

To: Board of Education

From: Denise Johnson, coordinator, ESL, health & wellness

Re: Bicycle Lesson and Safety Training (BLAST)

Date: July 7, 2016

Board Goal:

Enhance student wellness by integrating supports and services across the district by continuing to partner with the community on Safe Routes to School initiatives.

Background:

USD 497 partners with the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department on Safe Routes to School initiatives. The seven E's of Safe Routes are: engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement, evaluation, engagement, and equity. The education component is addressed in curriculum in the physical education department in the elementary and middle schools.

After aligning standards with curriculum, the physical education department pursued bike education and began working with Bike KC and Bicycle Lesson and Safety Training or BLAST. Schwegler, Langston Hughes, Broken Arrow, and Quail Run Elementary Schools piloted the BLAST curriculum with fourth- and fifth-graders this last spring.

Rationale:

The primary focus of the report will be to update the Board of Education on the progress of Safe Routes to School and Bike Education. It will also address the sustainability of the program as it moves from BikeKC to USD 497.