



NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Roxanne Brower, President
Members of the Board of Education

THROUGH: Kathy Ahgeak, Superintendent

THROUGH: Ronnie Stanford, Assistant Superintendent

FROM: Emily Roseberry

DATE: February 13, 2020

SUBJECT: Charter School Application Work Session

Memo No. SB20-173 rv1
Action Item

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.

Recommendation:

The Board adopted Board Policy 6181, Charter Schools, in 1997, outlining the charter school application process. The Qargi Academy, proposed for 9-12th Charter School Application was received Friday evening, January 10, 2020. The school board will conduct further review of the application for today’s work session.

The Qargi Academy’s application outlines the primary purpose of the charter school, how it will specifically differ from other educational options available in the community and the student population the charter hopes to attract. AS 14.03.265(a)(1-3)

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 This policy and all its subsections may be repealed as of July 1, 2005.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 attached application. Members of the Academic Policy Committee are: Mark Roseberry, Emily Roseberry, Pasty Aamodt, Mike Aamodt, Dr. Edna MacLean, Charlotte Brower, Eugene Brower with two Inupiaq Community of Arctic Slope (ICAS) members to be determined.

At this time, per the school boards request from the initial introduction of the charter school application on January 10, 2020, today's work session is for further review of the application and determination of approval of the charter school.

NEXT STEPS

Timeline for the NSBSD school board to submit the charter application (per 4AAC 33.110. Charter School application and review procedures) to the State School Board after the board decision is made are as follows:

- (b) Not later than 30 days after a local school board's decision **to approve** an initial application or renewal application for a charter school, the local school board must forward the 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.
- (d) an initial application and 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 School Board of Education and Early Development.
 - The next two meeting dates for the State School Board are March 25, 2020 and June 10, 2020.

- To meet the 90 day submission timeline of the State School Board meeting, the NSBSD SB will need to submit the application to the State SB **no later than March 12, 2020.**
- (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).