

Submitter: Traci Sevick
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB767

My children have been attending Lewis and Clark Montessori Charter School for the past 5 years. During that time, the school has moved three times due to being relocated by the sponsoring district, GBSD. During the most recent relocation, GBSD reached an agreement with Lewis and Clark Montessori Charter School that they would not be asked to move again for 8 years. Unfortunately, the district did not honor their agreement, and told Lewis and Clark Montessori Charter School they would need to vacate their current building within months. Each relocation has taken an adjustment for our family, the students and staff, thus impacting the quality of education.

While it would be ideal for Lewis and Clark Montessori Charter School to remain inside GBSD boundaries, given an extremely limited time frame provided by GBSD, and lack of existing facilities to accommodate 17 classrooms, the choices are limited. After an exhaustive search, Lewis and Clark Montessori Charter School has found a facility that could work, but is not in the GBSD boundaries. The proposed new facility is, however, located less than 1000 ft from the GBSD boundary.

Lewis and Clark Montessori Charter School would like to turn an unfortunate situation into a positive impact by moving from a rural location that is inaccessible by public transportation to one that opens access for enrollment to underserved, more diverse populations in Rockwood and the surrounding area while also continuing to serve our current families. Greater access & diversity is a key component of their current Strategic Plan.