



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Assistant Superintendent

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To: Board of Education

From: Glen Szymoniak, Assistant Superintendent

Re: Fireweed Academy Charter School Reapplication

Fireweed Academy Charter School is seeking to reapply for their charter with the District and State this year. The reapplication process calls for the Board to negotiate the contracts, conduct a public hearing, then take action to approve the contracts.

Fireweed Academy Charter School submitted their application to the district in a timely manner and participated in negotiations with West Homer Elementary and the Charter School Oversight Committee for sharing space in a district facility. A worksession and public hearing occurred at the October 3 Board meeting. The application includes the provisions for a charter school to form a contract with a local school board.

It is significant to note that Fireweed Academy Charter School is requesting to increase their current enrollment from 62 students in grades 3-6 to 154 students in grades K-12 in 2008. At this time, there is not a comprehensive plan for housing the increased number of students. There is a request to expand into Homer Middle School for grades 7-12. Due to the relatively late request involving expansion into an additional facility, there has not been sufficient time to adequately involve the Homer Middle School Site Council in this matter.

Fireweed Academy Charter School arranged for their proposal to appear before the Alaska State Board of Education at the January 26, 2007 meeting. They are requesting the Board approve their application at the October 23 meeting.