

TO: Dr. Chris Neale, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Quality Schools

FROM: Phil Murray, Missouri NEA Board President

DATE: August 3, 2020

SUBJECT: Response to the Proposed Amendment for Rule 5 CSR 20-100.230 Virtual Instruction Program

The Association has reviewed the Proposed Amendment for Rule 5 CSR 20-100.230 and would like to make the following comments:

We request that the Department add a new section in the rule to require all virtual providers operating in Missouri to provide timely data to the district school or charter school enrolling the pupil regarding how each enrolled student is performing in a virtual course or full-time virtual program. This data should provide grade, assignment completion and participation data and should be accompanied by full access for the school's enrollment office to the student's online records for the course, so that school staff may study more detailed information on student progress and engagement, if needed.

This data should be provided no less than every six weeks of enrollment to allow the school to provide a full interim performance report available to each parent for every course on a consistent timeframe. This data reporting will also allow the school to meet its statutory obligation, under section 161.670.3(6), to evaluate progress and success of virtual course students and terminate or alter the course offering if the course is not meeting student needs. Without this regular reporting of data, district and charter schools will not have timely information on student progress and engagement and will not be able to meet this legal and educational obligation.

The Association appreciates the opportunity to comment on this Proposed Amendment and looks forward to continued collaboration with the Department. Should the Office of Quality Schools have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

Phil Murray

Missouri NEA Board President