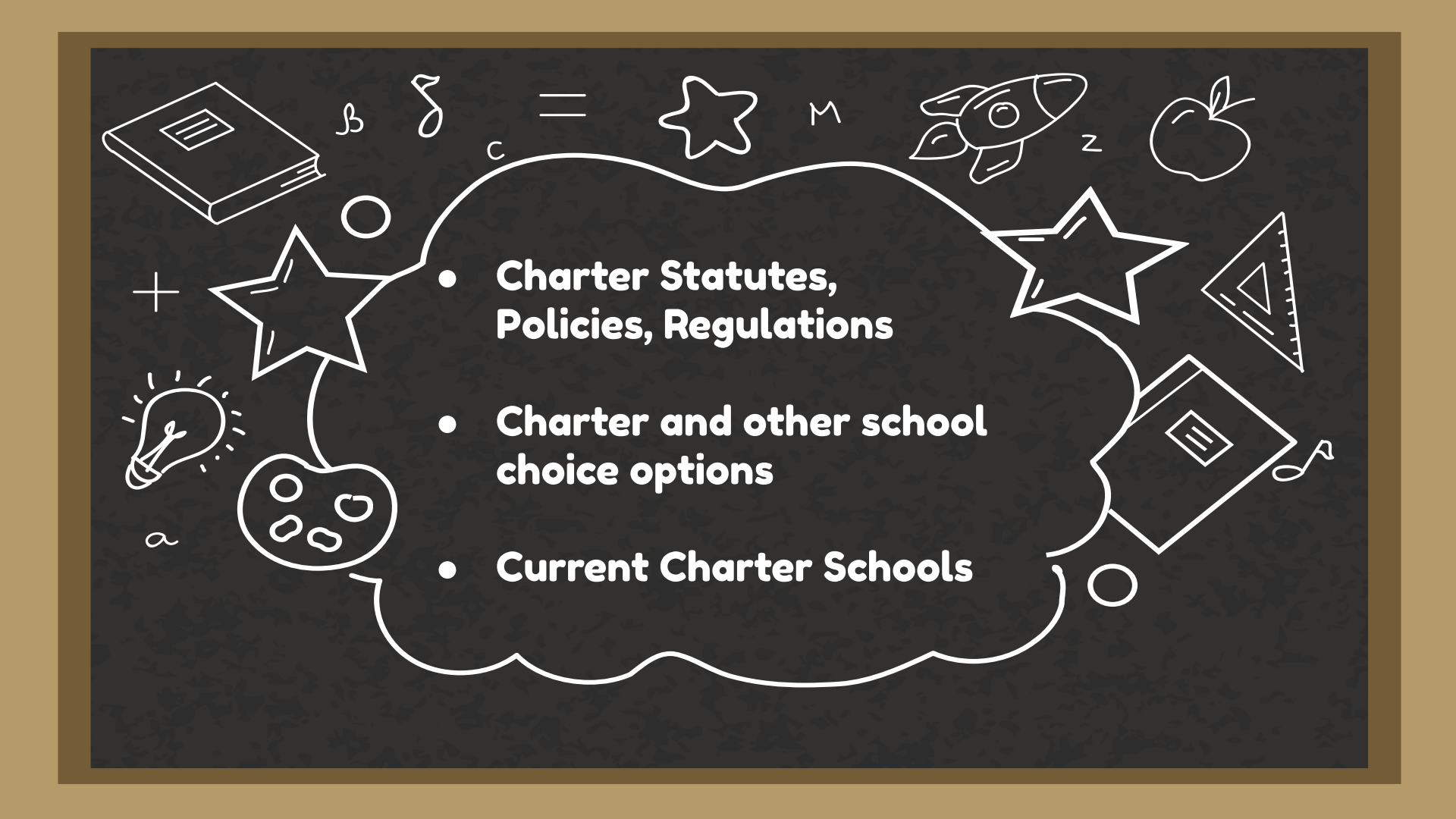




FNSBSD
Charter Schools
Overview

- 
- **Charter Statutes, Policies, Regulations**
 - **Charter and other school choice options**
 - **Current Charter Schools**

**State
Statutes,
District
Policies**

Academic Policy Committee (APC)

State Statute

Sec. 14.03.250. Application for charter school. (a) A local school board shall prescribe an application procedure for the establishment of a charter school in that school district. The application procedure must include provisions for an academic policy committee consisting of parents of students attending the school, teachers, and school employees and a proposed form for a contract between a charter school and the local school board, setting out the contract elements required under AS 14.03.255(c).

School Board Policy

935.22 The Academic Policy Committee Charter schools shall establish an Academic Policy Committee. Each application for a charter school shall include a description of the Academic Policy Committee and its procedures. The Academic Policy Committee shall consist of parents of students attending (or planning to attend) the charter school, teachers at the charter school (or teachers who agree to teach at the charter school), and employees of the charter school (or employees who agree to work at the charter school).

Academic Policy Committee (APC)

State Statute

Sec. 14.03.250. Application for charter school.

- (a) local school board determines the application procedure for charter schools and creates the form for the contract
 - must include provisions for an academic policy committee consisting of parents of students attending the school, teachers, and school employees

School Board Policy

935.22 The Academic Policy Committee

- Charter schools shall establish an Academic Policy Committee.
 - application shall include a description of the Academic Policy Committee and its procedures.
 - Committee shall consist of parents of students attending the school, and teachers/employees at the school.

Approval / Annual Report / Amendments to Charters

State Regulation:

4 AAC 33.113. Amendment of charter.

A charter school may apply to a local school board for an amendment to its charter during the term of its contract with the local school board. If a local school board approves an amendment to the charter, an amended contract must be executed to conform to the amended charter. The local school board must forward an amended charter and amended contract to the department. A charter school may make district-approved changes to its program that do not require an amendment to its charter without review by the State Board of Education and Early Development, except that a change of program that involves the addition of an elementary or secondary program must be approved by the local school board and the State Board of Education and Early Development. (Eff. 4/18/2015, Register 214)

Approval / Annual Report / Amendments to Charters

State Regulation: 4 AAC 33.113. Amendment of charter.

- Schools may apply for an amendment to its charter during the term of its contract with the local school board.
- If approved, an amended contract must be put in place.
- The amended charter and contract must be sent to the Alaska Dept of Education and Early Development (DEED).
- Schools may make district-approved changes to their programs that do not require an amendment to charters.
 - Exception: the addition of an elementary or secondary program must be approved by the local school board and the State Board of Education and Early Development. (Eff. 4/18/2015, Register 214)

Approval / Annual Report / Amendments to Charters

School Board Policy

Charter School Contract with the School Board

Each application for a charter school must include a proposed contract with the School Board. The charter school shall operate under the provisions of this contract. The contract must include by reference all the provisions listed in the application form and described in policies and administrative regulations numbered 935-935.5. During the work session with the school board, provisions of the application may be revised by mutual consent. The contract will reference the final revised form of the application. Upon approval of the charter school by the school board and the state Board of Education, the contract will be signed by the president of the School Board and the legally designated representative of the charter school. The contract between the charter school and the school board shall reflect all agreements regarding the operation of the charter school. Any revisions of the terms of the contract may be made only with the approval of the school board and charter school Academic Policy Committee. The contract will take effect upon the State Board of Education's approval of the application. See also School Board Policies 935-935.5: Charter Schools and ARs Policies 935-935.5: Charter Schools.

Approval / Annual Report / Amendments to Charters

School Board Policy Charter School Contract with the School Board

- The charter school operates under a proposed contract which is included in the charter application.
- The contract must include by reference all the provisions listed in the application.
- During a work session with the school board, provisions of the application may be revised by mutual consent.
- The contract is not signed until the charter school has been approved by the school board and the state Board of Education.
- Amendments to the contract may be made only with the approval of the school board and the charter school Academic Policy Committee.
- The contract will take effect upon the State Board of Education's approval of the application.

Approval / Annual Report / Amendments to Charters

Administrative Regulation

AR 935.25: Charter Schools - Application Procedure for Establishing a Charter School - Annual Review of the Charter School

The charter school will be subject to an annual review of its operations and finances by the school district and School Board. Changes to the annual contract or modifications to school's charter will be submitted to the administration for review and must be approved by the School Board.

Approval / Annual Report / Amendments to Charters

Administrative Regulation AR 935.25: Annual Review of the Charter School

- The school district and the school board perform an annual review of its operations and finances.
- Changes to the annual contract or charter will be submitted to the administration for review and must be approved by the School Board.

Approval / Annual Report / Amendments to Charters

Written Report:

Annually, the charter school will submit a written report to the district and the School Board no later than May 1 of each school year. The report will include:

- *a cover letter, including
 - *name of the charter school,*
 - *school year/annual report (i.e., 20XX-XX Annual Report), and*
 - *name(s) of person(s) responsible for report;**
- *information on the attainment of student performance expectations, including
 - *student achievement assessment results,*
 - *recommendations for remediation of poor student performance, and*
 - *school goal attainment;**
- *student enrollment and mobility data;*

Approval / Annual Report / Amendments to Charters

Written Report:

The charter school will submit a written report to the district and the School Board no later than May 1 of each school year.

The report will include:

- a cover letter
- information on student performance
- student enrollment and mobility data

Approval / Annual Report / Amendments to Charters

Written Report (continued)

- *descriptions of charter school activities;*
- *meetings of the governing bodies of the charter school*
 - *a list of the Academic Policy Committee for the past and coming school year, including officers, and staff members by position,*
 - *minutes of the meetings,*
 - *current bylaws of the Academic Policy Committee,*
 - *a list of employees and job titles, and*
 - *a list of officers in any PTA/PTO or other parent organization;*
- *any major changes planned for the following school year including*
 - *changes to the contract between the charter school and the district, and*
 - *modifications to the school's charter; and*
- *other information of interest to the school board and/or the school district administration.*

Approval / Annual Report / Amendments to Charters

Written Report (continued)

- descriptions of charter school activities;
- Information to report:
 - Minutes for APC meetings
 - Names and positions of APC members
 - Bylaws
 - Employee names and titles
 - Officers of parent organizations
- any major changes planned for the following school year
- other information of interest to the school board and/or the school district administration.

Approval / Annual Report / Amendments to Charters

Presentation to School Board:

Annually the charter school will make a presentation to the School Board and the public. Charter schools will be scheduled on a board agenda in the spring of each year. Written reports will be received by the district prior to the charter school's presentation to the School Board. The presentation will include student achievement results, highlights of the year, and changes being requested to the contract or charter.

The School Board will act on the charter school's contract renewal (including changes to the contract language and estimated budget) each year after the school's written report and presentation.

See also School Board Policy 935.25: Charter Schools - Application Procedure for Establishing a Charter School - Annual Review of the Charter School.

Approval / Annual Report / Amendments to Charters

Presentation to School Board:

- Each spring the charter school will make a presentation to the School Board and the public.
- The presentation will include student achievement results, highlights of the year, and changes being requested to the contract or charter.
- The School Board will vote on the charter school's contract renewal after the school's written report and presentation.

Termination of Charters

State Regulations:

Sec. 14.03.255. Organization and operation of a charter school.

(12) a termination clause providing that the contract may be terminated by the local school board for the failure of the charter school to meet educational achievement goals or fiscal management standards, or for other good cause;

Administrative Regulations

AR - 935.21 Application Form

12) A Termination Clause. The application form will include a termination clause providing the contract may be terminated by the school board for the failure of the charter school to meet educational achievement goals or fiscal management standards, or for other good cause.

Termination of Charters

State Regulations: Organization and operation of a charter school.

- the charter contract may be terminated by the local school board for:
 - failure to meet educational achievement goals
 - fiscal management standards
 - other good cause

Administrative Regulations

AR - A Termination Clause.

- the charter contract may be terminated by the local school board for:
 - failure to meet educational achievement goals
 - fiscal management standards
 - other good cause

Transportation

State Statutes:

Sec. AS 14.09.010 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(e) A school district that provides transportation services under this section shall provide transportation services to students attending a charter school operated by the district under a policy adopted by the district. The policy must:

(1) be developed with input solicited from individuals involved with the charter school, including staff, students, and parents;

(2) at a minimum, provide transportation services for students enrolled in the charter school on a space-available basis along the regular routes that the students attending schools in an attendance area in the district are transported; and

(3) be approved by the department.

Transportation

State Statutes: Sec. AS 14.09.010 added new subsections:

(e) A school district that provides transportation services must have a policy that must:

(1) be developed with input from charter school staff, students, and parents;

(2) at a minimum, provide charter school students transportation on a space-available basis along the regular routes that the students attending schools in an attendance area in the district are transported; and

(3) be approved by the department.

Transportation

State Statutes: (continued)

(f) If a school district fails to adopt a policy under (e) of this section, the school district shall allocate the amount received for each student under (a) of this section to each charter school operated by the district based on the number of students enrolled in the charter school.

(g) Nothing in (e) of this section requires a school district to establish dedicate transportation routes for the exclusive use of students enrolled in a charter school or authorizes a charter school to opt-out of a policy adopted by a school district for the purpose of acquiring transportation funding.

Transportation

State Statutes: (continued)

(f) If a school district fails to adopt a policy, the school district shall allocate funds to each charter school based on the number of students enrolled in the charter school.

(g) The school district is not required to establish dedicated transportation routes for charter schools and charter schools cannot opt-out of the transportation policy adopted by a school district for the purpose of acquiring transportation funding.

Transportation

School Board Policy

935.26: Charter Schools - Application Procedure for Establishing a Charter School - Provision of Transportation Services Purpose: The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District hereby establishes the policy by which students attending a charter school operated by the school district are provided transportation services.

Policy

- 1. The school district shall provide transportation services for students enrolled in those charter schools seeking transportation services on a space-available basis along the regular routes that students attending schools in an attendance area in the district are transported. Students may be transported via regular routes established for attendance area secondary schools and then shuttled to a charter school.*
- 2. The school district is not required to establish dedicated transportation routes for the exclusive use of students enrolled in a charter school.*
- 3. Charter schools are not authorized to opt-out of this policy for the purpose of acquiring transportation funding.*
- 4. This policy will be applied in conjunction with other district policies on student transportation.*

Legal Reference: AS 14.09.010 and 4 AAC 27.057.

Transportation

School Board Policy

935.26: Charter Schools - Transportation Services

The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District hereby establishes the policy by which students attending a charter school operated by the school district are provided transportation services.

Policy

1. Transportation will be provided on a space-available basis along the regular routes that students attending schools in an attendance area in the district are transported. Students *may* be transported via regular routes established for attendance area secondary schools and then shuttled to a charter school.
2. The school district is not required to establish dedicated transportation routes for the charter school.
3. Charter schools are not authorized to opt-out of this policy for the purpose of acquiring transportation funding.
4. This policy will be applied in conjunction with other district policies on student transportation.

Operation of a Charter School

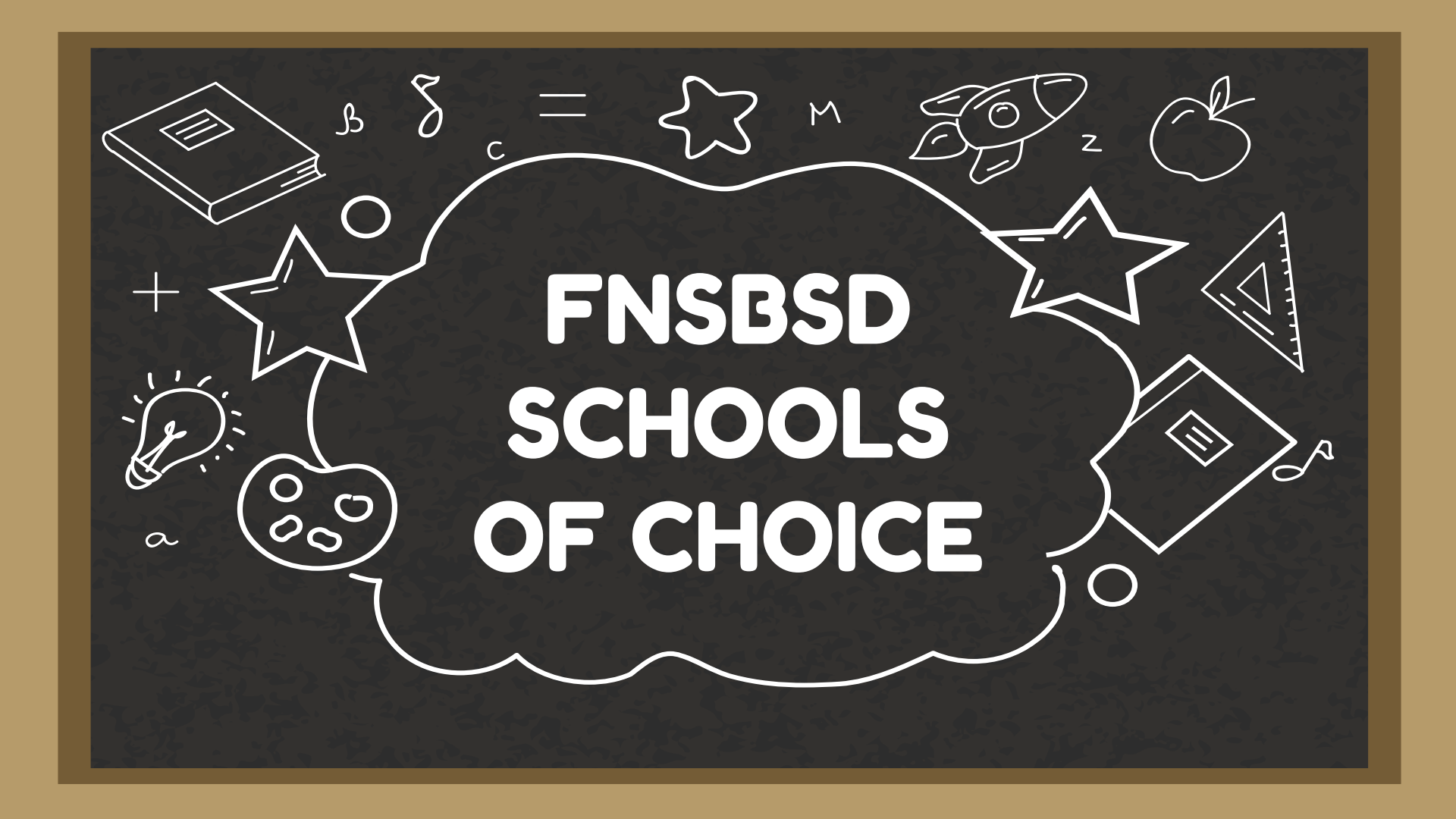
State Statutes

Sec. 14.03.255. Organization and operation of a charter school. (a) A charter school operates as a school in the local school district except that the charter school (1) is exempt from the local school district's textbook, program, curriculum, and scheduling requirements; (2) is exempt from AS 14.14.130(c); the principal of the charter school shall be selected by the academic policy committee and shall select, appoint, or otherwise supervise employees of the charter school; and (3) operates under the charter school's annual program budget as set out in the contract between the local school board and the charter school under (c) of this section. A local school board may exempt a charter school from other local school district requirements if the exemption is set out in the contract. A charter school is subject to tests required by the department.

Operation of a Charter School

State Statutes Organization and operation of a charter school.

- A charter school operates as a school in the local school district
- Charter schools are exempt from the local school district:
 - Textbook
 - Program
 - Curriculum
 - Scheduling requirements
- The principal
 - shall be selected by the academic policy committee
 - will hire and supervise employees of the charter school
 - operates under the charter school's budget as set out in the contract between the local school board and the charter school



**FNSBSD
SCHOOLS
OF CHOICE**

MAGNET SCHOOLS

Characteristics:

- District School

- Follows district curriculum

- Aligned to AK standards

- May have a theme or focus

Enrollment Process:

- Lottery

Funding:

- Standard school district funding

Schools:

- Barnette & Hutchinson

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Characteristics:

Privately managed - taxpayer funded

May or may not follow district curriculum

Aligned to AK standards

May have a theme or focus

Enrollment Process:

Lottery

Specific Requirements

Funding:

Not less than the amount generated by students enrolled in that charter school.

Schools:

Boreal Sun, Chinook, Discovery Peak, Effie Kokrine, Watershed

MIDDLE COLLEGE

Characteristics:

- District school
- Dual enrollment classes
- Cohort classes at university
- Receive high school and college credit

Enrollment Process:

- Lottery
- Specific Requirements

Funding:

- Varies depending on relationship between school district and the university

Schools:

- North Star College

HOMESCHOOL

Characteristics:

District school

Parent is the teacher

Ed Specialists are parent-teacher advisors

Aligned to AK standards

Enrollment Process:

Family/student choice

Funding:

90% of BSA

Schools:

Fairbanks BEST Homeschool

ONLINE / VIRTUAL SCHOOL

Characteristics:

- District school

- Curriculum is taught online

- Asynchronous / synchronous

- Aligned to AK standards

Enrollment Process:

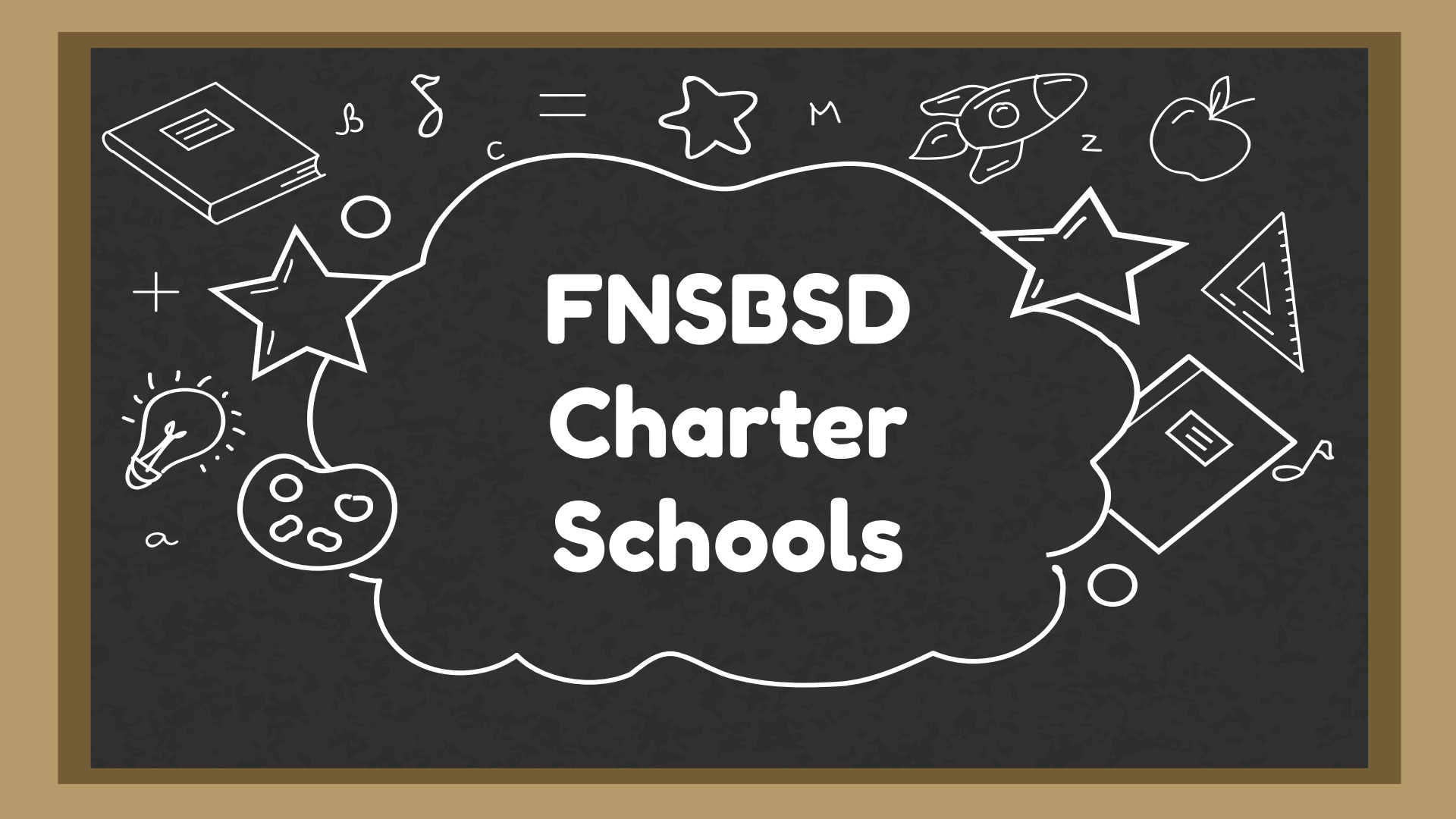
- Family/student choice

Funding:

- Standard school funding

Schools:

- eLearning program



**FNSBSD
Charter
Schools**

BOREAL SUN CHARTER

Founded: 2017

Next Renewal: 2027

2021 - 2022 Enrollment: 200 students

Waitlist: 73

Grades: K - 8

CHINOOK CHARTER

Founded: 1996

Renewed: 2021

Next Renewal: 2031

2021 - 2022 Enrollment: 137 students

Waitlist:

Grades: K - 8

DISCOVERY PEAK CHARTER

Founded: 2018

Renewed: N/A

Next Renewal 2028

2021 - 2022 Enrollment: 195 students

Waitlist: 96

Grades: K - 8

EFFIE KOKRINE CHARTER

Founded: 2005

Renewed: 2014

Next Renewal: 2024

2021 - 2022 Enrollment: 143 students

Waitlist: N/A

Grades: K - 8

WATERSHED CHARTER

Founded: 2009

Renewed: 2019

Next Renewal 2029

2021 - 2022 Enrollment: 198 students

Waitlist: 210

Grades: K - 8