

Rilke Schule German School of Arts and Sciences

1846 E. 64th Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99507
Rilkeschule.asdk12.org
(907) 742-0900



**Principal's Report
November 19th, 2015**

Budget

I have received updated numbers from Andy Ratliff in OMB. These numbers show adjustments to our budget as submitted to and approved by the Anchorage School Board. Our original budget was based upon a predicted 487 student Average Daily Membership. The official student count, upon which funding is based for this year, is calculated according to attendance during the first 20 school days in October. That is to say, our delayed start did not affect our count, which is officially 465. This makes our total revised funding for FY16 \$4,005,662 based on preliminary projections. This is subject to change based on items including, Federal Impact Aid received for the year, interest earnings, and cost of special programs. Your current budget is \$4,158,807 so a reduction of \$153,145 will be needed. Three rent payments of \$61,500 have been made out of last year's money. I also made the residual \$20,000 balloon payment and the \$36,645 for change orders out of last year's funds. There are currently \$143,581.15 available from last year's funds. There are also \$306,999.93 in the Rental, Land & Buildings fund that are beyond what we need to pay the rent for the year. Those monies will be transferred to cover shortages.

Alaska Measures of Progress

The AMP scores are in and Rilke Schule ranked in the middle of a list of ASD schools. In mathematics, we scored higher than the district in every grade but 6th. The faculty and I will be performing an analysis at tomorrow's faculty meeting. These scores were anticipated to be lower district-wide due to it being taken for the first time on the computer and the general increased difficulty of the assessments. The test is very different than the SBA's. As with all district schools, we will be formulating a plan and taking steps toward improving scores from these set baselines.

School Website

The new school website is rilkeschule.asdk12.org. We are now part of the ASD system of sites. Heather Holland continues to serve as our web master. We have just a few more photos to upload and faculty and staff profiles before we go live. I received retake photos from Lifetouch this week and can now send the photos and other info to Heather so that we can go live next week. We will be able to make use of our same calendar on this ASD site.

Club Registration Changes

Heather Reier has told me she will be continuing to work as the Clubs Coordinator through the end of second quarter. She and I met to discuss proposed changes to registration that should serve to facilitate the process and avoid long lines. People will be able to register from home. In summary, we intend to raise the price of the clubs. The rate increase is not substantial and still far below other options in the community. The rate is proposed in order to pay for a person to be present while clubs are held since the office isn't covered past 4pm. Our school secretary will be trained to make deposits. The revised process will be announced November 30th to the community.

So far, only one of the Home Clubs is covered until 5pm next quarter. We simply do not have staff who are willing to cover till 5pm. There is the possibility that Home Club will run until 4pm unless we can find the staff members to do it.

Staffing Update

Frau Gates's husband's job is taking him to Texas. She has written a letter thanking parents and it went home today. Herr Schlagenhauf and his wife will be returning home to Boise, ID. He also has informed parents. They have both played an integral part in the growth and success of our program and will be dearly missed. Jobs we posted a couple of weeks ago. Interviews will be held during the first week in December. Their replacements will begin on January 4th.

We never filled the 0.5 position advertised at the beginning of the year when Frau Green went full-time. Therefore, Herr Schlagenhauf was no longer in the office half of the day. Herr Bearss will be coming to assist in the office half day second semester and will serve in the same capacity as did Herr Schlagenhauf. He has a Type B (administrative certificate) and has served as a Teacher in Charge, Site Based Specialist, and Testing Coordinator at his previous school and is well qualified to step up.

Herr Thornquist will serve as the 5th grade German sub until November 25th, at which time Frau Birthe Kusche (one of our former interns) will take over. Jane Wahlman, who has been subbing for Frau Drumm, finished up today and Frau Jacki Bond has stepped in. Frau Drumm will return January 4th. I am very grateful to these individuals for coming forward to meet a crucial need.

School Goals for 2015-16

ACADEMIC

Science – As part of an enhanced and enriched science offering, students in K-8 will create science projects during 2nd, 3rd, and 4th quarters. Teachers will collaborate to determine projects that align with the content of current science kits. This is a cross-curricular approach and a multi-grade scoring rubric will be utilized.

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Behavior – Through the implementation of the Connected and Respected SEL Program and overt support of the Rilke Schule Code of Conduct, we will promote good behavior and citizenship.

“At least 80% of students with 3 or more office referrals at the end of the 1st quarter will not progress to Step 6; an out-of-school suspension.”

GERMAN LANGUAGE PRODUCTION

Sprachmeister Program – By consistently remaining in German, students will be rewarded with German-speaking country flags.

By the 1st Quarter Awards Ceremony...

2nd – 8th graders – 50% will have earned the German flag, and 40% the Austrian flag.

By the 2nd Quarter Awards Ceremony...

1st graders – 60% will have earned the German flag, and 50% the Austrian flag;

2nd – 8th graders – 60% will have earned the Austrian flag, and 50% the Swiss flag.

By the 3rd Quarter Awards Ceremony...

1st graders – 70% will have earned the Austrian flag, and 60% the Swiss flag;

2nd – 8th graders – 70% will have earned the Swiss flag, and 60% the Luxembourg flag.

By the 4th Quarter Awards Ceremony...

Kindergarteners – 80% will have earned the German flag, 60% the Austrian flag, and 50% the Swiss flag;

1st graders – 80% will have earned the Swiss flag, and 70% the Luxembourg flag;

2nd – 8th graders – 80% will have earned the Luxembourg flag, and 70% the Liechtensteiner flag.

A1 Exam – ALL 3rd graders will take the test and 85% of them will achieve at least a passing score in the reading, writing, listening, and speaking sections.

A2 Exam – ALL students in 6th grade will have taken the test. 75% will pass according to German standards.