



Rilke Schule German Immersion School
8427 Lake Otis Pkwy Anchorage, AK 99507
www.asdk12.org/rilkeschule
(907) 742-0900
inforilke@asdk12.org

Rilke Nachrichten

15. Mai 2026

Vision: Rilke Schule students are biliterate, globally aware, and locally engaged.

Mission: Provide a culturally enriched, German immersion learning environment with a focus on academic excellence and student success.

[Rilke Schule Master Calendar](#)

[May - Rilke Lunch Menu](#)

Geplante Events

- 5/20 Sporttag
- 5/21 8th Grade Graduation
- 5/21 Last Day of School
- 5/21 Rilke APC Meeting
- 5/22 Packing Day
- 8/14 Rilke Staff First Day
- 8/20 Rilke 1st - 8th Grade First Day of School
- 8/26 Rilke Kindergarten First Day of School

Sporttag

Rilke will hold Sporttag (Field Day) on Wednesday, May 20th in two sessions.

- 3rd-7th grade will participate in the morning from 8:20-11:00.
- K-2nd will participate in the afternoon from 12:00-2:50.

To help teachers give them time to pack up classrooms, we are looking for parents to help in the following ways:

- Donate a few items to be dropped off the day before (5/19)
- Run stations
- Lead classes from station to station

We still need help, please click on this link to [volunteer at Rilke Sporttag!](#)

Rilke Schule Packing Day

It's time to go! We could use help packing up our school on Friday 5/22 to get ready for the move to the Lake Otis facility. This is a huge undertaking and we need YOU! Some teachers could use more help in their rooms than others, so the quantity needed may differ.

If you have a dolly, please also bring it to help move items!

Please click on this link to sign up to help, [Rilke Packing Day Sign-up](#)

Shout Out to Rilke PTO (RSV)

Thank you Rilke PTO for a wonderful Teacher Appreciation Week. It was a fun week and the Rilke staff is grateful for food, events, and love that we all felt from the community.

Meet the New Teachers Joining the Rilke Schule

Frau Newhouse, 2nd Grade Teacher

Hello, my name is Frau Newhouse and I will be the new 2nd grade teacher at Rilke Schule. I have lived in Anchorage since I was 16 years old and graduated from East High School, go Thunderbirds!

I have been teaching at Service High School for the immersion and regular track program for the past 9 years, go Cougars! While at Service, I built a partnership with the German Central Agency for Schools Abroad and successfully prepared immersion German students for the DSDII exam. These students were a direct result of their time at Rilke Schule, go Panthers! The immense role that Rilke Staff and parents have dedicated to these students are evident wherever they go. I am thrilled to be a part of that dedicated community next year.

My teaching philosophy is: Lernen macht Spaß! (Learning is fun!) This philosophy helps the students buy into the learning process and they see it as play, while they are learning. I am looking forward to making new connections and becoming an integral part of the Rilke community.

Herr Hensley, Music

My name is Aaron Hensley, and I am very excited to be stepping in as Music Teacher at Rilke Schule this coming school year. I wanted to take a minute to tell you a little about myself. I was born and raised in Anchorage and earned my degree in Music Education at the University of Alaska, Anchorage. I play trumpet with the Anchorage Jazz Ensemble as well as the Alaska Blaskapelle. This will be my tenth-year teaching music in the Anchorage School District, the last three of which have been at Kincaid Elementary.

I am proud to be able to say that Herr Downey has been a mentor to me since my college days. I have learned so much from him over the years, and I am truly honored to be taking over such an esteemed program. Rest assured that Herr Downey and I are working together to make this transition as smooth as possible to ensure that the students at Rilke Schule continue to receive the high-quality education in music that families have come to expect.

Frau Kempen, Kindergarten and 1st Grade

Hallo, Rilke Family! More than a decade ago, I began my teaching career at Rilke as Frau Ferris. The Army life took me away from Alaska, but gave me the opportunity to live all across the country and spend three amazing years living in Bavaria, Germany. Now, several years later, with a new name and a bigger family in tow, I am excited to return to teach at Rilke this Fall. I bring

with me three children: Leonie, age 10; Miles, age 8; and Simon, age 5, who will also get to experience the wonderful, tight-knit community of Rilke. We are excited to come back to Alaska and can't wait to meet all of you in August. -Frau Kempen

Rilke PTO News

- Drop off your outgrown, dresscode approved, Tops and Bottoms at the school all next week. Drop off stations will be at all three school entrances. PLEASE ORGANIZE, BAG, AND LABEL by SIZE.
- Special Curbside Pickup for Kindermode will happen Wednesday Morning 5/20. Volunteers will pick up donations from your car at drop-off!
- [Volunteer to help pick up Kindermode Curbside.](#)
- A Big THANK YOU to You, the Volunteers, that help Rilke Schule Verein (Rilke PTO) support the Staff and Students of Rilke for the 25-26 school year.
- [Rilke Schule PTO Newsletter](#)

Rilke Schule Student Registration for 26-27 School Year

Online Registration for returning students for the 2026-2027 school year opened on Thursday, April 23, 2026! Make sure your student is ready for the upcoming school year by completing Online Registration. **Registration is required every school year for all students.** This process includes verifying important information such as contact details and annual authorizations. If you have moved, please contact us at the Rilke Schule front office at InfoRilke@asdk12.org to provide updated proof of Municipality of Anchorage residency (such as a current utility bill, lease, or real estate contract) so we can update your address.

You can prepare for Online Registration by ensuring you have access to Parent Connection, your online portal for staying connected with your student's school experience:

- Use the following link to log in: [Parent Connection](#)
- If you need your PIN or a new password, please visit the [Login Reminder Page](#)

- If you do not receive an email with your PIN and password, please contact the school office

Online registration for 2026-2027 begins on April 23: [Online Registration Guide](#)

What about students entering Kindergarten in the 2026-2027 school year?

The process is slightly different. Families of incoming Kindergarten students should begin with the [pre-enrollment](#) , which also opens today, April 23, 2026.

Rilke Schule 2026-2027 Calendar Update

The Rilke APC has formally adopted a revised calendar for the 2026-2027 school year. Here are the key dates:

- **August 14, 17, 18, 19:** Staff return for professional development, classroom setup, and orientation to the Lake Otis building.
- **August 20:** First day of school for students in grades 1-8.
- **August 26:** First day for Kindergarten, aligning with ASD and allowing time for Kindergarten Profile Meetings in the days prior.
- **End of Year:** In alignment with ASD's updated calendar, three additional days have been added. The last day for students will be May 28, with staff concluding on June 1 following Memorial Day weekend.

This calendar reflects Rilke's unique needs as we prepare for our move to Lake Otis this summer. The additional time at the beginning of the year will allow staff to unpack, settle into the new space, and prepare for a strong start. The added days at the end of the year are part of ASD's district-wide adjustment. This adopted proposal was developed with thoughtful consideration for our teachers, staff, and students to best support a successful school year.

Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we work through these changes alongside ASD's updates. Your continued support of our school community is greatly appreciated.

Rilke Schule Clubs- Fall Registration

This is a friendly reminder that Fall 2026 club registration is now available on the [Parent Dashboard](#).

Please click on the following links to learn about [Rilke Clubs registration for the fall of 2026](#) and the German summer camp [Jump into German](#).

Helpful Tips:

- To Enroll your student, begin at the [Parent Dashboard](#), select enrollment, and the 2026-2027 school year located under your students picture.
- If you are enrolling an incoming kindergartner, remember to set them as a kindergartner for the Fall of 2026. If you have an issue with your students grade please email rilkeclubs@rilkeschuleinc.org.
- For questions on how to enroll your student, please see the [How To Enroll Guide](#).
- **Jump into German Summer Camp** enrollment is still available to enroll for all grades and can be found under the Enrollment tab, and then the 2025-2026 school year located under your students picture.
- The Club Scholarship [Application](#) is currently open and the closing date has also been extended to May 10th, 2026.

Strong End Of Year Support!

As we enter the final weeks of the school year, maintaining strong daily routines is more important than ever. Consistent schedules, especially getting a solid night's sleep, help students stay focused, regulated, and ready to learn each day. Even as summer approaches, our classrooms remain active learning environments with important concepts still being taught and reinforced. Finishing the year strong sets students up for continued success and a smooth transition into the next grade level.

In addition, we have been spending time with students talking about the importance of staying in control of their own actions and reactions. This means recognizing that we always have a choice in how we respond, even in challenging situations. We are encouraging students not to give that control away to others by losing their composure. When conflicts arise, we guide students to

pause, take a breath, and respond in calm and respectful ways. Approaching situations with the goal of de-escalation helps prevent conflicts from growing and supports a more positive environment for everyone.

Your support at home in reinforcing strong routines and these important social skills makes a meaningful difference. Together, we can help students finish the school year with confidence, focus, and a strong sense of community.

Wichtige Links

[ParentConnect \(Online Student Gradebook and Information\)](#)

[Rilke Schule Strategic Plan 2024 -2029](#)

[Reporting Student Issues](#)

[Recording Volunteer Hours](#)

[Rilke Schule Gear Shop](#)

[Volunteering Information](#)

[Rilke Community Skills and Resource Catalog](#)

[Becoming an ASD Substitute Teacher](#)

[Dress Code Policy](#)

[Samstags Schule](#)

[Pick.Click.Give.](#)

[Rilke Instagram](#)