

Fronteras Spanish Immersion Charter School- Renewal Application Summary

The Mat-Su Borough School District (MSBSD) approved Fronteras Spanish Immersion Charter School's (Fronteras) renewal application on October 20, 2021, for 10 years, through the end of SY 2031-2032. Fronteras first opened in 2008 and last renewed in 2012. Fronteras currently enrolls students in grades K-8th.

Program Information:

Fronteras Spanish Immersion Charter School is the only language immersion public charter school in the district. Fronteras is a two-way (50-50) immersion model, students receive instruction in both English and Spanish, exposure to Spanish being as much as 80% in a school day. Education at Fronteras meets all local and state standards as well as school-designed Spanish language standards (Fronteras staff outlined developmentally appropriate Spanish standards for reading, writing, and speaking). Fronteras is structured into multi-grade and single grade classrooms with an Inquiry-based learning approach. Fronteras consists of one school administrator and 18 full time certified teachers, including three language acquisition tutors and one English tutor advisor. Fronteras maintains a teacher to student ratio of 1:24. Maximum enrollment for Fronteras is 336 students. Fronteras' projected enrollment for FY22 is 333. On average, Fronteras sees a 5% enrollment increase annually.

Fronteras Spanish Immersion Charter School is located at 2315 N. Seward Meridian Parkway, Wasilla. Fronteras broke new ground by successfully securing financing for a new school building through a USDA loan in 2015. This project was the result of an innovative collaboration between Fronteras, the Matanuska Susitna Borough, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development. The Matanuska Susitna Borough donated the 12.1 acre site on which the school is built and USDA provided the \$6.9 million facility loan. Fronteras opened the newly constructed school doors to 289 students in August, 2016. The building is 34,000 square feet consisting of 16 classrooms, regulation middle school gym, art lab, music room, administrative office, custodial storage room, teacher lounge, commercial kitchen, two single restrooms, and two 4-stall restrooms with lockers. Fronteras continues to experience a steady increase in enrollment.

As of April 2021, the total combined projected revenue available for the 2021-2022 school year is \$3,741,015.00. The Mat-Su Borough School District withholds indirect funds at a rate of 4%. The net projected revenue for FY22 is \$3,553,743.

School Mission:

Preparing students to take their place in a diverse society.

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Educational Program and Student Achievement:

Fronteras' Spanish language goal is for every student who promotes out of 8th grade, to score at the proficiency or higher level in speaking on the external Spanish assessment. Fronteras' PEAKS participation rate goal is to be 100% each year. Fronteras' MAP goal is to have 100% participation in the Fall and Spring. A future language goal is to adopt an equivalent to the Seal of Biliteracy to be awarded to our 5th and 8th grade students.

2018 PEAKS

K-6 ELA% Proficient	63.39%
K-6 Math % Proficient	42.86%
7-12 ELA % Proficient	71.88%
7-12 Math % Proficient	43.75%

Fronteras core content instruction is aligned with all district and state standards. Fronteras students participate in the State of Alaska mandated assessments and in the Mat-Su School District's Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment. In the subject of English/Language Arts (ELA), Fronteras is consistent with the Mat-Su School District and slightly higher than the State of Alaska in percent of students scoring Advanced and Proficient. In the area of Math, Fronteras' Proficient score is slightly below the Mat-Su School District, yet consistent with the State of Alaska.

FY21 MAP assessment

Grades 5th-8th

ELA % Proficient	73.6%
Math % Proficient	29.4