



# *Tuġen Charter School*



The primary purpose of the Charter is to advance a quality education for children and youth that is grounded in Indigenous culture.





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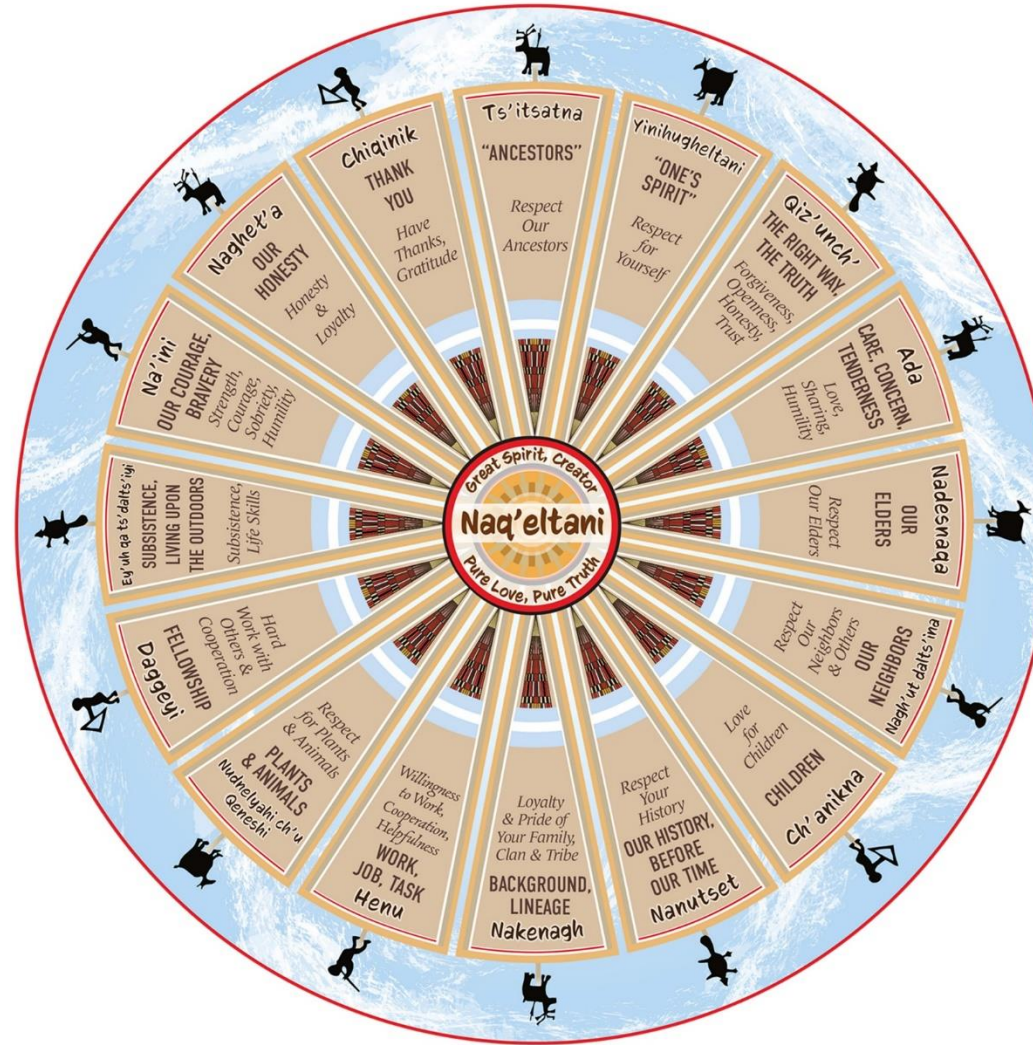
ASSURE

**KAHTNUHT'ANA DENA'INA**

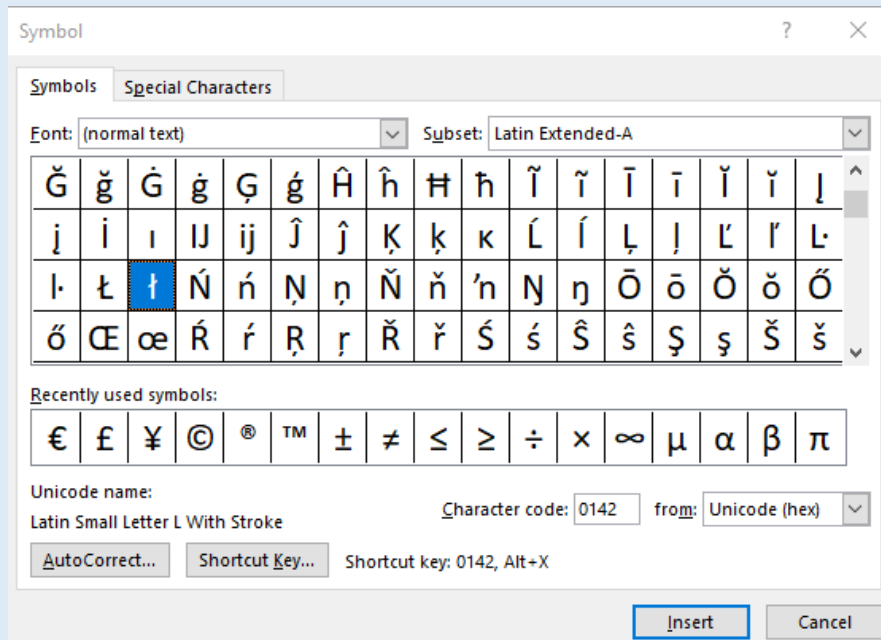
THRIVE FOREVER



# Kenaitze Indian Tribe's Traditional Values



# Tułen



*Dena'ina for  
“the current is  
flowing” or  
“the river will  
flow”*



# Vision

Our vision is to be a beacon for educational excellence and cultural pride for the Kenai Peninsula.

We envision a school where the richness of Dena'ina cultural heritage is interwoven into every aspect of learning, fostering a deep sense of belonging, pride, and self-confidence.

We strive to develop resilient, culturally grounded individuals who are prepared to lead and inspire positive change within our community and beyond.



# Mission

To provide a culturally based, academically rigorous education that empowers duhdeldihen (“students”) to succeed in today’s world by embracing Dena’ina traditional values, language, culture, and to develop responsible community members who are critical thinkers, compassionate, and committed to living the Dena’ina culture.



# Goals



# **Goal 1**

***Integrate Dena'ina language, values and culture into the school curriculum starting in the first academic year with ongoing assessments and adjustments to ensure effective learning of these three components.***



## **Goal 2**

***Recruit and train qualified instructors to become language speakers in Dena'ina, develop language learning resources, and establish regular language practice and cultural activities.***



## ***Goal 3***

***Foster a strong sense of identity and pride rooted in Dena'ina cultural traditions and values through engagement of families and community partners.***



## **Goal 4**

***Develop and implement place-based learning curriculum that incorporates traditional ecological knowledge, outdoor and experiential learning, and environmental stewardship activities.***



## ***Goal 5***

***Provide an academically rigorous education through the utilization of integrated STEAM activities and curriculum.***



## **Goal 6**

***Maintain small class sizes that emphasize relationship based practices where the curriculum meets the student.***



## ***Goal 7***

***Implement on-going student progress monitoring assessments to inform instruction and make data-informed decisions.***



## **Goal 8**

***Establish an intergenerational mentorship model where students provide guidance to peers to create a sense of community and support while developing leadership skills for all students.***



## **Goal 9**

***To address historical and intergenerational trauma by empowering Dena'ina practices that foster healing.***



# Staffing





# Staffing

- 1.0 Principal/Teacher
- 1.75 Certified Teacher
- 1.0 Certified Teacher with Special Education Endorsement
- 0.5 Administrative Assistant
- Services provided by Kenaitze and contracted through MOU:
  - Custodial, kitchen, nursing, OT, PT, Tutor Liaisons, ISP, Culture Instructors, Language Instructors
  - These positions will be Kenaitze Indian Tribe employees
  - Draft of the MOU provided in Appendix M



# Memorandum of Understanding

Tulén Charter School and Kenaitze Indian Tribe

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
between the  
TULEN CHARTER SCHOOL  
and the  
KENAITZE INDIAN TRIBE

1. PARTIES:

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is between the Tulén Charter School (School), whose mailing address is [MAILING ADDRESS], a charter school within the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District (KPBSD), and the Kenaitze Indian Tribe (Kenaitze), a federally recognized Indian tribe, whose mailing address is P.O. Box 988, Kenai, AK 99611, jointly ("the Parties").

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOU is for Kenaitze to support the operations of the School at the Kabrukt'ana Duheldidit Campus (Educational Campus) at 12271 Kenai Spur Highway, Kenai, Alaska 99611 by providing the following services:

- Custodial staffing
- Breakfast and lunch food services
- Nurse staffing
- Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy
- Independent Skill Providers (ISPs) to provide classroom behavioral support
- Tutor Liaisons and Culture Instructors to provide academic and cultural support in classrooms and culturally based activities
- Dena'jwa Language Instructors to provide support to School staff and students through the language immersion process

3. SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITIES:

The following scope of responsibilities contains all obligations by the Parties under this MOU. Any changes to the scope of responsibilities for either party shall be by mutual written mutual agreement of the Parties.

a. Roles and responsibilities of Kenaitze

1. Subject to availability, Kenaitze will provide Kenaitze employees to support the purposes of this MOU:

Custodian	Maintain clean floors, furniture, fixtures, and grounds of the Educational Campus. Reports needed repairs and monitors the building for safety while also securing the building at the end of the school day.
Food Service	Provide charter school students breakfast and lunch service, with menu that meets NSLP and USDA requirements. Ensure regulations pertaining to sanitation and food safety practices are observed and maintained, including safe food handling and safety issues.



# Daily Schedule

Two Kindergarten Classes



# Daily Schedule

## 1st-3rd Grade (Multiage Classroom)

Time	Class/Activity
8:50-9:20	Drop-off/Morning Recess/Breakfast
9:20-9:35	Talking Circle with Dena'ina Language Immersion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smart Start</li> </ul>
9:35-10:20	Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tier I skill development including phonics/decoding/skill development</li> </ul>
10:20-10:35	Morning Break
10:35-11:20	Reading with a cultural focus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilization of Raven Writes (curriculum includes immersion of Social Studies and Science state content standards)</li> <li>• Tier I skill development</li> </ul>
11:20-12:10	Lunch and recess <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teacher lunch will occur during recess</li> </ul>
12:10-1:20	STEAM
1:20-1:50	Math <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilization of i-Ready Math – direct instruction</li> </ul>
1:50-2:25	Specials/NYO/Cultural activity (movement focused) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teacher prep will occur during this time</li> <li>• Cultural activities will include drumming and traditional dancing</li> </ul>
2:25-2:55	Math <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilization of i-Ready Math – small group rotations</li> </ul>
2:55-3:25	Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on intervention and/or enrichment</li> <li>• Utilization of i-Ready Reading</li> </ul>
3:25-3:35	Clean-up/Prep for pick-up/Dismissal

## Kindergarten

Time	Class/Activity
8:50-9:20	Drop-off/Morning Recess/Breakfast
9:20-9:35	Talking Circle with Dena'ina Language Immersion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smart Start</li> </ul>
9:35-10:05	Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on intervention and/or enrichment</li> </ul>
10:05-10:20	Morning Break
10:20-11:05	Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tier I skill development including phonics/decoding/skill development</li> </ul>
11:05-11:55	Lunch and recess <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teacher lunch will occur during recess</li> </ul>
11:55-12:40	Reading with a cultural focus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilization of Raven Writes (curriculum includes immersion of Social Studies and Science state content standards)</li> <li>• Tier I skill development</li> </ul>
12:40-1:10	Math <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilization of i-Ready Math – direct instruction</li> </ul>
1:10-1:45	Specials/NYO/Cultural activity (movement focused) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teacher prep will occur during this time</li> <li>• Cultural activities will include drumming and traditional dancing</li> </ul>
1:45-2:15	Math <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilization of i-Ready Math – small group rotations</li> </ul>
2:15-3:25	STEAM
3:25-3:35	Clean-up/Prep for pick-up/Dismissal



***The educational program of Tulen Charter School will focus on the individual student's interests, strengths, and needs, while honoring and respecting Dena'ina language, culture, and land throughout the educational process.***















***“ We must devise a system of education that respects the epistemological and pedagogical foundations of Indigenous as well as Western traditions. ”***

***– Dr. Angayuqaq “Oscar” Kawagley***



# Curricular Programs

- Raven Writes and i-Ready Reading
  - RW – Science and Social Studies content standards
    - Narrative unit (Appendix P)
  - i-Ready - supplementary
- i-Ready Math
- STEAM
- PE and Specials

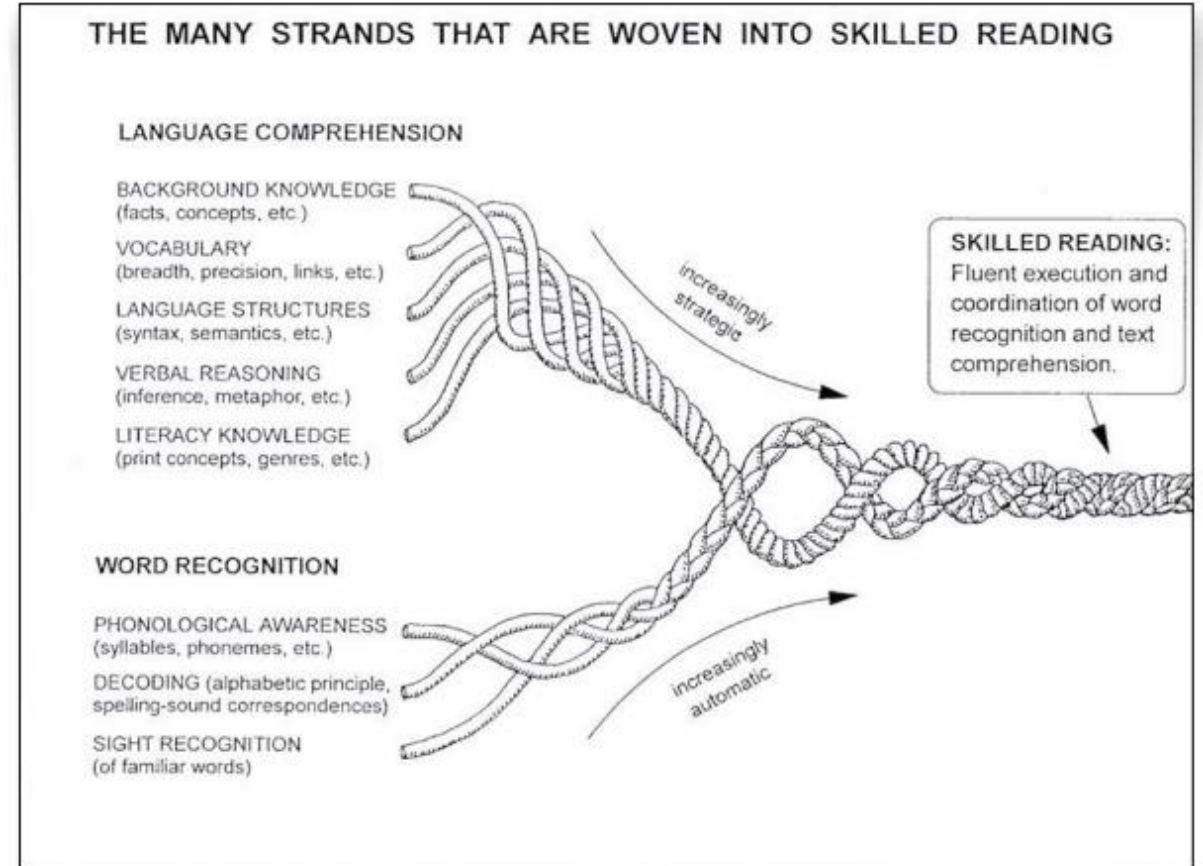
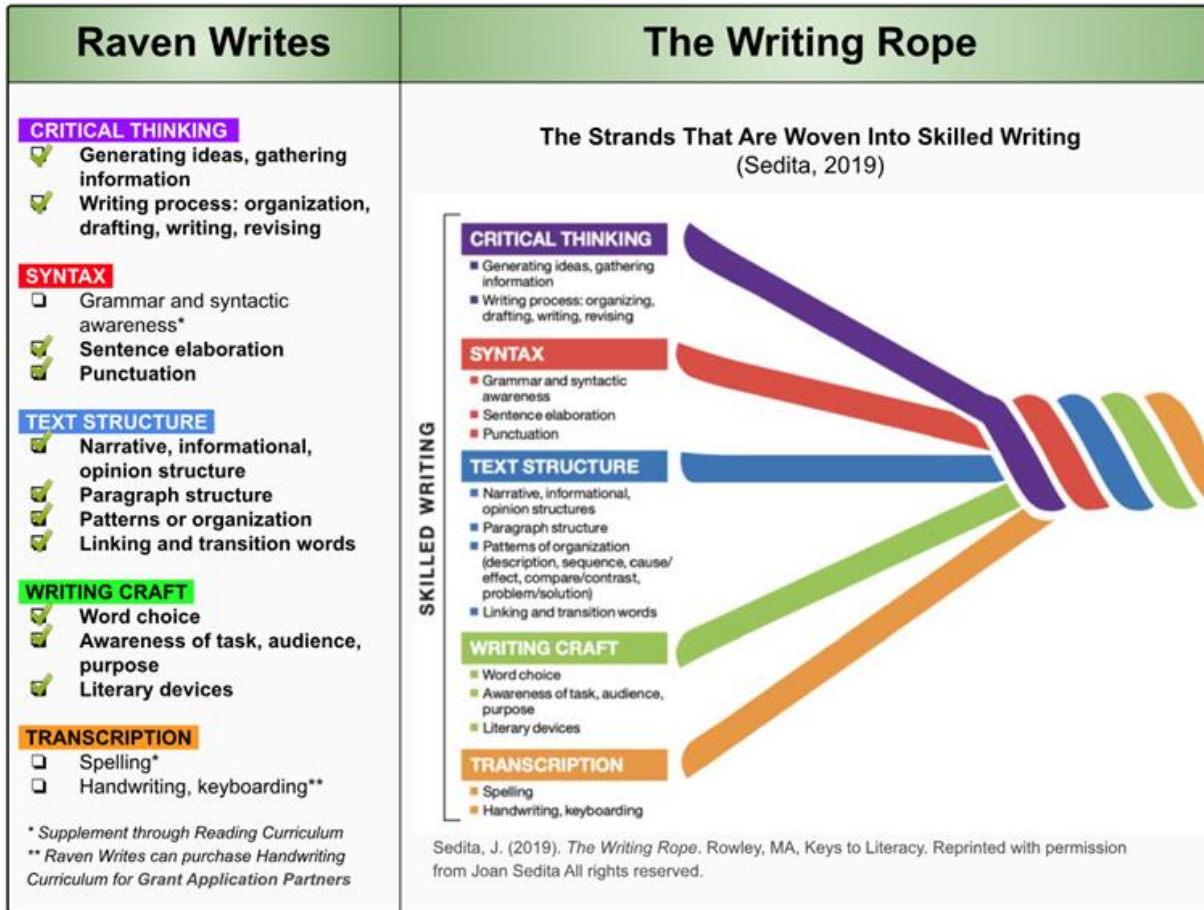


Word Recognition	
<b>Decoding</b>	
<i>i-Ready Diagnostic Phonics Domain</i>	Grades K-2 and some students in Grades 3-12*
<i>i-Ready Literacy Tasks for Letter Sound Fluency</i>	Grades K-2
<i>i-Ready Literacy Tasks for Pseudoword Decoding Fluency</i>	Grades K-3
<i>i-Ready Literacy Tasks for Spelling and Encoding</i>	Grades 1-3
<b>Phonological Awareness</b>	
<i>i-Ready Diagnostic Phonological Awareness Domain</i>	Grades K and 1 and some students in Grade 2*
<i>i-Ready Literacy Tasks for Phonological Awareness</i>	Grades K-2+
<b>Sight-Word Recognition</b>	
<i>i-Ready Diagnostic High-Frequency Words Domain</i>	Grades K-2 and some students in Grades 3-8
<i>i-Ready Literacy Tasks for Word Recognition Fluency</i>	Grades K-3
Language Comprehension	
<b>Vocabulary</b>	
<i>i-Ready Diagnostic Vocabulary Domain</i>	Grades K-12
<i>i-Ready Diagnostic Comprehension Domains</i>	Grades K-12
<b>Background Knowledge, Language Structures, Literacy Knowledge, and Verbal Reasoning</b>	
<i>i-Ready Diagnostic Comprehension Domains</i>	Grades K-12
Fluency	
<b>Passage Reading Fluency</b>	
<i>i-Ready Literacy Tasks for Passage Reading Fluency</i>	Grades K-6+

\*For information about how *i-Ready* assessments can be used to assess phonics and phonological awareness for more students at higher grades, please contact an *i-Ready* Educational Consultant or Partner Success Manager.



# Sealaska's The Writing Rope & Scarborough's Reading Rope



# Student Success

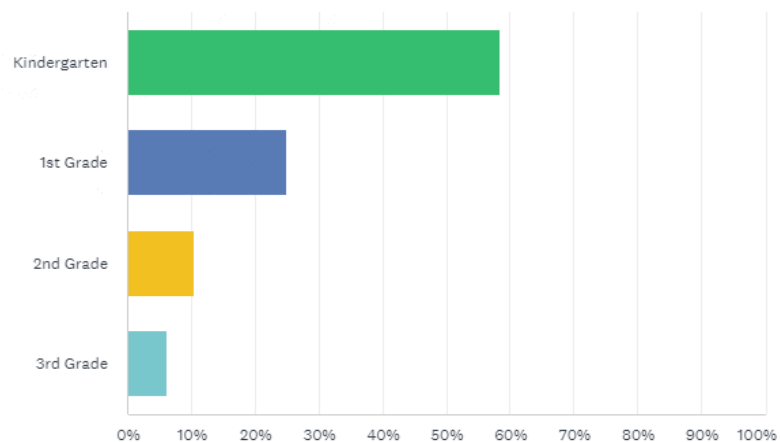
- Promoting whole child curriculum and individualized learning pathways
  - Teach Smart – visuals of reports and data collection (Appendix N)
  - RTI
- Social emotional learning and trauma-informed practices
  - Conscious Discipline
- Small class sizes
  - PTR and enrollment survey data (Appendix S)
- Providing educational services in compliance with individual education plans
- Use of assessments to inform instruction and the learning process



# Enrollment Survey Data

Grade of child you wish to enroll at Tulen Charter School for the 2025-26 school year:

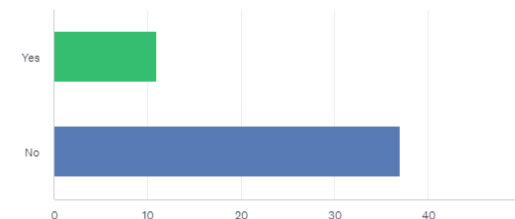
Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Kindergarten	58.33%	28
1st Grade	25.00%	12
2nd Grade	10.42%	5
3rd Grade	6.25%	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>48</b>

Does your child require special education services (i.e. do they have an IEP, 504 plan)?

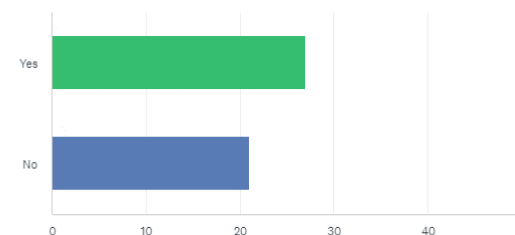
Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	22.92%	11
No	77.08%	37
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>48</b>

Does your child require bus transportation to and from school?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	56.25%	27
No	43.75%	21
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>48</b>



# Admission



Tulen Charter School shall enroll all eligible students who submit a timely application, unless the number of those applications exceeds the capacity of the program, class, grade level, or building. In the event of an excess of those applications, students will go on a waiting list. The charter school and the APC may attempt to accommodate all of those applicants in the future by considering providing additional classroom space and hiring additional staff to meet the increased demand. If it is not possible within the building to accommodate all eligible students who submit an application, students shall be accepted by random drawing until capacity is reached.



# Enrollment Priorities

1. Previously enrolled students who are in good standing in the Kenaitze Head Start program, Yaghanen K-12 after school program, and Tuġen Charter School
  2. Children of TCS employees, and APC members and/or siblings of students previously enrolled in Tuġen Charter School
  3. Children and grandchildren of APC approved language/culture experts/volunteers
  4. Other students
- \* Independent lottery program - SchoolMint



# Preliminary Funding Formula

## Tufen Estimated Foundation Funding Formula

### Variables

FTE Enrollment	THIS FORMULA IS FOR 150-249.99 ONLY	48.000
Is program funded as a separate school per statute (Yes or No)		Yes
ADM if funded as separate school		-
ADM if funded as included in largest school (per statute)		-
Intensive service students (as included in FTE enrollment)		-
Correspondence students (not included in FTE enrollment)		-

### Estimated State Foundation Funding

FTE Enrollment		48.000
ADM as adjusted for school size 1.18		56.640
ADM as adjusted for district cost factor (*1.171)		66.325
ADM as adjusted for special needs (*1.2)		79.591
ADM adjustment for CTE (*1.015)		80.784
ADM adjustment for intensive service counts (x13)		-
ADM adjustment for correspondence students		-
Adjusted ADM		80.784
Base student allocation		\$5,960
Estimated State Foundation Funding (Basic Need)		\$481,475

### Quality Schools Funding

Quality schools funding per adjusted ADM	\$16.00	
Adjusted ADM	80.784	<u>\$1,293</u>

### Total Estimated Revenue Per Capita Funding

		<u>\$482,767</u>
Less indirect cost rate *	% 4.0000	\$18,568
<b>Funds available for operation</b>		<b>\$464,200</b>

Charter schools are capped at 4%



# Projected Budget

Includes additional allowable, AK state charter school grant, and projected expenditures

## KPBSD Charter School Information Tulen Charter School Projected Budget and Expenditures

\$482,767.00	Foundation Formula
\$24,000.00	AK State Charter School Grant
<u>\$92,840.00</u>	Additional Allowable
\$599,607.00	Total Revenue

		Object Code	
\$104,901.00	3100	Principal/Teacher	1.0 FTE
\$206,052.00	3100	Certified Teacher	2.75 FTE
\$10,000.00	3100	Subs	
\$24,805.00	3200	Administrative Assistant	.50 FTE
\$171,893.00	3500	Employee Benefits	
\$10,000.00	4100	Professional Technical services	
\$15,164.00	4400	In-Kind	
\$17,000.00	4500	Supplies/Materials	
\$1,000.00	4500	Office Supplies	
\$18,568.00	4950	Indirect Services	
\$10,000.00	5100	Equipment	
<u>\$589,383.00</u>		<b>Total Expenditures</b>	



# Chiqinik – Thank You

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Kenaitze Indian Tribe

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907-335-7254

