

## Rilke Schule German School of Arts and Sciences

1846 E. 64<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Anchorage, AK 99507  
www.rilkeschule.org  
(907) 742-7455



### **Rilke Schule 2015/16 Charter Renewal Application Cover Letter and Explanation for Renewing the Charter Early**

Rilke Schule found itself in a facility crisis and potential program failure due to lack of proper facilities in the Anchorage School District that could house our student body. The only available space was in the community of Chugiak which is not an option to sustain Rilke Schule. Chugiak could not be considered as a viable option due to the distance from the bulk of our students. Rilke Schule was in a very real crisis that potentially was leading to a student exodus over school years 2015-16 and 2016-17. Over the next 2 years the end of Rilke Schule was very possible without an appropriate facility solution. Rilke Schule's leaders began working on a fix to this crisis 2 years ago with a look at all facility options. After 2 years of work, the only workable solution to a school our size, was building a facility as nothing already existed inside the Anchorage Bowl. Rilke Schule moves into its new home school year 2015/16.

Part of the lease between Rilke Schule and Kiska stipulates that Rilke Schule "diligently pursue a renewal or extension of the term of its charter for approval by the Anchorage School Board and the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, to be effective September 1, 2015." This is section 2.1.1 on page 2 of the Lease attached as Appendix K with the charter renewal application. This stipulation was part of acquiring the financing for the building project and a 10 year renewal is essential to fulfilling our part of the lease. Appendix K attached to this renewal includes the lease between Kiska and Rilke Schule.

# Rilke Schule Renewal Application

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**Directly Following Rilke Schule's charter in order**

Alaska Dept of Education & Early Development Charter School Renewal Application FY 2016-29

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## **Charter School Application Renewal for**

### **RILKE SCHULE GERMAN SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

Upon acceptance by the Anchorage School District, this application shall become an integral part of the Charter School Contract between the Anchorage School District and Rilke Schule German School of Arts and Sciences, and shall be the governing charter for the school.

#### **Contact for Rilke Schule**

Jason Storter - Chair  
12252 Woodward Dr.  
Anchorage, AK 99516  
Cell: 907-230-5387

#### **Provisions of the APC**

Jason Storter - Chair  
12252 Woodward Dr.  
Anchorage, AK 99516  
Tel: 907-230-5387  
Profession: Owner of Tweedie and Storter Marketing

Kjerstin Lastufka - Vice chair  
12936 Jeanne Rd.  
Anchorage, AK 99516  
Tel: 907-242-7618  
Profession: Communication Director Alaska Regional Hospital

Morton Kjerland - Treasurer  
3120 Dos Cir.  
Anchorage, AK 99507  
Tel: 907-227-8720  
Profession: Managing Principal Waddell & Reed

Megan Olson - Secretary  
3720 Eastwind Dr.  
Anchorage, AK 99516  
Tel: 907-350-7453  
Profession: Vice Chancellor of University Advancement UAA

James Wileman - Member  
12740 Rivulet Cir.  
Anchorage, AK 99518  
Tel: 907-738-4510  
Profession: Vice President of Member and Administrative Services, Credit Union 1

Kjersti von Wichman - Member  
2940 Mallard Lane  
Anchorage, AK 99508  
Tel: 907-240-1278  
Profession: Owner Babkin Charters, LLC

Forgiveness Kochanowski – Member  
8118 Frank St. Anchorage, AK 99518  
Tel: 907-717-4240  
Profession: Alaska Program Manager, Department of Energy

Peter Birmanns - Employee representative  
4611 Piper St. #11B  
Anchorage, AK 99507  
Tel: 907-947-1421  
Profession: Teacher

Sasha Johnson - Employee representative  
11138 Stony Brook Dr.  
Anchorage, AK 99516  
Tel: 405-651-8729  
Profession: Teacher

Dean Ball – Principal  
7411 Wade Cir.  
Anchorage, AK 99518  
Tel: 907-441-7104  
Profession: Principal

Jo Sanders – Honorary Member  
11661 Rockridge Dr.  
Anchorage, AK 99516  
Tel: 907-345-0203  
Profession: Curriculum Director

All members elected serve two-year terms. Teacher members are elected by a majority vote of Rilke Schule's staff members. All other members are elected by majority vote of the school's parent population and sitting board members. In January of each year, the Chair of the APC shall appoint an Elections Committee of three (3) persons. The committee is comprised of two (2) APC members not up for re-election and one (1) parent of a student at the school who is not an APC member. The Elections Committee shall oversee the election process for the positions on the APC, in accordance with APC bylaws.

## **Organizational Structure**

The affairs of Rilke Schule are managed by the Academic Policy Committee, working in conjunction with the Principal and Anchorage School District, (ASD), personnel. The APC is accountable to the Anchorage School District School Board, and acknowledges the authority of both ASD and school board policy and State of Alaska statutes governing charter schools.

In addition to governing and supervising all aspects of the school, the APC shall fulfill the duties prescribed in AS 14.03.250 (Establishment of Charter Schools) and as set forth in the bylaws and shall perform the following functions, including, but not limited to:

- A. No member of the APC shall act on his/her own in the name of APC unless so authorized by the bylaws or by resolution of the APC
- B. Ensure the fulfillment of the mission of the School as stated in the Rilke Schule German School of Arts and Sciences / Anchorage School District contract.
- C. Uphold the mission as stated in the Rilke Schule German School of Arts and Sciences mission statement, as well as that of the Anchorage School District. It shall oversee accountability in academics, legal/risk management, finances, operations / maintenance and capital budgeting issues of the School as permitted by law
- D. Promote professional conduct in accordance with Anchorage School District policies and/or Union contract.
- E. Contract with a Type B certified administrator or as otherwise qualified.
- F. Delegate to the Principal those tasks deemed appropriate by the APC and render and / or termination or non-retention of teachers, staff and other personnel to the extent permitted by law.
- G. Review contracts.
- H. Review, upon requested by any parent, teacher, or staff, concerns regarding requests for any purchase of materials, student-school concerns if not satisfactorily resolved first through teachers and/or the principal.
- I. Review and rule on any other questions, issues, or policies that may arise from time to time, to the extent permitted by law.

All formal Rilke-related organizations (e.g. RSV and RSI) work collaboratively to support Rilke Schule and its mission and goals. Any organization raising funds to benefit Rilke Schule will do so in coordination with the school's principal and it's APC. A renewable memorandum of understanding will be developed to define each organization's roles and responsibilities to benefit Rilke Schule.

## **Description of the Educational Program**

### **Rilke Schule Mission**

Rilke Schule German School of Arts & Sciences is a K through 8 school that provides an outstanding education focused on high academic achievement by engaging each child through an enriched language curriculum taught primarily in German.

### **Rilke Schule Vision**

Our teaching focus is on language, arts, and sciences, fostering creative expression through drama, arts, music and sports. With the support of parents and the extended family, our school creates a community, which is immersed in the German culture and promotes international awareness. Our school nurtures a child's natural curiosity and cultivates life-long learning.

### **We believe in the following values:**

#### **Multilingualism**

Multilingualism is the norm in most of the world and we believe that children who know more than one language will be better prepared for life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century,

#### **World Citizenship**

By exposing our students and their families to, and immersing them in, a new culture, we will promote informed, active, and responsible world citizenship.

#### **Respect**

We believe that all children learn best when they are known and understood as individuals. Each child at our school will be accepted and challenged in the manner that is most appropriate for him or her. We instill respect for the diversity of humankind by applying social curriculum that is as important as the academic curriculum. This will include manners and etiquette.

#### **Challenges**

We believe that children rise to academic challenges that are developmentally appropriate. We are committed to providing a learning environment that teaches and expects students to the best work of which each student is capable.

#### **Involvement**

We believe that at the heart of every vibrant school are involved parents, extended families, and their communities. Board members, faculty, and families share in the daily tasks and long-term planning that comprise the ongoing functions of the school.

#### **Healthy Lifestyle**

We practice healthy living through nutritious eating and regular exercise in school.

#### **Sustainability**

We are committed to the policy of "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. "

## Rilke Schule Goals

Each year the Rilke Schule Goals Committee solicits input from the school community and forms recommendations regarding review and revision of goals.

1. Students will learn to speak German fluently and will have a deep understanding of heritage, cultural norms and customs of German-speaking countries and use German to acquire knowledge not available to them in English.
2. Community Service – each child will have opportunities to be involved in the community to learn that helping others is a part of being a responsible world citizen.
3. The school will have a financial plan to assure sustainability.
4. Students will have pen pals and e-mail pals in German-speaking countries. Regular exchange trips to partner school(s) will be made and the school will host students from partner school(s)
5. Every family will be expected to fulfill a volunteer commitment to help the school with various needs. Families will also be involved in joint projects, field trips, festivals, performances and similar activities.
6. Traditional holidays and festivals of the German-speaking countries will be celebrated.
7. The curriculum will meet the Content Standards for Alaskan Schools in all areas.
8. Performance standards in each subject area will be evaluated regularly in order to ensure continuity and effectiveness.
9. Students performing below proficient standards will be offered tutoring for German and/or English subjects.
10. The school, its faculty and staff, will collaborate with other learning entities to enrich the school life. We will work with ASD German faculty to develop an excellent German high school program to provide our students with an opportunity to continue their advanced German studies beyond 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
11. Professional development and additional staff training will be emphasized during in-services, as well as on other special occasions.
12. Parents will be continually informed about student progress and school events through various methods, which may include, but are not limited to: newsletters, website, notes sent home, phone calls or e-mails from teachers, regular and special parent conferences, and Facebook.
13. Staff will be given the opportunity to improve their German through seminars in German-speaking countries.
14. Upon demand, the school will provide before and after school enrichment programs such as: ASL, Spanish and other languages, drama, robotics, chess, choir, sports and Legos.
15. The school will maintain an active recycling program and will participate in local, national, and international ecological and conservation projects.



16. Classes in German will be offered for parents and other adults who wish to learn German.

### **Need for the program**

Anchorage has successful language immersion programs in Spanish, Japanese, and Russian. However, there was no German offered at the elementary school level until Rilke Schule opened. Our consistent enrollment numbers and growth over the last 8 years demonstrate the demand for a German immersion program within the Anchorage School District.

*Why should my child learn a foreign language?*

Scientific research has shown that foreign language learning increases achievement in basic skills such as communication and listening. It emphasizes brain development and memory, improves understanding of the student's native language, and gives new perspective and understanding of language. Furthermore, it promotes awareness, appreciation, and acceptance of other peoples and cultures and prepares students to participate more fully in the global community and marketplace. Immersion students become more flexible thinkers and exhibit greater nonverbal problem-solving abilities. Many studies have consistently found that immersion students do as well or even better than non-immersion students on standardized tests.

### **Why German?**

One in four Americans is of German descent; there is a rich history of Germans in the USA and in Alaska as well. German and English are the primary business languages of the European economies. More than 1,100 companies do business in German-speaking countries.

Tens of thousands of German-speaking tourists visit Alaska each summer, creating a demand for Alaskans who are comfortable in that language.

German has proven to be a language of high interest in Alaska, which has the second highest percent of students learning German in the United States, after Pennsylvania. Every high school in Anchorage has a solid German program and our students and teachers have won national honors, including free trips to Germany.

The University of Alaska offers a major in German, so students can now continue their education in their home state. German is the most frequently recommended language by U.S. universities.

Germany has provided a rich literary, musical, scientific and political legacy for the evolution on Western Civilization. Ten percent of the books published in the world are

in German. Mastery of German provides insights into German literature, science, history and culture, which cannot be obtained in translation.

## **Curriculum**

All curriculum decisions at Rilke Schule are led by district and state content and performance standards, in conjunction with current knowledge of best practices in education.

German Language – Standards for German are based on the National Foreign Language Standards, which include the Alaska and ASD world language standards. Students begin developing their German oral and aural skills in kindergarten and gradually add reading and writing as appropriate. Teachers speak only German in class and gradually add reading and writing as appropriate. Teachers speak only German in class and students are encouraged to do the same, resulting in early fluency. German grammar is taught as needed in the curriculum in grades 1 – 3 and formal grammar is thoroughly taught beginning in fourth grade. Students annually demonstrate their ability in German by passing the international A1 and A2 German exam. Students will also have the opportunity to take the B1 exam.

English Language Arts – The language arts program at Rilke Schule was developed using best practices in all areas of language arts including but not limited to: phonemic awareness, phonics fluency, vocabulary, comprehension and writing skills. Curriculum comes from both Houghton-Mifflin and external resources and includes reading and writing in both German and English. Students compete in district activities including Battle of the Books the Spelling Bee and the Geography Bee

Science – In all grade levels ASD science frameworks are used. In grades K-6, ASD science kits are utilized and form the basis for science education in both languages. In grades 7 and 8, ASD grade level expectations and science pacing guides are utilized. Students in grades 4 through 8 participate in a school science fair and are encouraged to participate in the state science fair.

Social Studies – In addition to meeting state and local standards, which include geography, history, economics, American history, and American government. Rilke Schule's social studies program also emphasizes the German language experience through history, economics and geography.

Technology – Technology use and instruction is integrated into curriculum and lessons.

Math – Math curriculum varies at different levels, but all levels meet or exceed ASD and State of Alaska content and performance standards.

Art, Music, Drama – Fine Arts at Rilke Schule are taught both via pull-out classes instructed by specialists in the field, highly integrated into classroom units and lessons, and also offered as afterschool enrichment activities and classes. Student work is displayed prominently around the school. Performances are held several times during the year.

P.E. - German sports are integrated into the P.E. program. Outside of formal instruction, students spend daily time engaging in outdoor recreation. Wellness and Health is integrated into both language sides of the curriculum. Wellness activities also take place during afterschool activities. Students participate in district life-long wellness activities.

## **Rilke Curriculum Materials in Use as of School Year 2015 - 16**

### **Kindergarten:**

English Language Arts:

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Series for Kindergarten

German:

Cornelsen Verlag: Hallo, da bin ich!

Klett Verlag: Kunterbunt Fibel (up to page 49)

Klett Verlag: Kunterbunt Leseminis

Teacher-made materials

Math:

Klett Verlag: Zahlenbuch

Teacher-made materials

Social Studies:

Klett: Mensch, Natur und Kultur 1

Science:

Many teacher-made materials to accompany ASD science kits

Health:

The Great Body Shop Kindergarten ASD Curriculum translated

Music:

ASD Curriculum with German and international items included

Physical Education:

ASD Curriculum

## **First grade:**

### English Language Arts:

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Series for Grade 1

Six Traits + 1 of Writing

### German:

Klett: Kunterbunt Fibel (p.50 – end); Spielend Lesen mit Lea und Leo

Lots of basic stories from readers for Erstleser

Cornelsen: Hallo Anna 1 and 2

Time Tex Verlag: Leseminis

Math: Klett: Zahlenbuch 1

Scott Foresman Grade 1 Math Series

Go Math! Grade 1 supplemental materials and manipulatives

Oldenbourg Verlag: Matheprofis 1

Teacher-made materials

### Social Studies:

Klett: Mensch, Natur, Kultur 1 (also has science in it)

Westermann Verlag: Weltatlas für Kinder

Ravensburger Verlag: Bei den Indianern, Ritterburg, etc.

Carlsen Verlag: Im Dorf der Indianer

### Science:

Teacher-made materials to accompany ASD science kits

Care – Line: Forschen und Entdecken 1

Klett: Sachlexikon 1 / 2

### Health:

The Great Body Shop Grade 1 ASD Curriculum translated into German

### Music:

ASD Curriculum with German and international items included

### Physical Education:

ASD Curriculum

## **Second Grade:**

### English Language Arts:

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Series for Grade 2

Six Traits + 1 of Writing

**German:**

Hueber Verlag: Planetino 1 and first part of Planetino 2

Many readers and stories from various sources

**Math:**

Klett: Zahlenbuch 2

Scott Foresman Grade 2 Math Series

Go Math! Grade 2 supplemental materials and manipulatives

Oldenbourg: Matheprofis 2

Teacher-made materials

**Social Studies:**

Klett: Mensch, Natur, Kultur 2, Ein Bild von Anchorage

Duden: Meyers bunter Weltatlas für Kinder

**Science:**

Teacher-made materials to accompany ASD science kits

Care-Line Verlag: Ameise, Marienkäfer und Regenwurm; Forschen und Entdecken 2;

Duden: Licht an! Tiere unter der Erde; der Schmetterling; Die Eule und andere NachttiereVerlag  
an der Ruhr: Die Regenwurm-Werkstatt.

Klett: Sachlexikon 1 / 2

**Health:**

The Great Body Shop Grade 2 ASD Curriculum translated into German

**Music:**

ASD Curriculum with German and international items included

**Physical Education:**

ASD Curriculum

**Third Grade:**

**English Language Arts:**

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Series for Grade 3

Six Traits + 1 of Writing

**German:**

Hueber: Planetino 2, 3

Many readers, stories, poems from various sources

**Math:**

Scott Foresman Grade 3 Math Series

Go Math! Grade 3 supplemental materials and manipulatives

**Social studies:**

Ravensburger: Kinderatlas

Klett: Mensch, Natur, Kultur 3 (also has science in it)

School-made materials: Die Geschichte, Geographie und Menschen von Alaska

**Science:**

Teacher-made materials to accompany ASD science kits

Care-Line: Forschen und Entdecken 3

Ravensburger: Großer Ravensburger Naturführer

Libri Verlag: Der Wald als Erlebnispädagogik

Ökotopia: Waldführungen

Kosmos: Mein erster Welcher Baum ist das?

Dorling Kindersley Verlag: Naturführer für Kinder: Bäume

Gerstenberg Verlag: Wasser

Duden: Licht an! In der Polarnacht

Gida Verlag (DVDs): Landkarte und Kompaß; Licht und Schatten; Sonne, Mond und Erde, Vulkanismus

Klett: Sachlexikon 3/4

**Health:**

The Great Body Shop Grade 3 ASD Curriculum translated into German

**Music:**

ASD Curriculum with German and international items included

**Physical Education:**

ASD Curriculum

**Fourth Grade:**

English Language Arts:

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Series for Grade 4

Six Traits + 1 of Writing

German:

Klett : Kunterbunt Lesebücher 2,3,4 and Sprachbücher 2,3,4 (differentiated instruction)

Rest of Planetino 3, if not yet completed

Cornelsen Verlag: Prima Band 2

Loewe Verlag: Das magische Baumhaus (ca 20 different novels)

Math:

Scott Foresman Grade 4 Math Series

Go Math! Grade 4 supplemental materials and manipulatives

Social Studies:

Westermann: Durchblick 5/6 (Geschichte und Geographie) für die Realschule; NRW version

Auer Verlag: Jan und Quintus im Pompeji

Duden: Lich an! Das ägyptische Grab

Carlsen Verlag: ein Tag bei den Wikingern

Coppenrath Verlag: Briefe von Felix: ein kleiner Hase auf Weltreise; Neue Briefe von Felix; Felix

bei den Kindern der Welt; Weltbeste Briefe von Felix, also DVD's to go with them

Westermann: Schulatlas

Gerstenberg: Das alte Griechenland; Tessloff Verlag: Was ist was: Das alte Rom; Unsere Erde; das Klima; Von der Steinzeit zu den...

Klett: Wandkarten: Griechenland 5. Jh vor Chr.; der Alte Orient; Römisches Imperium

Teacher-made units on: Die alten Germanen, Ägypten, die Azteken, Inka und Maya

Bild von Anchorage (ASD Social Studies curriculum translated into German)

Science:

Teacher-made materials to accompany ASD science kits

Duden: Der Körper

Gida Verlag: Unser Körper

Gerstenberg: das Wetter; Klimawandel

Verlag an der Ruhr: Die Weltraum-Werkstatt; die Wetter-Werkstatt

Klett: Sachlexikon 3/4

Care-Line: Forschen und Entdecken 4

Ravensburger: Lebensräume der Tiere

Health:

The Great Body Shop Grade 4 ASD Curriculum

Music:

ASD Curriculum with German and international items included

Physical Education:

## ASD Curriculum

### Fifth Grade:

English Language Arts:

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Series for Grade 5

Six Traits + 1 of Writing

German:

Cornelsen Verlag: Band 3 A2 Level (text, workbook, CD)

PRIMA Reihe, Deutsch für Jugendliche (German for Adolescents)

Many readers from Klett, Langenscheidt, etc.

Novels: DTV Verlag: Rennschwein Rudi Rüssel; Verlag Bastei Lübbe: Gregs Tagebuch; Emil und die Detektive, etc.

Math:

Scott Foresman Grade 5 Math Series

Go Math! Grade 5 supplemental materials and manipulatives

Social Studies:

Native Americans

*Indianer Werkstatt* (HM Reading has some short stories as well)

Germanic tribes and Middle Ages - units from curriculum director and *Siegfrieds Tod*

Age of Exploration - *Entdecker und ihre Reisen*

Colonial America - "Amerika" unit (HM Reading book has some short stories and *My Brother Sam is Dead*)

Introduction and all units are supplemented by German 5th grade *Durchblick* history text.

Science:

Teacher-made materials to accompany ASD science kits

Gida DVDs: Schal und Hören; Bauwerke; Kraft; Elektrischer Strom; Elemente und Energie;

Tessloff: ein Baby kommt zur Welt, Ravensburger: Wachsen und erwachsen werden

Verlag an der Ruhr: die Strom-Werkstatt

Klett: Prisma: Naturwissenschaft 5/6 differziert (NRW)

Libri: 101 Experimente mit Wasser; Was Wasser kann; ich pass auf mich auf;

Care-Line: Food For Friends (really is auf Deutsch despite the title)

Health:

The Great Body Shop Grade 5 ASD Curriculum

Music:

ASD Curriculum with German and international items included



Physical Education:

ASD Curriculum

### Sixth Grade:

English Language Arts:

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Series for Grade 6

ASD short stories from ASD academic plans

Novels that support the sixth grade theme of biographies

Fever 1793 (social studies integrated unit)

Step-Up-Writing (paragraph development)

Six Traits of Writing (Used to guide five paragraph essays)

German:

Cornelsen Verlag: Band 4 A2 Level (text, workbook, CD)

PRIMA Reihe, Deutsch für Jugendliche (German for Adolescents)

Novels, stories, poems, etc. from various sources

Math:

Go Math! Grade 6 Math Series

Go Math! Grade 6 supplemental materials and manipulatives

Social Studies:

Teacher created units covering the following (in German):

#### HISTORY

- I. Early US history (Columbus, early European immigration, American Revolution, Declaration of Independence)
- II. The Constitution (Constitution, structure of government, war of 1812)
- III. Absolutism in Europe (French Revolution, Napoleon, Congress of Vienna)
- IV. Westward Expansion (Louisiana Purchase, Lewis & Clark, Trail of Tears)
- V. Civil War (Particularism, Slavery, Civil War)

#### GEOGRAPHY

- I. Introduction to Geography (longitude/latitude, scale, maps)
- II. North America (overview, landscapes, US and Canadian Geography)
- III. Europe (overview, regions, changing continent)

Science:

Klett; Naturwissenschaften 5/6 differenziert

Verlag an der Ruhr: Die Müll-Werkstatt; Biologie einfach anschaulich; ich sage nein  
Gida DVDS: Kraft, Der Lauf der Zeit; Elemente und Energie, etc.

Ravensburger: Experimentieren und Entdecken

Health:

The Great Body Shop Grade 4 ASD Curriculum

Music:

ASD Curriculum with German and international items included

Physical Education:

ASD Curriculum

French:

Tous Ensemble I; Raconte-moi

### **Seventh Grade:**

English Language Arts:

ASD short stories from ASD academic plans

Literature based curriculum

-Two Old Women

-Call of the Wild

-The Adventures of Ulysses

McDougal - Littel grammar guides

Step-Up-Writing (paragraph development)

Six Traits of Writing (Used to guide five paragraph essays)

German:

Cornelsen Verlag: Teil von Band 5 (1<sup>st</sup> part of Book 5) B1 Level

Dazu auch Romane, Kurzgeschichten, Grammatikübungen

Math:

Pre-Algebra -Big Ideas; Algebra I – McDougal Little Algebra I

Social Studies:

Teacher created units covering the following (in German):

### **HISTORY**

- I. Industrial Revolution (beginnings in Europe, urbanization/poverty, examples in the US)
- II. Immigration (reasons, statistics, examples)
- III. Imperialism (overview, reasons, effects)
- IV. WWI (beginnings, progression, Treaty of Versailles)

V. Weimar Republic (Inflation, Roaring 20s, Great Depression, Rise of Hitler)

GEOGRAPHY

- I. Alaska (regions, history)
- II. Africa (overview, climate zones, population)

Germany (overview, physical maps, states)

Science:

The science content is representative of the district grade 7 science curriculum. This is an integrated thematic program that teacher natural sciences. Students explore areas such as physics and earth sciences. Emphasis is placed on scientific thought and reasoning. This course is conducted in German, but students are also taught appropriate English scientific terms. Materials used are thematic resources produced by German textbook publisher Klett.

Health:

The Great Body Shop Grade 7 ASD Curriculum

Music:

ASD Curriculum with German and international items included

Physical Education:

ASD Curriculum

French:

Tous Ensemble II; Raconte-moi Encore

**Eighth Grade:**

English Language Arts:

ASD short stories from ASD academic plans

Literature based curriculum

-Animal Farm

-Spirit Bear

-The Boy in the Striped Pajamas

McDougal - Littel grammar guides

Step-Up-Writing (paragraph development)

Six Traits of Writing (Used to guide five paragraph essays)

German:

Cornelsen Verlag: Teil von Band 5 (2<sup>nd</sup> part of Book 5) B1 Level

Dazu auch Romane, Kurzgeschichten, Grammatikübungen

Math:

Pre-Algebra -Big Ideas; Algebra I – McDougal Little Algebra I

Social Studies:

Teacher created units covering the following (in German):

HISTORY

- I. WWII (preparations, progress, Holocaust, effects)
- II. Civil Rights (ideas, personalities, effects)
- III. Cold War (Berlin Wall, NATO, proxy warfare)
- IV. Modern Times (9/11, economic ties, outlook)

GEOGRAPHY

- I. Asia (regions, topography, climates)
- II. Australia (overview, uniqueness, history)
- III. South America (overview, Central America, rainforest)

Science:

The science content is representative of the district grade 8 science curriculum. This is an integrated thematic program that teacher natural sciences. Students explore areas of life science and chemistry. Emphasis is placed on scientific thought and reasoning. This course is conducted in German, but students are also taught appropriate English scientific terms. Materials used are thematic resources produced by German textbook publisher Klett.

Health:

The Great Body Shop Grade 8 ASD Curriculum

Music:

ASD Curriculum with German and international items included

Physical Education:

ASD Curriculum

French:

Tous Ensemble II cont'd.; Raconte-moi Encore cont'd.; Pauvre Anne; Les Pirates

## **Assessment and Grading**

Each student's math and language art skills will be assessed to determine proper academic individualization within the program. To determine placement, several forms of assessment will be utilized to include; AIMSweb, DRA, AMP, and teacher designed assessments and recommendations.

Student formative assessments will be used regularly throughout the year, in all curricular areas, using both oral and written assessment tools. Standardized tests will be administered as per ASD requirements. Rilke Schule students will participate in all required ASD testing

Assessments of German language skills will also take place. Those assessments may include: Deutsches Sprachdiplom (German Language Diploma) at levels A1, A2, B1 and the AATG National German High School Exam. The faculty and the APC will review the overall results of both the standardized tests and the German assessments to determine how the program can be improved.

## **Schedule and Calendar**

Rilke Schule daily student contact schedule is 8:15am – 3pm from Monday through Thursday, and from 8:15am – 1:45pm on Friday. Friday afternoons, from 1:45pm – 3pm, are used by staff for collaborative planning, training and professional development. Students have the opportunity to participate in afterschool enrichment activities during that time.

Rilke Schule will follow the Anchorage School District yearly calendar, including but not limited to mandated testing dates and parent-teacher conferences and holidays.

## **Special Education Services**

Special Education students, bilingual students, and gifted students are serviced through both inclusion and pull-out services as determined by the best interest of the student. Resource and Related Services teachers collaborate with classroom teachers to ensure modification of differentiation of instruction and assessment in meeting students' needs. These teachers also provide testing and creation of IEP's for students. Rilke Schule complies with Anchorage School District and State of Alaska laws and statutes regarding special education students.

## **Proof of Student Achievement**

Rilke Schule students participate in all state required testing. Rilke's report card and Climate and Connectedness Survey are attached.

### **Admission Policies and Procedures**

The Rilke Schule German School of Arts and Sciences uses the ASD calendar for planning purpose.

Rilke Schule kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students follow the same attendance starting dates as other ASD schools using the Ready, Set, Learn program.

Rilke Schule abides by ASD Policy 322.3 in regard to the lottery system for admittance into the program. Students in first grade and above who demonstrate German language proficiency through the assessment process are to be offered placement dependent upon available space. Rilke Schule's existing language testing will be the determining factor for proficiency. Rilke Schule reserves the right to add additional classes or combine classes as necessary to maintain a full student count.

The Rilke Schule German School of Arts and Sciences operates under the umbrella of the ASD. Therefore, it will adopt the following statement of non-discrimination from the Anchorage School District and will make it publicly available to community members in handbooks and at the school facility.

Source: [http://www.askd12.org/forms/uploads/Statement\\_NonDiscrimination.pdf](http://www.askd12.org/forms/uploads/Statement_NonDiscrimination.pdf)

Anchorage School District Equal Employment Opportunity Office

#### **ASD Statement of Nondiscrimination**

The Anchorage School Board is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of race, religion, sex, age, national origin, economic status, handicap, and other human differences protected by law. No person shall be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of educational opportunities and services, academic or extracurricular, offered by the District.

It is the policy of the District to comply with the statutes, regulations and executive orders enforced by Federal, State and Municipal agencies, including but not limited to Executive order 11246, Title 41, part 60-1, 60-2, 60-3, Title VI and VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, and section 504. The Anchorage School District believes strongly that a learning environment must be structured to reflect diverse cultural traditions and contributions. Furthermore, the Anchorage School District values diversity among students and staff and believes that all students and staff have the right to participate in school activities free from prejudice. The Anchorage School District has zero tolerance for any behaviors that ridicule, harass, intimidate, or otherwise threaten students, staff and community members on school campus or at school activities. Individuals and/or groups are in violation on this policy if they:

- Make demanding remarks directly or indirectly, such as name-calling, racial slurs or “jokes”; or
- Physically threaten or harm an individual; or
- Display visual or written materials or deface, damage, or destroy property or materials; or
- Perform any other act that is a clearly discriminatory or harassing in nature;

Because of the persons race, creed, gender, national origin, age, language spoken, ability, disability, marital status, political or religious beliefs, physical or mental condition, family, social, or cultural background or sexual orientation.

Students or staff members who believe that they have been the subject of harassment and/or discriminatory behavior will report the incident immediately to the principal or department supervisor. Complaints regarding harassment/discriminatory behavior will be investigated immediately. Inquiries or complaints regarding any rights protected by law or policy may be addressed to the School District Equal Employment Opportunity Director, who serves as the Title IX Coordinator, ASD Education Center, 5530 E. Northern Lights Blvd. Anchorage, AK 99504-3135, (907)742-4132 or to any of the following external agencies: Alaska State Commission for Human Rights, Anchorage Equal Rights Commission, Director of the Office for Civil Rights. Department of Education, Department of Health and Human Services.

Any student, staff or community member who violates on a school campus or at a school activity this policy by engaging in conduct defined above that directly or indirectly causes intimidation, harassment or physical harm to another student or staff member will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

### **Administrative Policies**

Rilke Schule follows the Anchorage School District administrative policies and regulations as they apply to charter schools within the provisions of law and school board policy.

Rilke Schule currently has no requested exemptions from Anchorage School Board policies or regulations, but the APC reserves the right to request exemptions in the future, should such need arise.

Rilke Schule currently has no requested exemptions from current bargaining agreements, but the APC reserves the right to request exemptions in the future should such need arise.

Rilke Schule’s daily student contact schedule is 8:15am – 3pm from Monday through Thursday, and 8:15- 1:45 on Friday. The schedule has been approved by Rilke Schule Staff, Rilke Schule APC, the ASD superintendent, and Anchorage Education Association,

and the DEED. Friday afternoons from 1:45pm -3pm are used for collaborative planning, training, and faculty for professional development.

Prospective employees are told of the different schedule, the nutrition policy, parent pick up, classroom procedures, and the dress code during interviews.

### **Funding Allocation and Annual Program Budget**

The 2015-2016 budget outlook is based on a projection of 486 students. Rilke Schule's budget is managed in accordance with all ASD policies.

Additional monies that are currently enjoyed by Rilke Schule outside of ASD allocation include a German government sponsored grant, which is written to the school. The money is currently being spent on German curriculum and technology for our students. The granted amount has been between 14,000 and 15,000 euros.

Rilke Schule receives funding from the Quality Schools Initiative.

In accordance with ASD Policy 495, "A student supply fee may be asked of all students. Failure to pay the fee shall not affect the student's grade or participation in school."

The current supply/activity fee amount is \$125.00 per child. The amount is determined by the APC and can be waived for families unable to pay. The money is managed through the Student Activities / School Discretionary Fund. The money is deposited with the Anchorage School District, and allocated through the ASD approved purchasing process.

The above fees will be used for supplemental materials, participation in activities, and technology refresh. If a student is unable to afford the fee, a waiver or scholarship may be requested.

### **Method by Which the Charter School Shall Account for Receipts and Expenditures**

Rilke Schule complies with AS 14.17.910 on Restrictions Governing Receipt and Expenditure of Money from Public School Foundation Accounts.

Rilke Schule accounts for receipts and expenditures by using and complying with all Anchorage School District accounting, auditing, and fiscal procedures that apply to charter schools.

Rilke Schule grants ASD accounting personnel access to financial records and plans as needed, in cooperation with ASD accounting department and Anchorage School Board policies, and in compliance with AS 14.17.910



Rilke Schule has requested no waivers at this time, but reserves the right to request waivers, should the need arise.

All leases, debts and other financial obligations of Rilke Schule shall not constitute a debt, liability or financial obligation for either the Anchorage School Board or the Anchorage School District.

### **Location and Description of the Facility**

A copy of Rilke's lease and facility layout are attached Appendix K.  
Rilke's physical address starting 2015-2016 school year—  
1846 E 64<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Anchorage AK 99507

Rilke's new facility consists of approximately 39,500 square feet. Included in this are all classrooms needed under one roof, an art room, music room, library space, and a gym/multipurpose room. Support spaces include a principal's office, administrative office space, resource room, workroom, staff lounge, storage space, server room, janitorial closets, and a nurse's office. A playground space with equipment and a space for running and games is also provided.

All applicable federal, state and local requirements concerning health, safety and fire codes will be maintained by the school facility. Rilke Schule shall remain in compliance with all applicable codes for the life of the contract.

### **Teachers / Administrators in the Charter School**

Teachers -

Michael Helgesen- K

Nicole Crawford- K

Jessica Martin- K

Bryan Bearss-1

Judith Keihl-Teekell- 1

Sheila Green- 1

Tyler Schliagenhauf- 1

Heather Tarrant- 2

Natalie Hayes- 2

Carrie Ross- 2

Lynette Brickwell- 2

Peter Birmanns- 3

Debra Schwicht- 3

Catherine Radke- 3

Lisa Cooper- 3  
Corinne Kubena- 4  
Claudia Bittlingmaier- 4  
Breanna Drumm- 5  
Matt Spence- 5  
Sasha Johnson- 6,7,8  
Susan Oakley- 6,7,8  
Tobias Radke- 6,7,8  
1.4 FTE - TBA  
Kevin Downie- Music  
Mary Collins- Art  
Jill Doniere- Art  
Timothy Whitley- PE  
Trond Flagstad- PE

Rilke Schule school staff also includes an itinerant Related Services staff in addition to the resource teacher. This staff includes a school psychologist, speech teacher, ELL teacher, OT, and PT.

Rilke Schule employs a full-time, Type-B certificated, principal. The current principal is Dean Ball.

Other staff members-

Nicole Decker- Secretary  
Heather Reier- Club assistance  
Dana Graham- Administrative Assistant  
Robae Robinson- Nurse

Evaluation for Rilke Schule employees is the same as other ASD employees. Staff is evaluated using the applicable performance method, as directed by ASD, Totem or ACE contracts.

Principal evaluations are done by the APC. ASD evaluation is done per the State Board of Education and Early Development and the Anchorage School District Performance Standards for Administrators. An additional annual review is done by the APC, utilizing additional performance indicators specific to Rilke Schule.

### **Pupil-Teacher Ratio**

As explained in School Board Policy 333.5 m Pupil-Teacher Ratio: "The application shall specify the projected number of students and pupil-teacher ratio. This shall be determined by dividing the number of full-time equivalent students in the charter school by the number of full-time equivalent teachers in the charter school. For the

purposes of the application, the pupil-teacher ratio shall use the estimated number of full-time equivalent students in the numerator of this equation.” (333.5 m)

Utilizing the above formula the Pupil (486) to Teacher (22.9) Ratio for Rilke Schule is 21:1. Pupil to teacher ratio for Rilke Schule currently ranges from 12:1 up to 25:1. Rilke’s long term goal is to keep student ratios at or below 25:1, but will adjust for management needs.

### **Number of Students Served**

Projected student numbers for the 2015-2016 school year are 486 students, accounting for the average percent of attrition historically seen at Rilke Schule and the addition of 4 classes of kindergarteners.

Allowed student enrollment at Rilke Schule is 520 students.

### **Transportation**

The parents/guardians of students at Rilke Schule are responsible for providing timely transportation for their child to and from school. Nonetheless, ASD Policy 333.99 regarding transportation dictates:

On a space available basis, charter school students may access school bus transportation on those regular school bus routes that run within the attendance area where the charter school is located. Transportation access is subject to the following:

- a. Charter school students may only access those school bus routes that are appropriate to their school level, i.e., elementary school, middle school or high school.
- b. Charter school students who reside within a mile and a half of the charter school are not eligible for transportation unless they must cross a designated hazardous road area.

Rilke Schule is a K – 8 school that runs on a middle school schedule with an abbreviated Friday schedule. These factors need to be considered when requesting transportation services.

### **Food Service**

It is the responsibility of Rilke Schule parents or guardians to provide daily lunches in accordance with the school’s healthy nutrition policy for their child. Rilke Schule parents, working in conjunction with a nutritionist, have developed nutrition guidelines

which are posted on the school's website and sent home at the beginning of the year in pamphlet form.

### **Term of the Contract**

Rilke Schule requests a 10- year charter school contract, the maximum allowable by ASD and Alaska Statutes.

### **Termination Clause**

A termination clause is provided in the contract. The language of the termination clause reads as follows.

" This contract may be terminated by the School Board for the Charter School's failure to meet the educational achievement goals or fiscal management standards, for a default in any material provision of the agreement or for other good cause. The School Board shall provide at least 30 days written notice to Charter School of its intent to terminate this contact and the reason therefore. If Charter School fails to remedy the cause for termination within the time provided in the notice, then this contact shall automatically terminate at the end of the stated time. Any unused funds remaining shall immediately be returned to the School District upon such termination. Charter School may terminate the contact on an annual basis. In such event, Charter School shall notify the District by February 1 of a given school year of its intent to cease operations the following year."

### **Certification of Compliance for Receipt and Use of Public Money**

Rilke Schule certifies that it will comply with all federal, state and local requirements for the receipt and use of public money.

### **State requirements**

Rilke Schule is applying for a charter renewal with the state of Alaska.

### **Other requirements**

At this time Rilke Schule has no additional provisions to be included in this contract.