May 28, 2015

Mr. Christopher Heath Grimes, Superintendent
Lawrence County Schools System
14131 Market Street
Moulton, AL 35650-1407

Dear Mr. Grimes:

Upon review of the Lawrence County Schools System Innovation/Flexibility Zone application, I am happy to approve your request for a virtual school or a virtual school program to begin enrollment in August 2015 for the 2015-2016 school term.

The attachment provides additional information regarding virtual learning options for your consideration as you continue with your commitment to innovation in education. I applaud your forward thinking as you strive to meet the needs of all the children in Lawrence County Schools System and provide additional routes to graduation, college, and career.

Please remain in communication with Mrs. Karen Porter to share your successes, challenges, and lessons learned that will be valuable in providing helpful guidance to other school systems as they seek to develop innovative plans and in moving our state forward.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Bice
State Superintendent of Education

TRB:KWP:DK

Attachment

cc: Mrs. Sherrill W. Parris
    Mr. Andy Craig
    Dr. Philip Cleveland
    Dr. Melinda Maddox
    Mr. Ethan Taylor
    Mrs. Karen Porter
QUALIFICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL OF THE LAWRENCE COUNTY SCHOOLS SYSTEM 2015 INNOVATION PLAN

The Lawrence County Schools System should be advised of the Virtual School Act No. 2015-89 and align its policy accordingly before the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year. It is recommended that the school system keep in mind the following advisements:

- The virtual school is coded as a virtual program until 250 full-time virtual students have enrolled.

- The virtual program does not earn foundation units such as principal, assistant principal, counselor, and librarian. A virtual program will provide the administrator and other staff necessary to operate the virtual program. Teacher units are earned by the home-originating school of record. A policy should be developed to determine the online teacher of record and awarding of grades.

- The students are enrolled in their home-originating school of record, and the virtual program takes daily attendance and reports it back to the home-originating school of record. Accountability for a virtual program is reported with the home-originating school of record. As a virtual program, ADM funding and accountability will reside with the home-originating school of record. Attendance, grades, and all other data will be reported through the home-originating school of record.

- The school system may have all of its full-time virtual students report to one school for testing and facilitation without meeting the requirement of 250 full-time virtual students for a school. The school system may allow students at home to come to the virtual-program site only for testing and mentoring help or attend at the virtual program site as needed. The school system sends grades from the virtual program back to the home-originating school of record.

- The school system is strongly encouraged to provide each student with counseling related to his/her career-path planning with all virtual learning options. School personnel should be aware and advise students on courses not accepted by a student’s chosen institution of higher education. Caution should also be given to Alabama High School Athletic Association/NCAA rules imposed on traditional public school students when determining career path/courses in order to assure retention of eligibility.

- The school system is reminded that if the virtual program or virtual school requires working with another entity to provide personnel, such as community colleges, institutions of higher education, community business partners, etc., to provide instruction/services for the students in its school system, and these persons might have unsupervised access to children, the Alabama Accountability Act 2013-64 does not waive the requirements for anyone who has unsupervised access to children from undergoing a criminal history background check through the Alabama State Department of Education.
Alabama State Department of Education

Innovation Zone/Flexibility Application

ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

PLAN 2020

THE VISION
Every Child A Graduate –
Every Child Prepared for
College/Work/Adulthood
in the 21st Century

LEARNERS

PROFESSIONALS

SCHOOLS/SYSTEMS

SUPPORT SYSTEMS
1. The LEA submits to the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) a letter of intent to pursue an innovation/flexibility contract.

2. The LEA submits to the ALSDE a local board-adopted resolution supporting the intent to pursue an innovation/flexibility contract.

3. The LEA submits to the ALSDE an assurance that the local board will provide consistency in leadership and commitment to state standards, assessment, and academic rigor.

4. The local superintendent of education submits to the ALSDE the LEA's board-adopted resolution of support for the innovation/flexibility proposal and an anticipated timeline.

5. The LEA provides evidence of opportunity for full discussion and public input to include a public hearing.

6. The LEA ensures that the innovation/flexibility proposal is posted on its local Web site to allow accessibility to the general public.

7. The LEA formally submits the innovation/flexibility proposal to the State Superintendent of Education (begins a 60-day timeline).
   a. The State Superintendent of Education reviews and forwards the innovation/flexibility proposal to the Deputy State Superintendent of Teaching and Learning.
   b. The Deputy State Superintendent of Teaching and Learning submits the proposal to the ALSDE Department Leadership Team for review.
   c. The Department Leadership Team makes a recommendation to State Superintendent of Education.

8. The State Superintendent of Education makes a formal submission of the innovation/flexibility proposal to the Alabama State Board of Education.
Alabama State Department of Education
Innovation Zone/Flexibility Application

Criteria for Approval

1. The application is complete and includes all attachments of assurance, evidence, input, and board support as described in the Submission Process.
2. Rules, policies, and procedures to be waived have been thoroughly reviewed by appropriate ALSDE sections including the Office of General Counsel.
3. The innovation/flexibility proposal reflects the vision and goals of Alabama PLAN 2020.
4. The application has been checked to ensure that data that is collected or disseminated does not violate the privacy rights of any student or employee.
February 6, 2015

Thomas R. Bice, Ed. D
State Superintendent of Education
50 North Ripley Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

Dear Dr. Bice:

It is the intent of the Lawrence County Board of Education to apply for a stand-alone virtual school — the Lawrence County Virtual School (LCVS). Based on the rising tide of online courses and the flexibility they offer, we feel a virtual school would help our students by providing them an additional route to graduation. We estimate the LCVS would increase our graduation rate, aid our students to be college and career ready, and offer an accredited public school option for the home-school students residing in our district. The LCVS would serve students in grades 9-12 who are zoned for Lawrence County Schools. If approved, we would begin enrolling students August 2015. Please find the attached application for your review.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Heath Grimes, Superintendent
Lawrence County Board of Education
School System: Lawrence County Schools
Contact Name & Title: Casey JW Reed; Federal Programs Supervisor
Telephone Number: 256-905-2409 ex. 225
E-Mail Address: creed@lawrenceal.org

Number of Schools Involved: 
Number of Students Served/Affected by Plan: 
Number of Teachers Involved/Affected by Plan: 
Number of Service Personnel Involved/Affected by Plan: 

Please place a check beside the appropriate entity(ies) applying for Innovation Zone designation:

___ School
___ Department or Subdivision of School
___ Coalition of Schools (fill out multiple listings below)
___ Feeder System of Schools
___ District

Please complete the chart below for the District's leadership team that will support plan (add rows as needed):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of Team Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heath Grimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casey JW Reed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnny Yates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Hitt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donna Flannigan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please complete the chart below for each school that will be involved/affected by the plan (insert additional rows as needed):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section 2- Abstract and Waiver Requests

Provide a project summary that briefly describes the project's vision, goals, activities, and key features for student success that will be addressed. Please include how the proposal reflects Alabama's PLAN 2020. Please limit the length of the abstract to the text box found on this page only.

Vision: Current research indicates that virtual schools present the newest frontier for engaging students in learning. Huetl, Moller, Foshay and Coleman (2008) called virtual education the ‘single most important reorganization of how we will engage learners since we started to gather students together in school buildings (pp. 65-66). The online courses offered by virtual schools introduce students to valuable skills, such as communicating and collaborating online and accessing information on the Internet, which help students prepare for joining a global technological workforce (U.S. Department of Education, 2005). The Lawrence County Virtual School will be created to provide students with a broader range of opportunities to graduate college and career ready, through any-where-any time education. The Lawrence County Virtual School would allow students an opportunity to participate in dual enrollment in local universities and junior colleges as well as maximize their opportunities for business and industry certification.

Goals: The goal of the Lawrence County Virtual School is to allow our students an alternative path for graduation, supporting our push for improved graduation rate, increasing college and career opportunities, and preparing Lawrence County Schools for a regional and global job market.

Activities: Courses are delivered through ACCESS or APEX Learning software.

All supporting faculty will be trained by the Madison City Schools ACCESS Support Center, and by Lawrence County Schools for APEX Learning software.

Career Technology courses offered via the Lawrence County Center of Technology, providing students the opportunity to be career ready.

Lawrence County Schools will provide support services for students’ four year plan, proctored examinations, and supplemental academic support.

All Lawrence County Virtual School students will be required to participate in all district and state assessments.

Key Features: Targeted individual instruction: students will be able to take courses reflective of their achievement level and receive face-to-face and online tutoring as needed. Flexibility in course offerings: students will be able to select elective credits based on their area of interests and possible career options. This also allows students to focus on career goals through maximized time at the Lawrence County Center of Technology. Early graduation: students can earn credits through mastery and not dependent on seat time, allowing students to accelerate their learning. Alternative path to graduation: students who, based on socioeconomic need, family responsibilities, or are young parents who are not successful in a brick-and-mortar school can be successful though credit mastery based on their needed schedules and responsibilities. Personalized educational path based on student academic goals and proposed career path will have the ability to personalize their education in a given area. Asynchronous environment: students will be able to work toward credit mastery based on their schedule, allowing access to learning anytime during a 24 hour day. Improved time management and intrinsic motivation for our students: one of the largest hurdles for new employees and freshmen in post-secondary education is time management and intrinsic motivation. Virtual school students will graduate with improved time management skills and be more motivated to succeed without the necessity of a brick-and-mortar school. College credit opportunities through dual enrollment and Advanced Placement: based on the flexibility in scheduling, personalization of learning paths, and partnerships with local colleges and universities, students will be able to earn

5
postsecondary credit through dual enrollment and or an expanded availability of College Board Advanced Placement course offerings. Career Technical Education and Business and Industry Certification: flexible scheduling and freedom from the traditional brick and mortar school will allow students to maximize credits earned at the Lawrence County Center of Technology. Through cooperative education experiences in addition to dual enrollment in career technical courses, students will graduate with business and industry certification appropriate for their career. Support services for enrolled students: students will complete a four-year plan, and be advised on college and career options through their zoned counselors.

Alabama Plan 20/20: The Alabama State Department of Education’s Plan 2020 has four foci: learners, support systems, schools/systems, and professionals. The Lawrence County Virtual School will address learners by increasing graduation rates through alternative pathways to graduation, flexible scheduling and personalized education paths. The LCVS will also produce college and career ready graduates by providing opportunities to earn college credits through college and university community partners, earning business and industry credentials through flexible scheduling with the Lawrence County Center of Technology, creating self-regulating students who can achieve benchmark on the ACT as well as ACT Work Keys, and allow for a wider range of College Board Advanced Placement courses. All students attending the LCVS will have a four year plan and access to counseling services as provided by zoned guidance counselors. Attendance will be recorded by the teacher of record through system log-in and work progression. If application is approved, the LCVS could earn teacher units as enrollment increases providing adequate staff. The Lawrence County Board of Education will support the LCVS financially. The LCBOE will provide the infrastructure needed to create a 21st century digital learning environment, providing students an engaging and relevant platform for learning. Highly Qualified teachers will facilitate learning at the LCVS; each student will have access to effective teachers as provided by ACCESS and the LCBOE.
Waiver Requests

Indicate the specific type(s) of policy or code that prohibit or constrain the project that you wish to request a waiver from:

- Specific waiver requested of ALSDE policy
- Specific waiver requested of Alabama Administrative Code (AAC) statute

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALSDE Policy Waiver Request</th>
<th>Alabama Administrative Code (AAC) Statute Waiver Request</th>
<th>Impact of the Waiver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Specify memo, etc., outlining policy)</td>
<td>Chapter 290-3-1/ Page 3-1-7; (2) Length of School Day and School Term. (a) In accordance with Code of Ala. 1975, §16-1-1: 1. The school year shall consist of a minimum of 180 teaching days. 2. The length of the school day shall be at least six (6) hours of actual teaching exclusive of lunch and recess.</td>
<td>A waiver from this section would allow Lawrence County Virtual School students’ access to anytime anywhere educational opportunities, creating flexible, customizable, educational path to graduation. Students would meet the rigorous standards established by the ALSDE through online coursework.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Requirements that cannot be waived:

- Those imposed by federal law
- Those related to the health and safety of students or employees
- Those imposed by ethics laws
- Those imposed by open records or open meetings laws
- Those related to financial or academic reporting or transparency
- Those designed to protect the civil rights of students or employees
- Those related to the state retirement system or state health insurance plan

Not allowable for waiver:

- May not compensate an employee at an annual amount that is less than the amount the employee would otherwise be afforded through the State Minimum Salary Schedule
- May not involuntarily remove any rights or privileges acquired by any employee under the Students First Act of 2011, Title 16, Chapter 24C, Code of Alabama 1975
- May not deny any right or privilege granted to a new employee pursuant to the Students First Act of 2011
- May not authorize the formation of a charter school
Section 3 - Vision and Needs Assessment

Creative Vision for the Project

1. What is the purpose and expected outcome of this project (include expected outcomes for students)?

The purpose of the Lawrence County Virtual School is to allow greater student access to academic opportunities and improved academic achievement through flexible learning times and an alternative path for graduation, in an engaging 21st century learning environment. Students could graduate early through credit advancement, could recover needed credits to graduate, and could have an alternative to home-school. Students will graduate college and career ready, having already earned college credits or business and industry credentials.

2. Explain how the school's or school district's current data influenced the need for the project described in Question 1 above?

Lawrence County has more than two hundred home-schooled students. These students represent a loss of funding and teacher units for our local schools. Lawrence County Schools currently has more than 300 students enrolled in online courses, illustrating a strong commitment and engagement in online education. The current graduation rate for Lawrence County Schools is 89%, creating a need for an alternative path for graduation for at-risk students. Lawrence County offers 28 Advanced Placement courses. In addition students are enrolled in online AP courses, showing our students' strong commitment to Advanced Placement and the need to expand those course offerings.

3. How is this project linked to Alabama's PLAN 2020? How is this project linked to the school's or district's strategic plan?

The Lawrence County Virtual School will graduate students college ready through blended learning environments creating self-regulating students. Students will also have the opportunity to obtain dual enrollment credits through partnership with local colleges and universities. The LCVS will make students more career-ready, through business and industry certification by focusing on career technical courses and CO-OP and internship opportunities. The Lawrence County Virtual School would provide students credit advancement through flexible scheduling and after-hours access.

4. How is the school's or district's project connected to best practice and current research in reference to raising student achievement and preparing students to be college- and career-ready?

In 2009, Picciano and Seaman estimated that more than a million K-12 students in the United States engaged in online learning (Picciano & Seaman 2009). Some states have already made online learning part of their high school graduation requirements (DiPietro et al. 2008; Alabama State Department of Education 2009; Picciano & Seaman 2009). Current best practices indicate a student can achieve a deeper understanding of materials through blended environments (Ingerham 2013). Deeper understanding of material creates an increased level of sustained comprehension, thus increasing student achievement. Students can direct their own learning through self-regulation and intrinsic motivation in an environment of support and understanding. Other studies have echoed the importance of self-regulation or self-management skills in online learning. Alshare (2011) points out that online learning requires a different learning strategy from the traditional classroom. Oliver et al. (2009) also stress that online students must self-pace, organize their own learning around goals, and make sense of
instructions that may seem vague or incomplete (Ingerham 2013). Students who graduate from the LCVS will be college and career ready through preparation involving career technical education, advanced placement course options, and dual enrollment credits. LCVS students will be able to critically address issues and self-navigate to a solution, making themselves more regionally and globally marketable.

5. How will this project be supported and monitored for implementation by the district?
The Lawrence County Virtual School staff will include a teacher, counselor, and principal, if part of Alabama Foundation Program, who will be assigned to support student learning and monitor student progress. Students’ zoned school guidance counselors will support in the creation of the four year plan and monitor earned credits in support of the individual student’s plan. The teacher of record will be located at the Judy Jester Learning Center, providing a brick and mortar location for proctored examinations and one-on-one tutoring. Attendance is monitored by software log-ins and course progressions, thus waiving seat time. Students’ attendance, course grades and state mandated assessment scores will be recorded and reported in accordance with all district, state, and federal policies.
### Section 4 - Goals, Objectives, Evaluation, Timeline

**GOALS:**

- Identify the measureable objectives that will be used to determine success in achieving these goals

(Must be specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and timely goals (SMART)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Personnel</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
<th>Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For academic year 2015-2016, all LCVS students will maintain a 95% attendance rate.</td>
<td>Attendance is registered when the student logs into the academic program. Students who are not meeting attendance requirements will be consulted and an attendance plan developed. Students can be removed from program due to attendance and return to zoned school.</td>
<td>Teacher of record, LCVS administrator</td>
<td>August 2015 - July 2016 Daily monitoring</td>
<td>No funding currently required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For academic year 2015-2016, Lawrence County Virtual School Students will show growth in reading and math as measured by Scantron performance series assessments prescribed three times a year.</td>
<td>Students will participate in all district and state mandated assessments. Students will participate in proctored assessments at LCVS location.</td>
<td>Teacher of record, LCVS administrator, District testing coordinator</td>
<td>August 2015 - July 2016 Based on testing windows</td>
<td>No funding currently required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For academic year 2015-2016, all students enrolled in the Lawrence County Virtual School will increase subsection scores on the ACT by one-half point in math and reading.

Students will participate in all district and state mandated assessments.

Students will participate in proctored assessments at LCVS location.

Teacher of record
LCVS administrator
District testing coordinator

August 2015 - July 2016
Based on testing windows

No funding currently required.

Section 5- Project Evaluation and Sustainability

1. How will you evaluate and report the impact this innovation project has on increasing student success and/or other stated goals and objectives?

All students will be required to participate in all local, state, and federal assessments. Students evaluation will be based on academic growth on formative assessment results as well as ACT, and Advanced Placement scores. Virtual school students will be compared to their peers in the general education setting. Data reporting will be done via the district website, board meetings, and parent meetings, as outlined by Lawrence County Board of Education procedures. Student achievement data will be sent to parents and presented at student centered data meetings, as mandated by the ALSDE and Lawrence County Board of Education.

2. How will this innovation project be sustained?

If approved as a stand-alone school with its own cost center, units would be provided through the ALSDE foundation program. The Lawrence County Virtual School will be scalable based on course delivery model and funds generated by tuition and earned units based on student enrollment and FTEs. The Lawrence County Central Office Technology Director and Technology Integration Specialist will work with the school guidance counselors and principals to increase enrollment and maintain student success. The Lawrence County Board of Education will ensure the school is properly staffed, with a counselor of record, teacher of record, and principal of record.
Local Education Agency Report of Support or Concerns

Use this form to report the school or district and superintendent support or concerns, or both, about the innovation to the principal and faculty. Use a separate form for each school.

School: Lawrence County Virtual School

School District: Lawrence County Schools

Date of School/Department/Subdivision Receipt of Application:

Date of Regularly Scheduled Board of Education Meeting: 8 December 2014

Local School Board of Education Members:

Name of President: Mr. Jackie Burch

Name Vice President:

Name of Member: Mr. Gary Bradford

Name of Member: Dr. Beth Vinson

Name of Member: Mrs. Rita Waldrep

Name of Member: Mrs. Christine Garner

Signature: 

Signature: 

Signature: 

Signature: 

Signature: 

Support:
On Monday December 8, 2014, the Lawrence County Board of Education members voted unanimously in support of pursuit of the Lawrence County Schools to obtain a waiver from the Alabama State Department of Education for the creation of the Lawrence County Virtual School.

Resolution granted by the Lawrence County Board of Education during regular meeting on 8 December 2014.

Concerns:

None
Subject: Lawrence County Schools innovation flexibility zone application for creation of virtual high school serving Lawrence County.

Whereas: The Lawrence County Board of Education's mission is to partner with community to empower all students to become self-learners by providing excellent instruction in every classroom for every child every day, developing responsible citizens who are college and career ready. The Lawrence County Board of Education believes to foster college and career ready students we must provide opportunities for our students to have academic success, the formation of the Lawrence County Virtual School will allow students the opportunity to pursue academic goals to reach college or their career.

Whereas: The Lawrence County Superintendent Mr. Christopher Heath Grimes at the 8 December 2014 board meeting presented an outline for support and creation of the Lawrence County Virtual School, and the innovation zone flexibility application for the Alabama State Department of Education.

Therefore be it resolved: The Lawrence County Board of Education does support the innovation zone flexibility application and the creation of the Lawrence County Virtual School, as part of the Lawrence County School System.

Adopted: December 8, 2014

Signed: Heath Grimes, Superintendent

Signed: Jackie Burch, Chairman

This document assures that the Lawrence County Board of Education will provide consistency in leadership and commitment to state standards, assessment, and academic rigor at the Lawrence County Virtual School.
The Lawrence County Board of Education met for a regular monthly meeting on September 8, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the central office. The meeting was called to order by Jackie Burch and the invocation was given by Mr. Jackie Burch.

PRESENT
Heath Grimes, Superintendent
Beth Vinson
Reta Waldrep
Jackie Burch
Christine Garner
Gary Bradford

CHAIR ELECTION

Motion for Jackie Burch to remain chairperson and keep rotation in numerical order (Walrep/Vinson/5-0)

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3. Approve adoption of agenda as presented. (Vinson/Waldrep/5-0)

4. Superintendent Report
   A. Recognition of Principals that have earned Doctorate Degree
      Tina Blankenship
      Paige Terry
      Jon-Brett Smith
   B. Virtual Schools

5. Approve the Resolution of 2014 Lawrence County Unified Flag Football Team
   (Vinson/Waldrep/5-0)

6. Approve the Resolution of 2014 Lawrence County High School Girls Cross Country Team
   (Vinson/Bradford/5-0)

7. Approve the Resolution of 2014 Lawrence County High School Boys Cross Country Team
   (Vinson/Bradford/5-0)
8. Approve the Resolution of *Lawrence County Schools innovation flexibility zone application for creation of virtual high school* (Vinson/Bradford/5-0)

9. Approve personnel transactions as recommended by the Superintendent (Waldrep/Vinson/5-0)

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**


**RETIREMENT**

2. Teresa White, Hazlewood Elementary, Paraprofessional, effective January 1, 2015.

**RESIGNATION**

1. Marsha Inmon, Teacher, Moulton Middle, effective December 31, 2014.

**EMPLOYMENT**

1. Paige Satchel, Moulton Elementary, Teacher, part-time, temporary @ daily rate of pay, effective November 20, 2014 through December 19, 2014 (K. King Leave of Absence)  
   Funding: IDEA
2. Kim Sutton, Mt. Hope, Nurse, part-time, temporary @ daily rate of pay, effective November 17, 2014 through January 1, 2015.  
   Funding: Local
Appendix

Record of Commitment

Use this form to report staff, parent, and public commitment regarding the innovation application and plan. Use a separate form for each school.

School: ____________________________________________

School District: __Lawrence County Schools

Notice of Meeting(s) (Date provided to faculty, department, parents, community, etc.): __3 December 2014; 8 January 2015

*Meeting Date(s): __8 December 2014; 15 January 2015

Parent Representatives:

Name: __Tina Bogan ___________________ Signature: ______________________

Name: __Tish Letson ___________________ Signature: ______________________

Name: __Naomi Greene ___________________ Signature: ______________________

We certify that this application/plan is supported by the school's PTA/PTO.

Continuous Improvement Leadership Team Representatives:

Name: ___________________ Signature: ______________________

Name: ___________________ Signature: ______________________

Name: ___________________ Signature: ______________________

Record of Public Discussion and Input

District and School Representatives:

Name: __Casey JW Reed ___________________ Signature: ______________________

Name: __Amy Martin ___________________ Signature: ______________________

Name: __Stacie Givens ___________________ Signature: ______________________

We certify that multiple opportunities were provided for public discussion and input of this plan.

*Record of sign-in sheets and input from various groups and meetings should be kept at the district level.
PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD BEFORE BOE MEETING

MOULTON — There will be a public hearing held at the Lawrence County Board of Education central office on Dec. 8, 2014, at 5 p.m. before the Board of Education’s regular meeting, on the topic of the Lawrence County “Virtual School” and the county’s innovative zone application.

The zone application is part of the Alabama State Board of Education’s “Plan 2020,” and the application will assist the school system’s efforts to get state funding for more virtual classroom / online learning. The application will allow the system to create a stand-alone “virtual school,” that will allow the system to earn units as students enroll. The goal is to allow students the option for more flexible school hours, creating more opportunities for students to be college and career ready.

The Board of Education’s regular December meeting will follow the hearing.

-30-
Jason Houston  
Lawrence County Communications Coordinator  
Cell: (256) 476-4740  
Work e-mail: jhouston@lawrenceal.org  
Personal e-mail: jasonhouston@me.com  
Twitter: @JasonHouston  
Facebook: www.facebook.com/JRHouston1974
Public Hearing: Innovation Zone Application
Lawrence County Virtual School
8 December 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Affiliation: Parent/Community</th>
<th>Email / Telephone (optional)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elaine Buffham</td>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>Cell 566-0027</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>974-7031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaitlyn Jackson</td>
<td>Student</td>
<td>(256) 566 - 4433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Bonigen</td>
<td>Reporter</td>
<td>(256) 653-9265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suzy Berryman</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Timeline for Lawrence County Virtual School

December 2014:
- Public Hearing for input on application
- Board Resolution for Support of Application/LCVS
- Application posted to school website for public viewing

January 2015:
- Application completed and submitted to ALSDE

(Based on Approved Application)
May - June 2015:
- Student applications evaluated for enrollment in LCVS

August 2015
- First class of 25 Students
- Students can complete full course compliment
- School supported by faculty

August 2016
- Increase program enrollment by 50%
- Increase faculty support based on student needs
Lawrence County Virtual School
Itinerary for Public Hearing

The Lawrence County School System intends to submit an Innovation Zone/Flexibility Application to the Alabama State Department of Education for the formation of a stand alone virtual school, the Lawrence County Virtual School (LCVS). We feel that a virtual school will offer opportunities for our students to be college and career ready without the limitations placed on students in the traditional educational setting. Below outlines the proposed makeup and methodology of the Lawrence County Virtual School.

Curriculum:
- Courses will be provided through ACCESS
- Courses also provided by APEX Software
- Students would take proctored examinations at designated sites

Graduation:
- Student would receive Alabama High School Diploma (college and career ready)
- Student could participate in commencement exercises at zoned school site
- Student can receive diploma earlier than four year time period

Assessments:
- Students would participate in all state and locally mandated assessments

Attendance:
- Attendance will be based on system log-in by students
- 95% attendance rate as based on Plan 20-20
- Failure to follow established attendance policy can result in removal from LCVS

Learning Management System:
- Google Classroom
Student Criterion:
- Must complete application process and be accepted into LCVS
- Students seeking early graduation
- At Risk students
- Students focusing on career technical education
- Students who have other areas of excellence: performing arts, other activities

Student Support:
- Face to face tutoring sessions (based on need)
- Online tutoring sessions (based on need)
- Small group environment
- Teacher of record interaction
- Four year plan developed with guidance counselor
- Transition services for post secondary career or education

Faculty:
- Guidance Counselor
- Teacher of record
- Online HQ teacher via ACCESS
- Principal

Costs:
- Tuition will be based on enrollments and number of courses taking
- Tuition can be waived based on economic status (not a barrier to enrollment)

Technology Requirements for Student:
- Daily access to high speed internet connection
- Daily access internet accessible device

Annual Measurable Objectives:
- Attendance
- Student growth based on local assessment
- ACT proficiency based on state mandated testing

Any feedback please send to Casey JW Reed at creed@lawrenceal.org or 256-905-2409 ext. 225
Innovation Zone Flexibility Application for Public Comment

The Lawrence County School System is applying for a stand-alone virtual school to begin August 2015. The application is up for public review. For any comments or suggestions please contact Casey JW Reed, Federal Programs Supervisor. creed@lawrenceal.org or 256-905-2409 ex. 225

Related Documents:
- Lawrence County Virtual School Application
Welcome

Welcome to Lawrence County Schools' Website. We are dedicated to providing the best education possible to the young people of our county.

Our Mission: "Excellent Instruction, Every Class, Every Child, Every Day"

Our Vision: "Partnering with community to empower all students to become self-learners by providing excellent instruction in every classroom for every child everyday, developing responsible citizens who are college and career ready."

Our Motto: Lawrence County Schools stands for Learn, Achieve, gain Wisdom, while Reaching Excellence, N, Community, and Education

Fill up. Help a school. Tell a friend.
Community Partner Support

Use this form to document community organization/agency support and partnership for the innovation plan/project. Use a separate form for each community partner.

School/Schools: Lawrence County Virtual School

School District: Lawrence County Schools

Date(s) of School/School District/Community Partner Dialogues: 6 November 2014

Name of Community Organization/Agency: Madison City Support Center

Contact Person: Judy Bollinger

Contact Person E-mail Address: jbollinger@madison.k12.al.us

Contact Person Telephone Number: 256-774-4609 ext. 10373

Contact Person Address: 211 Celtic Drive, Madison, AL 35758

Explain the community organization's/agency's commitment to the Plan/Project:

The Madison City ACCESS Support Center plans to support the Lawrence County Virtual School by providing online courses and teachers provided by the ALSDE through ACCESS. The Madison City Support Center will train teachers and keep them updated with online pedagogy and technology updates.

List the resources and contributions (not monetary) that the organization/agency is making to this Plan/Project:

The Madison City Support Center plans to support the Lawrence County Virtual School by making staff available by phone, visits, and training.

Agency Representative (Name) Judy Bollinger

Title: ACCESS Coordinator of Madison City Support Center

Signature: ________________________
Community Partner Support

School/Schools: Lawrence County Virtual School

School District: Lawrence County Schools

Date(s) of School/School District/Community Partner Dialogues: 13 January 2015

Name of Community Organization/Agency: Northwest-Shoals Community College

Contact Person: Rose Jones

Contact Person E-mail Address: jonesr@nwscc.edu

Contact Person Telephone Number: 256-331-5313

Contact Person Address: 800 George Wallace Blvd., Muscle Shoals, AL 35662

Explain the community organization’s/agency’s commitment to the Plan/Project:

Northwest-Shoals Community College plans to support the Lawrence County Virtual School by providing opportunities for students to earn college credit, through its dual enrollment program, creating college and career ready students as outlined in the Alabama State Department of Education’s Plan 2020.

List the resources and contributions (not monetary) that the organization/agency is making to this Plan/Project:

Northwest-Shoals Community College plans to support the Lawrence County Virtual School by providing admission and counseling support services to dual enrollment students.

Agency Representative (Name) Rose Jones

Title: Associate Dean of Workforce Development

Signature: [Signature]

www.nwscc.edu
Community Partner Support

Use this form to document community organization/agency support and partnership for the innovation plan/project. Use a separate form for each community partner.

School/Schools: Lawrence County Virtual School

School District: Lawrence County Schools

Date(s) of School/School District/Community Partner Dialogues: 12 January 2015

Name of Community Organization/Agency: University of North Alabama

Contact Person: Kim Mauldin

Contact Person E-mail Address: komauldin@una.edu

Contact Person Telephone Number: 256-765-4340

Contact Person Address: UNA Box 5011, Florence, Alabama 35630

Explain the community organization’s/agency’s commitment to the Plan/Project:

The University of North Alabama (UNA) plans to support the Lawrence County Virtual School by providing opportunities for students to earn college credit, through its Early College Program, creating college and career ready students as outlined in the Alabama State Department of Education’s Plan 2020.

List the resources and contributions (not monetary) that the organization/agency is making to this Plan/Project:

The University of North Alabama (UNA) plans to support the Lawrence County Virtual School by providing admission and counseling support services to Early College Program students.

Agency Representative (Name) Kim Mauldin

Title: Director of Admissions University of North Alabama

Signature: Kim Mauldin, Director of Admissions University of North Alabama
Innovation Zone Requirements

1. Completed applications for Innovation Zone designation must be typed in 12-point font and received by December 31, 2013.
2. Please ensure that the following information included in this application is provided:
   - Record of Commitment
   - Record of Public Discussion and Input
   - Local Education Agency Report of Support or Concerns
   - Community Partner Support
3. Your application/plan should be submitted in a PDF document via e-mail to bevdavis@alsde.edu by 4 p.m. on March 31, 2014.
4. A semiannual progress report should be submitted to the Alabama State Department of Education.

For an August 2014 start date, completed application must be RECEIVED via e-mail by the State Superintendent of Education by 4 p.m. on March 31, 2014, via the following e-mail address: bevdavis@alsde.edu