

Submitter: Glenn Schmitz
On Behalf Of: Lewis and Clark Montessori Charter School
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB767

Lewis & Clark Montessori Charter School is more than just a school for my children. It is a community where my kids not only rely on an education, but have established meaningful relationships with its staff and student body. Lewis & Clark Montessori Charter School has had to move once before, from one building to another, since my children have been there and it was a stressful transition for everyone. Now, it's happening again and Lewis & Clark Montessori Charter School are forced to relocate due to lease termination by our sponsoring district, GBSD. It would be ideal for Lewis & Clark Montessori Charter School to remain inside GBSD boundaries, but given an extremely limited time frame and lack of existing facilities to accommodate 17 classrooms the choices are limited. The proposed new facility is located less than 1000 feet from the GBSD boundary. Lewis & 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 its current families. Greater access and diversity is a key component of Lewis & Clark Montessori Charter School's current Strategic Plan. Lewis & Clark Montessori Charter School has been in existence for over 14 years and the positive impact Lewis & Clark Montessori Charter School has had on our children and family has been immeasurable.