

INTENT TO DEVELOP CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION

Please complete all of the information required on this form. All intent forms for establishing a charter school must be received by August 1 of the year prior to the date of intended implementation. For further details see the following documents:

- A. KPBSD Board Policy and Administrative Regulations on charter schools.
- B. State of Alaska DEED charter school web site and application form.
- C. Charter school guidelines and application procedures.

1. Name of Charter School Aurora Borealis Charter High School

2. Contact person for this application:

Name Bill Severson

Mailing address 705 Frontage Road, Kenai, AK 99611

Telephone 907 252-1599

- 3. Academic Policy Committee Membership - Include on a separate page the name of the members of the Academic Policy Committee. For each name specify whether the person is a student, parent, teacher, or employee (other than a teacher).
- 4. Attach to this intent form a brief description of the mission and goals of the charter school being proposed.
- 5. Prepare and include a narrative description of the organization, operation, and educational program of the charter school.

NOTE: Upon receipt of the intent form the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District administration will arrange for a meeting during which the content of this intent form will be discussed. It is recommended that the discussion meeting is concluded before the person(s) developing the charter school begins to complete the application form.

Return this intent form to:
Superintendent of Schools
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
148 N. Binkley Street
Soldotna, AK 99669

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3. Academic Policy Committee Membership –

There are no current APC members since there are no parents or staff. The APC will be chosen once students are selected.

The current High School Charter Committee members include: Bill Severson (teacher at ABC), Jamie Miller (parent), Ryan Culbertson (parent), Travis McCaughey (parent), Gabe Kisler (parent), Suzi Phillips (retired ABC teacher & parent), Laura Beeson (parent), Len Niesen (community member), Angela Coffell (parent), Ray Coffell (parent).

4. Attach to this intent form a brief description of the mission and goals of the charter school being proposed.

Aurora Borealis Charter High School (ABCCHS) is poised to extend the rigorous, classical education model of the Aurora Borealis Charter School, which currently serves grades K-8. As we seek to establish this high school, our mission is to fill a gap in our community: the lack of a public high school rooted in the classical learning model. We advocate the systemic acquisition of broad knowledge, superior language, and active engaged minds consistent with the educational philosophy of Core Knowledge Foundation founder E.D. Hirsch, Jr.

ABCCHS is distinct in its approach, choosing only curricula that meet our high standards of rigor, align with Alaska State and Core Standards, and feature a clearly defined scope and sequence. This methodical selection ensures that our teaching is not only subject-centered and delivered through direct, whole-group instruction, but also progressively builds upon each student's learning year after year. Our curriculum is comprehensive and research-backed, specifically designed to prepare students thoroughly in critical areas such as language arts (including literature, writing, grammar, and vocabulary), mathematics, history and geography, science, foreign language, and technology, along with vital enrichment in art, music, and physical education. We plan to offer as many electives as our resources will allow thereby engaging our students' diverse interests and talents.

By choosing ABCCHS, students will be provided a cohesive and comprehensive educational experience that prepares students academically but as well-rounded, thoughtful individuals ready to succeed in higher education and beyond.

5. Prepare and include a narrative description of the organization, operation, and educational program of the charter school.

Aurora Borealis Charter High School will continue the research-based preparatory education of Aurora Borealis Charter School, grades K-8, through whole group, subject-centered direct instruction. Aurora Borealis Charter High School differs from other educational programs in our community. As we choose curriculum, we look for research validating the rigor of the curriculum, correlations with Alaska State and Core Standards, and also a well-defined scope and sequence which allows us to spiral teaching through the grades, each grade building on the foundation established in years prior. Instruction is whole group, subject-centered, and direct. Use of this research-based curriculum results in preparatory education emphasizing language arts (literature, writing, grammar, and vocabulary), mathematics, history and

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geography, science, foreign language, technology, art and music, physical education, and electives. The teaching of students will be accomplished through a well-defined scope and sequence using proven programs. Students will be expected to perform at or above grade level and maintain a minimum grade of a C in all subjects. ABCHS will have high academic standards.

In direct instruction core classes, there will be a maximum of 24 students per teacher.

For year one, enrollment would be two grades, 9th and 10th grades with a projected enrollment of 18-24 students per grade.

For year two, enrollment would be three grades, 9th, 10th, and 11th grades with a projected enrollment of 18-24 students per grade.

For year three, enrollment would be four grades, 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades with a projected enrollment of 18-24 students per grade.