



Small Expansion Application

Charter School Name:

C.S. Lewis Academy

Charter School Director:

Bridget Williams

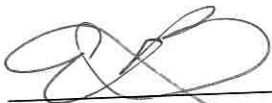
Does this request meet the definition of a small expansion, as found in R277-550 and R277-552, which is: is for 50-100 students; would not necessitate a significant renovation; and is for no more than one additional grade?

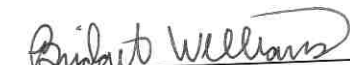
☒ Yes

☐ No

Explanation from the charter school of justified need, as allowed by R277-552-6(4).

Signature from the school's governing board chair and director, as allowed by R277-552-6(4).


Board Chair


School Director

For SCSB Informational Use Only:

☐ No concerns

or

- ☐ On-going remediation
- ☐ Corrective action plan (CAP)
- ☐ State turnaround
- ☐ System of Support
- ☐ Comprehensive Support and Improvement
- ☐ SCSB Warning
- ☐ SCSB Probation

C.S. Lewis Academy respectfully requests approval for a small school expansion to include 7th grade beginning in the upcoming school year. As a K-6 public charter school located in a rural area of southern Utah County, we serve a unique and underserved population. Our community's needs, coupled with our school's mission and capacity, make the addition of 7th grade a logical and necessary step to better support students and families.

1. Rural Location and Limited Educational Options

C.S. Lewis Academy is situated in a geographically isolated part of southern Utah County, where educational choices for middle school students are extremely limited. In our region, there is only one traditional district middle school serving a wide area, which has led to overcrowding and a lack of individualized attention for students. Families in our community have expressed a strong desire for alternative education options that offer a more personalized, community-centered approach to middle school education.

2. Community Demand and Family Retention

Our families consistently communicate the need for educational continuity beyond 6th grade. Many parents are seeking a middle school option that aligns with the values and learning environment they have come to trust at C.S. Lewis Academy. By adding 7th grade, we can provide a seamless transition for our students while maintaining the supportive, academically rigorous environment that we have cultivated. Offering 7th grade would also improve student retention and increase family satisfaction by allowing students to remain in a familiar, stable educational setting during the pivotal middle school years.

3. Fulfilling Our Mission

As a charter school, our mission is to provide high-quality, student-centered learning opportunities that foster critical thinking, self-motivation, and a lifelong love of learning. Extending our grade levels to include 7th grade directly supports this mission. It allows us to continue nurturing students at a key developmental stage, ensuring they receive the academic preparation and social-emotional support necessary for long-term success.

4. Responsiveness to Community Needs

We believe strongly in responding to the needs of our local community. Adding 7th grade is not a decision we take lightly—it is a strategic response to a clear and growing demand from parents, students, and community stakeholders who are seeking additional public school options in our area. This expansion will fill a critical gap in educational services and provide families with a viable, high-quality alternative to the traditional district middle school model.

5. Readiness and Capacity

C.S. Lewis Academy has the staffing, leadership, and facilities in place to successfully support this expansion. Our experienced instructional team, along with our commitment to small class sizes and individualized instruction, ensures that students will receive the attention and guidance they need. We have also developed a plan to incorporate age-appropriate curriculum, extracurricular opportunities, and character-building programs designed specifically for middle school learners.