up and running.
4. Treasurer- see report. Even with 3% student growth this year, we are expecting less money from ASD next year. Had high level meeting for grants workgroup, good selection of parents. Went to Business of Commerce luncheon. Good information there, RSV president and past RSV president were there. Presentation helped with thinking about who to reach out to for business partnerships.

B. Principal- see report.

C. Teachers- see report.

D. Schülerrat- no representative.

E. Committees:

1. Facilities/Outdoor- not present. By Chair proxy report, he is waiting on building manager to put together a report on the load bearing capacity of the roof. Verbal confirmation- they said it is fine, it is less than capacity at this time.
2. Strategic Planning- 3 hour session Feb 1, for mission, vision, and goals with Tiffany Jackson from ASB. Principals have taken on details with objectives and goals.
3. Performance- Principal surveys have been open since January and they closed today at 1700. We will be going through results in executive session this meeting.

#### V. Old Business

#### VI. New Business

##### A. Mission and Vision

- a. Vision- Rilke Schule students are biliterate, globally aware, and locally engaged.
- b. Mission- Provide a culturally enriched, **German immersion** learning environment with a focus on academic excellence and student success.

Discussion on these two. Vice Chair Kelly moved to adopt Vision and Mission as edited above in red typeface. Herr Phillips seconded. No discussion. Upon motion duly made and seconded, with all present members voting in favor, the motion passed.

- B. German Curriculum and 4th/5th Grade ELA Curriculum- Start with English curriculum. See curriculum report with meeting materials. Discussion on English curriculum. Chair Colvin motioned to table English curriculum until the next meeting. Treasurer Truog seconded. Upon motion duly made and seconded, with all present

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members voting in favor, the motion passed and the discussion English curriculum is tabled to the next Regular Meeting.

German curriculum- For grades 1-4 German language arts curriculum - Niko. Looking to align German curriculum. Frau Stacey and Tarrant piloted Niko curriculum this year. Just like CKLA, it focuses on developing foundational literacy. Many benefits, including that it is used by German immersion schools across nation. Cost is a little over \$14,000 with recurring cost of \$3,500/year for student workbooks. This has already been budgeted for.

Guest Frau Stacey- German teachers also have to make sure K-3 follows AK Reads Act. This program really works as well as the English curriculum. German side is also responsible for reading and understanding and phonics. Teachers can decide what the students' needs are and get them on their level. There is continuation year to year of the curriculum, and teachers and students know what to expect. We have specific measurables with this curriculum. Teachers will still have time to focus individual attention to personal science, social studies, and other content areas.

Facilities Chair Hotch moved to adopt the Niko German curriculum, Vice Chair Kelly seconded. Upon motion duly made and seconded, with all voting in favor, the motion passed.

- C. Rilke ASD Budget Communication- We have talked about this in several different meetings and workgroups. Legislature is in session. ASD has sent feedback to them and are now asking the community to provide input to legislature. We have talked about Rilke sending out a communication to legislature, but also put a call out to our community to call for action, and for the school board to advocate for immersion schools in general. **ACTION ITEM**-Herr Strauch and Colvin will work on official communication to the legislature advocating for increased BSA and a communication to ASD regarding Immersion.

Katie Kelly left at 2000.

- D. Ad Hoc Committee- Grants- We are not a committee. There is no school business partnership committee, no votes or approvals have happened. All we have had is an outreach to see who is interested in helping work on grants. In bylaws there are standing committees and standing subcommittees. This already fits in sub of budget and finance or strategic planning subcommittee planning. Treasurer Truog motioned to extend meeting for no more than one hour. Facilities Chair Hotch seconded. Upon motion duly made and seconded, with all present voting in favor, the motion passed.

VII. Executive Session- Personnel matters- started at 8:05 ended at 8:26. Herr Phillips left at 2005.

VIII. New Business continued

E. Principal Evaluation- Survey results finished at 1700. We have not received all of the results that are factored into the score. We have received all staff, community, and APC evals. We will work on reading through all and work with Herr Strauch to see what improvement recommendations we have. After initial review, all of the calculations based on scoring received to date lead to extension of Herr Strauch's contract, with term to be determined based on final calculations. Facilities Chair Hotch moved to approve Herr Strauch's principal contract for a term TBD, based on the current contract criteria, once final calculations are completed. Treasurer Truog seconded. Discussion. Upon motion duly made and seconded, with all present voting in favor, the motion passed.

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F. Election Results and Seating of New Members- 134 votes, 22% student population voted. Akara Anglin and Amanda Thompson received the most votes. Seating for Officer and committee roles will commence at the next Regular Meeting.

1. Candidate- Akara Anglin- 93 votes
2. Candidate- Mary Hopkins- 70 votes
3. Candidate- Amanda Thompson- 78 votes

VIII. Public Comment- 5 commenters.

IX. Executive Session- no call for an additional executive session.

X. Adjournment- Chair Colvin moved to adjourn. Treasurer Truog seconded. All members in favor. Upon motion duly made and seconded, with all members voting in favor, motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 P.M.

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