Sec. 1. SCHOOL YEAR

Academy of Accelerated Learning, Inc. (AAL), shall operate so that it provides the minimum number of instructional days and/or minutes specified in the charter contract currently on file with the State of Texas.

Sec. 2. LENGTH OF SCHOOL DAY

A school day shall be at least 7 hours/420 minutes each day, including intermissions and recesses.

Sec. 3. REQUIRED INSTRUCTION

A primary purpose of AAL's curriculum is to prepare thoughtful, active citizens who understand the importance of patriotism and can function productively in a free enterprise society with appreciation for the basic democratic values of our state and national heritage. AAL shall foster the continuation of the tradition of teaching United States and Texas history and the free enterprise system in regular subject matter, in reading courses, and in the adoption of textbooks.

Sec. 4. REQUIRED CURRICULUM

AAL shall ensure that all students enrolled participate actively in a balanced curriculum designed to meet individual needs.

AAL shall offer students at all grade levels the curriculum required by the charter contract currently on file with the State of Texas. This curriculum shall include, at appropriate grade levels:

1. A foundation curriculum that includes:
   a. English language arts;
   b. Mathematics;
   c. Science; and
   d. Social studies, consisting of Texas, United States, and world history, government, economics, with emphasis on the free enterprise system and its benefits, and geography; and
2. An enrichment curriculum that includes:
   a. To the extent possible, languages other than English;
   b. Health, with emphasis on:
      i. Physical health, including the importance of proper nutrition and exercise;
      ii. Mental health, including instruction about mental health conditions, substance abuse, skills to manage emotions, establishing and maintaining positive relationships, and responsible decision-making; and
      iii. Suicide prevention, including recognizing suicide-related risk factors and warning signs;

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c. Physical education;
d. Fine arts;
e. Career and technology education;
f. Technology applications;
g. Religious literature, including the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and New Testament, and its impact on history and literature; and
h. Personal financial literacy.

Tex. Educ. Code §§ 12.111(a), 28.002(a), 28.025.

Sec. 5. CERTAIN INSTRUCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITIONS

The following provisions in this Section apply for any course or subject, including an innovative course, for a grade level from kindergarten through grade 12. Nothing in this Section may be construed as limiting the teaching of or instruction in the essential knowledge and skills adopted under Subchapter 28 of the Texas Education Code. *Tex. Educ. Code § 28.0022(a),(e).*

a) *Teacher Discussion*

A teacher may not be compelled to discuss a particular current event or widely debated and currently controversial issue of public policy or social affairs. A teacher who chooses to discuss such a topic shall explore the topic objectively and, in a manner, free from political bias.

Tex. Educ. Code § 28.0022(a)(1), (2).

b) *Students*

AAL or an AAL teacher may not require, make part of a course, or award a grade or course credit, including extra credit, for a student's:

1. Work for, affiliation with, or service learning in association with any organization engaged in: (i) lobbying for legislation at the federal, state, or local level, if the student's duties involve directly or indirectly attempting to influence social or public policy or the outcome of legislation; or (ii) social policy advocacy or public policy advocacy;
2. Political activism, lobbying, or efforts to persuade members of the legislative or executive branch at the federal, state, or local level to take specific actions by direct communication; or
3. Participation in any internship, practicum, or similar activity involving social or public policy advocacy.

Tex. Educ. Code § 28.0022(a)(3)(A), (B).

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The prohibition above does not apply to a student's participation in:

1. Community charitable projects, such as building community gardens, volunteering at local food banks, or other service projects;
2. An internship or practicum:
   a. For which the student receives course credit under a career and technology education program or under the P-TECH program established under Texas Education Code § 29.553; and
   b. That does not involve the student directly engaging in lobbying, social policy advocacy, or public policy advocacy; or
3. A program that prepares the student for participation and leadership in this country's democratic process at the federal, state, or local level through the simulation of a governmental process, including the development of public policy.

Tex. Educ. Code § 28.0022(b).

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c) *Course Content*

A teacher, administrator, or other employee of AAL may not require or make part of a course inculcation in the concept that:

1. One race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex;
2. An individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously;
3. An individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of the individual's race or sex;
4. An individual's moral character, standing, or worth is necessarily determined by the individual's race or sex;
5. An individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, bears responsibility, blame, or guilt for actions committed by other members of the same race or sex;
6. Meritocracy or traits such as a hard work ethic are racist or sexist or were created by members of a particular race to oppress members of another race;
7. The advent of slavery in the territory that is now the United States constituted the true founding of the United States; or
8. With respect to their relationship to American values, slavery and racism are anything other than deviations from, betrayals of, or failures to live up to the authentic founding principles of the United States, which include liberty and equality.

Tex. Educ. Code § 28.0022(a)(4)(A).

A teacher, administrator, or other employee of AAL may not teach, instruct, or train any administrator, teacher, or staff member of a state agency, school district, or open- charter school to adopt a concept listed above. *Tex. Educ. Code § 28.0022(a)(4)(B).*

A teacher, administrator, or other employee of AAL may not require an understanding of the 1619 Project. *Tex. Educ. Code § 28.0022(a)(4)(C).*

AAL shall not accept private funding for the purpose of developing a curriculum, purchasing or selecting curriculum materials, or providing teacher training or professional development related to a concept listed above.

d) *Student Speech*

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AAL shall not implement, interpret, or enforce any rule in a manner that would result in the punishment of a student for reasonably discussing the concepts described by Subsection (5)(c) in school or during a school-sponsored activity or have a chilling effect on reasonable student discussions involving those concepts in school or during a school-sponsored activity. *Tex. Educ. Code § 28.0022(d).*

Nothing in this Section may be construed as prohibiting a teacher employed by AAL from directing a classroom activity that involves students communicating with an elected official so long as the school or teacher does not influence the content of a student's communication. *Tex. Educ. Code § 28.0022(g).*

SEC. 1. CHARACTER TRAITS AND PERSONAL SKILLS INSTRUCTION

AAL shall adopt and implement a character education program that includes the following positive character traits and personal skills:

1. Courage;
2. Trustworthiness, including honesty, reliability, punctuality, and loyalty;
3. Integrity;
4. Respect and courtesy;
5. Responsibility, including accountability, diligence, perseverance, and self-control;
6. Fairness, including justice and freedom from prejudice;
7. Caring, including kindness, empathy, compassion, consideration, patience, generosity, and charity;
8. Good citizenship, including patriotism, concern for the common good and the community, and respect for authority and the law;
9. School pride; and
10. Gratitude.
11. The programs shall be implemented in accordance with guidelines published by the Commissioner of Education and/or State Board of Education.

Tex. Educ. Code § 29.906(b), (c).

Sec. 6. MIDDLE SCHOOL ADVANCED MATHEMATICS PROGRAM

To increase the number of middle school students who complete advanced mathematics courses in high school, AAL shall develop an advanced mathematics program for middle school students that is designed to enable those students to enroll in Algebra I in eighth grade.

Under this program, AAL shall automatically enroll in an advanced mathematics course each sixth grade student who performed in the top 40% on:

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1. The fifth grade mathematics assessment instrument administered under Education Code § 39.023(a); or
2. A local measure that includes the student's fifth grade class ranking or a demonstrated proficiency in the student's fifth grade mathematics coursework.

A parent or guardian of a student may opt the student out of automatic enrollment in AAL's middle school advanced mathematics program.

Tex. Educ. Code § 28.029.

Sec. 7. CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION AND AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR INSTRUCTION

AAL shall provide instruction to students in grades 7 through 12 in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator in a manner consistent with State Board of Education requirements. The instruction may be provided as part of any course. A student shall receive the instruction at least once before graduation.

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation instruction must include training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation techniques and the use of an automated external defibrillator that has been developed:

1. By the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross; or
2. Using nationally recognized, evidence-based guidelines for emergency cardiovascular care and incorporating psychomotor skills to support the instruction.

AAL may use emergency medical technicians, paramedics, police officers, firefighters, representatives of the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross, teachers, other school employees, or other similarly qualified individuals to provide instruction and training under this section. Instruction is not required to result in certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation or the use of an automated external defibrillator. If instruction is intended to result in certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation or the use of an automated external defibrillator, the course instructor must be authorized to provide the instruction by the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, or a similar nationally recognized association.

A school administrator may waive this curriculum requirement for an eligible student with a disability.

Tex. Educ. Code § 28.0023.

Sec. 8. FENTANYL ABUSE PREVENTION AND DRUG POISONING AWARENESS EDUCATION

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AAL shall annually provide research-based instruction related to fentanyl abuse prevention and drug poisoning awareness to students in grades 6 through 12. The instruction required by this section must include:

1. Suicide prevention;
2. Prevention of the abuse of and addiction to fentanyl;
3. Awareness of local school and community resources and any processes involved in accessing those resources; and
4. Health education that includes information about substance use and abuse, including youth substance use and abuse.

The instruction required by this section may be provided by an entity or an employee or agent of an entity that is:

1. A public or private institution of higher education;
2. A library;
3. A community service organization;
4. A religious organization;
5. A local public health agency; or
6. An organization employing mental health professionals.

Tex. Educ. Code § 38.040.

Sec. 9. SCHOOL CALENDAR

The Superintendent shall develop a school calendar reflecting AAL's operations in accordance with the requirements of the charter contract. The Superintendent or designee shall distribute the school calendar to all students and parents.

Sec. 10. RECOGNITION DATES

AAL will regularly observe recognition dates, weeks, and months designated by the State of Texas by appropriate programs, celebrations, and activities. These recognition dates include, but are not limited to:

American Indian Heritage Day: The last Friday in September is American Indian Heritage Day in recognition of the historic, cultural, and social contributions American Indian communities and leaders have made to this state. American Indian Heritage Day shall be regularly observed by appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs in public schools to honor American Indians in this state and to celebrate the rich traditional and contemporary American Indian culture. *Tex. Gov't Code § 662.056*.

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Celebrate Freedom Week: To educate students about the sacrifices made for freedom in the founding of this country and the values on which this country was founded, the week in which September 17 falls is designated as Celebrate Freedom Week. *Tex. Educ. Code § 29.907*.

Constitution Day: Upon receipt of federal funds, AAL shall recognize September 17 as Constitution Day and hold an educational program on the United States Constitution for students served by AAL. *Pub. L. No. 108-447, div. J, § 111, 118 Stat. 2809, 3344-45 (Dec. 8, 2004)*

Father of Texas Day: November 3 is Father of Texas Day in memory of Stephen F. Austin, the great pioneer patriot and the real and true Father of Texas. Father of Texas Day shall be regularly observed by appropriate and patriotic programs in the public schools and other places to properly commemorate the birthday of Stephen F. Austin and to inspire a greater love for this beloved state. *Tex. Gov't Code § 662.045*.

Generation Texas Week: To educate middle school and high school students about the importance of higher education, the Superintendent shall designate one week during the school year as Generation Texas Week. The Superintendent shall designate one week during the school year as Generation Texas Week for all middle school, junior high, and high school students attending AAL. *Tex. Educ. Code § 29.911.*

During the designated week, each middle school and high school shall provide students with comprehensive grade-appropriate information regarding the pursuit of higher education. The information provided must include information regarding:

1. Higher education options available to students;
2. Standard admission requirements for institutions of higher education, including:
   a. Overall high school grade point average;
   b. Required curriculum;
   c. College readiness standards and expectations as determined under Education Code § 28.008; and
   d. Scores necessary on generally recognized tests or assessment instruments used in admissions determinations, including the Scholastic Assessment Test and the American College Test;
3. Automatic admission of certain students to general academic teaching institutions as provided by Texas Education Code § 51.803; and
4. Financial aid availability and requirement, including the financial aid information provided under Texas Education Code § 33.007(b).

Additionally, each middle school, junior high school, and high school shall provide to the students during the designated week at least one public speaker to promote the importance of higher education.

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Tex. Educ. Code § 29.911.
Holocaust Remembrance Week: The governor shall designate a week to be known as "Holocaust Remembrance Week" in public schools to educate students about the Holocaust and inspire a sense of responsibility to recognize and uphold human value and to prevent future atrocities.

Holocaust Remembrance Week shall include age-appropriate instruction, as determined by AAL:

1. Information about the history of and lessons learned from the Holocaust;
2. Participation, in person or using technology, in learning projects about the Holocaust; and
3. The use of materials developed or approved by the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission.

Tex. Educ. Code § 29.9072.

Hydrocephalus Awareness Month: September is Hydrocephalus Awareness Month to:

1. Increase public awareness of hydrocephalus; and
2. Encourage the development of partnerships between the federal government, health care professionals, and patient advocacy groups to advance the public's understanding of the condition, improve the diagnosis and treatment of the condition, and support research for a cure.

Tex. Gov't Code § 622.106.

Public School Paraprofessional Day: The second Wednesday in May of each year is Public School Paraprofessional Day in recognition of education paraprofessionals including teacher assistants, instructional aides, educational trainers, library attendants, bilingual assistants, special education associates, mentors, and tutors. Public School Paraprofessional Day shall be regularly observed by appropriate ceremonies and activities in public schools to properly recognize the paraprofessionals who have made tremendous contributions to the educational process. *Tex. Gov't Code § 662.049*.

Sam Rayburn Day: January 6 is Sam Rayburn Day in memory of the Texas and American statesman, Sam Rayburn. Sam Rayburn Day shall be regularly observed by appropriate programs in public schools to commemorate the birthday of Sam Rayburn. *Tex. Gov't Code § 662.041*.

September 11: To commemorate the events of September 11, 2001, in each year that date falls on a regular school day, each public elementary or secondary school shall provide for the observance of one minute of silence at the beginning of the first-class period of that day. Immediately before the period of observance required by this section, the class instructor shall make a statement of reference to the memory of individuals who died on September 11, 2001. The period of observance

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required by this section may be held in conjunction with the minute of silence required by Section 25.082. *Tex. Educ. Code § 25.0821*.

State of Texas Anniversary Remembrance Day: February 19 is State of Texas Anniversary Remembrance Day (STAR Day) in honor of Texas joining the Union and the day that James Pinckney Henderson became the first governor of the State of Texas in 1846. STAR Day shall be regularly observed by appropriate and patriotic programs in the public schools to properly commemorate the annexation of this state and to inspire a greater appreciation for the history of this state. *Tex. Gov't Code § 662.047*.

Texas First Responders Day: September 11 is Texas First Responders Day in honor of the bravery, courage, and determination of Texas men and women who assist others in emergencies. Texas First Responders Day shall be regularly observed by appropriate ceremonies in public schools to honor Texas first responders. *Tex. Gov't Code § 662.050*.

Texas Fruit and Vegetable Day: The first Friday in April is designated as Texas Fruit and Vegetable Day in public schools to promote awareness of the health benefits of fruits and vegetables and to encourage students to consume more fruits and vegetables during Texas Fruit and Vegetable Month. Texas Fruit and Vegetable Day shall include appropriate instruction, as determined by AAL. *Tex. Gov't Code § 29.9073*.

Texas Girls in STEM Day:
March 1 is designated as Texas Girls in STEM Day to celebrate and encourage the participation of girls in fields related to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Texas Girls in STEM Day shall be regularly observed by appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs in public schools to:

1. Encourage girls in this state to consider career fields in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and
2. Celebrate and honor the women of this state who have excelled in those fields.

Tex. Gov't Code § 662.071.

Texas History Month: March is Texas History Month in honor of those Texans who helped shape the history of the State of Texas and in recognition of events throughout Texas' history. Texas History Month shall be regularly observed by appropriate celebrations and activities in public schools to promote interest in and knowledge of Texas history. *Tex. Gov't Code § 662.102*.

Texas Military Heroes Day: The governor shall designate a day to be known as Texas Military Heroes Day in public schools to educate students about the sacrifices made by Texans who have served in the armed forces of the United States. Texas Military Heroes Day will include appropriate instruction, as determined by AAL. Instruction may include:

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1. Information about persons who have served in the armed forces of the United States and are from the community or the geographic area in which AAL is located; and
2. Participation, in person or using technology, in age-appropriate learning projects at battlefields and gravesites associated with a person who has served in the armed forces.

Tex. Educ. Code § 29.9071.

Women's Independence Day: August 26 is Women's Independence Day to commemorate the ratification in 1920 of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which guaranteed women the right to vote. Women's Independence Day shall be regularly observed by appropriate programs in the public schools to inspire a greater appreciation of the importance of women's suffrage. *Tex. Gov't Code § 662.051*.

Sec. 11. EXERCISE OF CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO PRAY

Each AAL student has an absolute right to individually, voluntarily, and silently pray or meditate in school in a manner that does not disrupt the instructional or other activities of the school. A person shall not require, or coerce a student to engage in or refrain from such prayer or meditation during any school activity.

Tex. Educ. Code § 25.901.

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