

MEMO

TO: Superintendent Jeff Stephens, Board President Jon Ritchie, WSD Board Members

FROM: Sheri Heiter

DATE: November 19, 2020

SUBJECT: Weber Online K-12 Board Presentation

Over the past several months, the COVID pandemic has necessitated a number of shifts in our educational structure in order to meet the changing needs of our students, teachers, staff and community. We originally planned for classroom teachers to work with in-person, short-term flexible and long-term flexible students this year. Of course, they have been given high levels of support with digital content created by the Curriculum Fellows and have had 45 minutes dedicated at the end of each day to work with their digital learners. However, over the course of the first quarter, it became apparent that teaching three types of students was an overwhelming task.

In order to address the evolving educational landscape of Weber School District, it was determined that it would be best to develop an alternative plan that would provide teachers with some relief from the heavy instructional load. Thus, the concept of Weber Online K-12 was born. Within two weeks, the new school was up and running and has now grown to over 3,000 students. This school provides a robust educational option for Weber School District's students who have chosen a fully online learning program. Weber Online K-12 has received the majority of our long-term flexible learners as well as a number of part-time students who wish to accelerate their learning by taking additional courses in an online setting.

The incorporation of Weber Online K-12 has broadened the overall educational offerings of Weber School District and now better meets the needs of our students and community. We are excited to see the program grow as students and parents explore alternatives to traditional in-person instruction.

Dr. Jennifer Boyer-Thurgood, the Weber Online K-12 principal, and Nick Harris, the Director of Digital Teaching and Learning, will provide a look inside this new school and will share its programs, structure, enrollment and future plans.