Rilke Schule
Academic Policy Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 13, 2017, 6:00 PM
@ Rilke Schule Campus

I. Call to order 6:00 pm
Members present: Weiss, Crawford, Brickwell, von Wichman, Storter, Lastufka, Barr, Wileman, Oakley, Weese, Kjerland
Guests: RSV James Kirkland, RSI Ray Oakley

II. Adoption of agenda
New staff representative introduced: Frau Brickwell. Herr Bearss has stepped off the board and Frau Brickwell has agreed to take the April-April seat (normal rotation is April-April for one staff rep and Sept-Sept. for the other)

III. Approval of March Minutes

IV. Public comments
Letter from Frau MacDonald regarding proposed curriculum for K-5 English/Language Arts, expressing concerns with Cengage curriculum and preference for CKLA, read by Bryan Bearss.
Letter/statement by Bryan Bearss on same topic with similar concerns.
Jason F. commented he likes the Lexia program and hopes it will be continued in whatever curriculum is chosen.

V. Reports
A. Officers
1. Chair Storter: is planning a “state of the school" presentation/meeting for end of school year, during morning dropoff time, with some kind of communication piece for parents to look at. Discussion ensued, and 5/12 at 7:45-8:30 a.m. is planned. Additionally, continues to lobby/discuss school funding with local legislators and is hoping for no reductions in school funding formula.
2. Treasurer: still looking good and under budget for year and compared to last year.
3. Secretary: expressed concern about committee staffing, whether standing committees as currently in bylaws are actually how we are/should be functioning, discussion ensued, group agreed to make a strong effort to fill committees and re-evaluate after such effort has been made.
4. Vice-Chair: 4th quarter APC communication is being formulated. Bylaws amendment as related to election procedures is percolating, please put on May agenda.
5. Chair Storter- announced that Board Member Gretchen Weiss is unfortunately resigning due to personal reasons. Need to fill seat

and would like to fill befor end of school year. Procedure is to solicit letters of interest and then have the board vote on candidates to fill seat, by majority vote. Agreed will announce vacancy via messenger and Facebook and ask for letters of interest by May 4, for May 18th meeting names of candidates should be printed on agenda, and vote will be taken at May 18 meeting.

B. Principal: written report submitted. Highlights include kindergarten roundup, master schedule progress, and requested that curriculum adoption policy be worked on by APC.
C. Teachers: as written, requested more/different shelving in SPED area
D. Committees
    1. Facilities: none
    2. Strategic Planning: Weiss: final plan is formatted and printed (secretary question: who has the digital copy, is it kept at the school with administration)
    3. Performance: none
E. Partner organizations
    1. RSV: gave update on bylaws work being done, reminded of meeting coming up 4-19
    2. RSI: just had annual meeting. Clubs improvement plan is much more complicated than anticipated and will take longer than hoped, do not expect substantial changes for next school year due to complications.

VI. Old Business
    A. None

VII. New business
    A. Proposal to purchase front door security system with door buzzer entry: Discussion moved to next month because input/advice is needed from Roger Weese who has provided engineering support on project
    B. Proposal to adopt new elementary English/Language Arts curriculum Stoter entertained motion, Wileman moved, Weiss 2nd adoption of new E/LA curriculum. Storter clarified not planning to vote tonight, still gathering last teacher input expected tomorrow. Frau Brickwell reported on E/LA curriculum, provided written packet, explained review process. Discussion ensued, pros and cons weighed. Decision has to be made before 4/22 to get in on bulk pricing with ASD order, if we decide to go with Cengage/NatGeo curriculum. Will have actual costs after meeting Monday with sales rep and ASD. Explained that current curriculum is expired and must be replaced, it's a question of what we replace it with, do we go with ASD recommendation or go our own way. Brickwell explained most staff supports enthusiastically the Cengage curriculum, also has advantages like bulk pricing, free staff development, can piggyback with district on training and material support thus reducing our costs. Also discussed concerns and comments from staff members who prefer another curriculum over Cengage.
    Wileman friendly amended his motion to move vote to Tuesday 4/18 at 5 pm special meeting.

VIII. Public comments
Bryan Bearss and Rebecca Colvin

IX. Executive session: none

X. Adjournment at 8:21 PM

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 is comprised of voting and advisory members representing parents, faculty and staff. Parent-elected representatives serve staggered, two-year terms with elections every February. The Academic Policy Committee highly values public comments and encourages all interested parties to submit written public comments on any subject to apc_rilke@asdk12.org. Fifteen minutes are reserved at the beginning and end of each regular meeting for public comments.

Next meeting: Thursday, May 18, 2017, 6:00 p.m. at Rilke Schule