

To: Board of Education

From: Angelique Nedved, assistant superintendent, teaching & learning, ext. 2440

Re: Assessment of Chinese Course Fee

Date: December 8, 2016

Background:

For several years, Lawrence Public Schools accessed Chinese courses with the KU Confucius Institute via Greenbush IDL to support Chinese courses at the high schools. Access costs included a yearly membership fee (\$5,000), a course fee (\$2,500 per class), and salary of the certified teacher. Last spring, a total of five (5) students across the district enrolled in Chinese 3. In response to reduced funds and the small number of students enrolled, Chinese 3 was not offered at either high school for the 2016-2017 school year.

Rationale:

In August 2016, KU Confucius Institute began offering a blended learning model for their Chinese instruction in response to the changing technologies and desire to provide course flexibility. Students take part in traditional IDL sessions two to three times per week while working independently via Blackboard for the balance of the week. This on-line option was presented to parents of the high school students requesting Chinese 3. These parents and students were also informed of a course fee associated with taking Chinese 3, which the parents agreed to pay.

Recommendation:

Administration is requesting permission to assess the course fee of \$270 per student for those enrolled in Chinese 3 through KU Confucius Institute.

Motion:

"I move the Board of Education approve the fee of \$270 per student for the Chinese 3 course offered by KU Confucius Institute."