

To: Board of Education

From: Angelique Nedved, assistant superintendent, teaching & learning, ext. 2440
Kirsten Wondra, assistant director, curriculum, instruction & assessment, ext. 2622

Re: Adoption & Purchase of PreK-5 General Music Curriculum

Date: January 19, 2017

Background:

Since 2013, Lawrence Public Schools elementary music educators have explored a variety of updated curriculum options that reflect 21st century learning, most notably a digital version of Silver Burdett's curriculum *Making Music* as well as an updated digital version of our current textbook series *Spotlight on Music* published by McGraw-Hill. In both cases, pilot testing by current staff found that neither curriculum met the needs of our students or the district's goals for personalized learning. At the start of the 2016-2017 school year, all elementary music educators piloted *Quaver's Marvelous World of Music*, an entirely cloud-based digital curriculum. Each educator focused on a specific grade level for piloting purposes.

Rationale:

Board of Education Goal #1: Develop and align district expectations for curriculum, instruction and assessment to raise the achievement of all students.

- Excellent digital resource, especially for blended classrooms (11 of 12 elementary music teachers are blended)
- Accessible student interactives
- High percentage of student engagement which allows for differentiated instruction
- Child-centered learning, thoughtful and captivating for all types and levels of learners
- The supplemental videos were effective introductions to important musical concept and engaged through humor, specific vocabulary and in a spiralized comprehensive presentation
- *Quaver* curriculum is continually evolving and responsive to teacher feedback and requests
- Cloud-based curriculum with immediate, no-cost updating
- In the event of Wi-Fi drop, teachers will have access to disk copies
- Resource Manager is available and comprehensive

Quaver supports Lawrence Public Schools goals of Excellence, Equity and Engagement. Purchase also includes yearly *Quaver* professional development for new and current staff.

Recommendation:

Administration recommends board approval of the adoption and purchase of *Quaver's Marvelous World of Music* at a cost of \$78,000. This amount would purchase 12 teacher licenses to access the entire *Quaver* curriculum for five years. Funding for these payments has been budgeted and will be paid from (2410003670-56500) Student Materials funds.

Motion:

"I move the Board of Education approve the adoption and purchase of PreK-5 *Quaver's Marvelous World of Music* licenses for immediate implementation at a cost of \$78,000."