

# Eagle Academy- Amendment Application Summary

The Anchorage School District approved the Eagle Academy amendment to application on May 17, 2021. Eagle Academy first opened in 2005 and last renewed for 10 years in 2019.

## Program Information:

Eagle Academy Charter School (EACS) has a K-6 enrollment of 176 students, the addition of grades approves them to an enrollment capacity of 232 students. EACS was awarded the National Blue Ribbon School Award for 2020 in the category of Exemplary High Performing. The current staff-to-student ratio is 1 teacher to 25 students in Kindergarten and First Grade, 1 teacher to 26 students in grades 2-8. EACS is located in 17,000 square feet at 10901 Mausel Street, Suite 101, Eagle River, AK. EACS' landlord is willing to work with the school to expand its current space as needed. The current facility is 17,000 square feet in size, including 7 grade-level classrooms, a music room, an art room, a gymnasium/multipurpose room, and a technology classroom. Office and staff support areas include the principal's office, administrative assistant office, nurse's office, staff lounge, faculty/parent workroom, server/utility room, and janitorial/storage space. Outside activity and recess areas are provided as well. The school has a total budget of \$2,079,764 for SY 2021-2022.

Eagle Academy current budgeted staff include 1 Principal, 1 Administrative Assistant, 2 full-time Teacher Assistants, 5 part-time Teacher Assistants/noon duties, 1 full-time nurse, and 12 classroom teachers.

Eagle Academy is a "back to basics" program using the Spalding Method. The Spalding Method is a researched-based, multisensory method of instruction used across the curriculum that develops the eyes, ears, voice, hand and arm muscles, and the right and left sides of the brain concurrently. It is effective for a range of ability levels: academically gifted, average, and students with learning difficulties. Student success is expected regardless of socioeconomic conditions or individual ability as teaching is directed at the highest potential of the student. Students are leveled in Language Arts and Math by skill to address individual potential. Classrooms are traditional, students face the teacher during direct instruction and core subjects have the first 3.5 hours of each school day as uninterrupted teaching time. EACS emphasizes patriotism and good character. Students are assessed using performance-based assessments and proficiency is achieved before progressing to the next level. School standards are assessed annually to meet or exceed Alaska Standards.

Professional development for staff and teachers focus on school character, Spalding methodologies, and ASD mandated or provided professional development.

EACS plans a phased approach to adding 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade, using the 2021/2022 school year to plan the details including curriculum and facility with Grade 7 beginning in the 2022-23 school year, and Grade 8 in 2023-24. At this time plans include a Language emphasis of Greek and Latin root words, prefixes, and suffixes to further students' comprehension and *Realms of Gold* will be used as part of the literature curriculum along with both contemporary and classic novels. Saxon Algebra and Geometry will be added for advanced 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>-grade students.

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## **PEAKS Performance History:**

- 2016-2017
  - ELA: 65.31% of students proficient or advanced
  - Math: 79.59% of students proficient or advanced
  - Science: 84.62% of students proficient or advanced
  
- 2017-2018
  - ELA: 81.19% of students proficient or advanced
  - Math: 83.84% of students proficient or advanced
  - Science: 84% of students proficient or advanced
  
- 2018-2019
  - ELA: 81.82% of students proficient or advanced
  - Math: 92.93% of students proficient or advanced
  - Science: 84.62% of students proficient or advanced

## **School Mission:**

Eagle Academy encourages academic excellence by integrating proven instructional methods with a challenging curriculum and high expectations. This combination provides every child with the foundation needed to achieve proficiency of Eagle Academy's performance standards at each instructional level.

## **Goals:**

- Eagle Academy will continue to create a safe atmosphere that welcomes families as active participants in the educational process
- All students will be given standardized assessments in all subject areas to ensure they maintain a consistent level of Proficiency to our school specific standards
- Each year, the APB, principal, and staff will work collaboratively to establish additional short-term goals for the school