

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM # (2024-2025)

November 19, 2024

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: DR. JHARRETT BRYANTT, SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: CHARTER SCHOOL AMENDMENT: AQUARIAN CHARTER MOVE  
FROM K-6 TO K-5

*ASD Core Value: Public education should be responsive to an ever-changing world*

RECOMMENDATION

The Administration supports the decision of Aquarian Charter School's Academic Policy Committee (APC) to transition the school to a K-5 model beginning in the 2025-2026 school year. This change aligns with the Anchorage School District's recent reconfiguration of grade-level structures, where 6th-grade students transition to neighborhood middle schools.

PERTINENT FACTS:

*ASD Memorandum #107 - Approval of The 6th Grade to Middle School Transition Plan*

- Aquarian Charter School is a charter school of choice within the Anchorage School District governed by an elected APC.
- Currently serving grades K-6, Aquarian Charter School has provided a rigorous and innovative educational experience, fostering creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking.
- After extensive review and community discussions, Aquarian Charter School's APC voted to align with the district's grade-level structure by no longer offering 6th grade, effective at the start of the 2025-2026 school year.
- This change allows 6th-grade students to transition to their designated neighborhood middle schools, consistent with practices across the Anchorage School District.
- Aquarian Charter School's APC conducted surveys and held public meetings to gather feedback from families, ensuring that the decision reflects the broader community's interests and needs.

- The APC will develop a detailed implementation plan to support the smooth transition of 6th-grade students to middle schools and address the instructional, staffing, and logistical considerations of the K-5 structure.
- As part of the transition process, Aquarian will communicate extensively with families, emphasizing the benefits of this alignment and ensuring equitable opportunities for all students.
- The Aquarian Charter School community is committed to maintaining the high standards and unique culture that make it a valued choice for families in the district.

Attachment: Aquarian Charter Amendment

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