

[Close](#)[Print](#)

Board OKs expansion of KTEC

Second campus to open at former McKinley site

BY DENEEN SMITH

dsmith@kenoshanews.com

The Kenosha School of Technology Enhanced Curriculum will open a second campus at the former McKinley Middle School next fall.

The Kenosha Unified School Board voted 6-0 Tuesday to approve expansion of KTEC to the second campus. With the expansion, another 775 students will be able to attend the charter school when it is at full capacity.

KTEC Principal Angela Andersson said the goal is to expand the program to allow more children to attend. The school has 471 students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade attending this year, and 320 on a waiting list.

The charter school, which opened seven years ago, weaves science, technology, math and engineering throughout its curriculum, with a focus on “21st century skills and technology integrationon.”

Gradually add grades

Under the plan, the existing school on 18th Avenue in the former Lincoln Elementary School will remain open for children in grades K-8. The second campus would open for K-5 next school year, then add a middle school grade each of the next three years until it, too, was a K-8 school.

McKinley Middle School, 5710 32nd Ave., closed in 2012 as part of a wave of budget cutting in Unified.

“I fought for McKinley to stay open,” said board member Kyle Flood.

Reopening the school as a middle school is not feasible, he said.

“What I am happy to see is we are putting one of the best schools in this district into that school,” Flood said.

Board members said the expansion of KTEC will give district families more choices and will replicate what has been a successful model at the existing school.

Charter enrollment set

KTEC is one of six charter schools in the district.

The enrollment period for the charters begins in January. New students for the charters are chosen by random lottery.

Andersson said KTEC will be launching a marketing campaign to let families know about the second campus

opening.

Part of the district's goal, she said, is to improve diversity at the charters.

"Our No. 1 goal is to make sure that every parent in this district knows that KTEC is an option so that every parent can make an informed decision," Andersson said.