

To: Board of Education

From: Keith Wilson, director, virtual education, contact 832-5620

RE: Renewal of Lawrence Virtual School Charter

Date: February 23, 2017

Background:

Lawrence Virtual School (LVS) is a USD 497 public charter school serving students throughout the state of Kansas. LVS offers a full-time program for all grade levels K-12 delivering a full curriculum, learning program, and instruction using both the Internet and traditional materials. LVS includes all the goals and features of all traditional USD 497 schools - strong curriculum, skilled teachers, involved parents, high accountability - while using powerful technology to create a flexible program meeting the needs of many students. LVS is accountable to the same rigid standards and expectations of any other USD 497 school at both the district and state levels.

Rationale:

In 2004, the Lawrence Public Schools launched the Lawrence Virtual School via a district sponsored Charter through the Kansas State Department of Education. The initial Charter was granted for three years and then renewed for two additional five-year periods in 2007 and 2012. The current charter expires in 2017 and needs to be renewed for the coming school year.

Recommendation:

Administration recommends board approval of the charter renewal for LVS in order for it to be submitted to the state in accordance with state guidelines.

Motion:

"I move the Board of Education approve the 2017 Charter Renewal for the Lawrence Virtual School for submission to the Kansas State Department of Education."