



## NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Muriel Brower, President  
Members of the Board of Education

**FROM:** Emily Roseberry, Qargi Academy Qauklik

**DATE:** Thursday, August 3, 2020

**SUBJECT: Charter School Update**

**Memo No. SB21-020  
(Informational Item)**

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#### **NSBSD Strategic Plan Goal:**

2.0 QARGI/COMMUNITY SPIRIT: Fostering the reclamation and recovery of the responsibility each one of us has for living the Iñupiaq values and being accountable at the personal and community levels for “walking the talk,” embodying the QARGI spirit and commitment to education.

3.0 STAFF RECRUITMENT & RETENTION: Strengthen the recruitment and retention of highly effective staff and inspire indigenous Iñupiaq teachers.

4.0 FINANCIAL & OPERATIONAL STEWARDSHIP: Effectively employ our operational and financial resources to support our strategic goals and long-term stability of the district.

#### **Issue Summary:**

The North Slope Borough School District School Board policy BP 6181, Charter School, states that charter schools are schools established under AS 14.03.250 that operate within the public school district. Charter schools are established upon the approval by the Board and the State Board of Education of an application for a charter school. Charter schools shall operate under a written contract between the charter school and the Board. This policy and all its subsections may be repealed as of July 1, 2005.

#### **ESTABLISHMENT OF CHARTER SCHOOLS**

The Board shall give appropriate consideration to any charter school petition, in light of its overall effect on the district's children and the proposed school's ability to function effectively and meet its goals. In accordance with law, the proposed charter must include descriptions of the vision, mission and goals of the charter school, the governance structure that will be used, the educational outcomes to be attained by students, and the method by which progress in meeting these outcomes will be measured. Applications for a charter school to operate during the next school year shall be submitted to the Board no later than February 1 of the current school year. Applications received after the February 1 deadline shall not be considered until the next school year. A charter school shall begin operation as agreed with the Board but no later than October 1.

#### **STATE NOTIFICATION OF A CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION**

Upon approval or rejection of a charter school application, the School Board will submit to the State Board of Education a copy of the charter school application and a report on the action taken by the School Board no later than twenty (20) working days following the School Board action.

1 of 2 defined in AS 14.17.021. Legal References: ALASKA STATUTES 14.03.250-14.03.280 Charter Schools ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE 4 AAC 33.110 Charter Schools

Emily Roseberry founding member of Qargi Academy's Academic Policy Committee submitted the Qargi Academy Charter School application to the NSBSD School Board on January 16, 2020. Members of the Academic Policy Committee are: Mark Roseberry, Emily Roseberry, Pasty Aamodt, Mike Aamodt, Dr. Edna MacLean, Charlotte Brower, Eugene Brower, Crawford and Laura Patkotak and Inpiaq Community of Arctic Slope (ICAS) tribal council.

After the initial introduction of Qargi Academy Charter School application held on January 16, 2020, per the school board's request for a worksession on March 4, 2020 was held and gave a public, indepth review and discussion of the charter school. Further, the NSBSD SB passed Qargi Academy Charter School at its scheduled SB meeting on Thursday, March 5, 2020 in Atqasuk, Alaska. Qargi Academy presented to the NSB Assembly on March 24, 2020 and supported Qargi Academy with 3.4M in appropriated funds to the district for the operation of Qargi Academy. Qargi Academy went through the Alaska State School Board's vetting process where all requirements set out by the State of Alaska were met by June 3, 2020. Qargi Academy presented to the Alaska State School Board worksession on June 10, 2020 and was then approved by the Alaska State School Board on June 11, 2020.

### Vision

North Slope Borough students have access to a quality education, gaining knowledge and skills to prepare them to be contributing citizens in a society with a thriving Iñupiaq language and culture.

### Mission

To provide access to quality education through virtual learning and community based Iñupiaq language and culture projects.

### Update

- Qargi Academy has opened the online enrollment process at [www.QargiAcademy.org](http://www.QargiAcademy.org) with the help of EdOptions Academy.
- Facebook updates are provided to communities through the Qargi Academy facebook page – to date we have reached over 3,587 people and we continue to provide updates on Qargi Academy on this website.
- Qargi Academy Academic Policy Committee held a Professional Development with AASB on the Roles and Responsibilities of a Charter School on July 30, 2020
- Qargi Academy has hired 2 Ilisaqtitchiriik from Wainwright (Marlene Okakok and Tommilynn Ahmaogak, 2 Ilisaqtitchiriik from Barrow (Corrine Danner and Bobby Itta), 1 Inupiatun Ilisimari (Dick Weyiouanna, and 1 Qauklim Ikayuqtaa (Kawa Danner). We are seeking to hire 1 virtual Ilisaqtitchiri to support students who reside in villages without a Qargi and are in need of support. We can work with an additional community to begin the process of opening a Qargi
- We have ordered 60 student laptops, office and classroom equipment and furniture, we are currently identifying the cultural materials to be ordered.
- Enrollment Lottery will be held on August 24, 2020 if more than 60 students have enrolled. School will open September 8, 2020.
- Qargi Academy and SB contract; school within a school