

League of Women Voters of Oklahoma
Restudy of Our Position on Education
Consensus questions

1. Which of the current LWVOK and LWVUS positions on education outlined in the introduction does the LWVOK wish to affirm?

- A. All
- B. None
- C. Only these:
- D. Explain

Comments:

2. Which of the following statements should the LWVOK include in its position on common school finance?

- A. ___ The legislature has the responsibility for ensuring that a long-term plan exists to provide adequate funding for the operation of schools into the future.
- B. ___ The League supports a restoration of the gross production tax to 7% on all wells with a substantial amount of that money devoted to education.
- C. ___ A “shared-pool” of funds from ad valorem rich districts should be established to equalize funding for districts with less ad valorem revenue.
- D. ___ Charter schools should be allowed to have access to the same local funding sources as all public schools in their district.
- E. ___ Eligibility requirements for vouchers should be expanded so more students can use them.
- F. ___ Other

Comments:

3. Which of the following statements should the LWVOK include in its position on vouchers?

- A. ___ The LWVUS opposes vouchers and the LWVOK should do the same.
- B. ___ Vouchers should only be used when they can be shown to improve the education of students.
- C. ___ Schools that accept voucher students should be held to the same standards of academic and financial accountability as the public schools.
- D. ___ Other

Comments:

4. Which of the following statements should the LWVOK include in its position on charter schools?

- A. More research comparing academic outcomes of charter schools to traditional schools is needed.
- B. With limited funding and resources in rural traditional schools, the State Department of Education should be especially cautious when authorizing charters in rural areas.
- C. Charter school sponsors, entities, and contracted vendors should be financially accountable to the public.
- D. Other

Comments:

5. Charter school options for parents could be improved by:

- A. being required to meet the same academic standards for accountability required of public schools
- B. requiring transparent financial reports from charter schools entity organizations that include personnel salaries at all levels and operating costs for the national (if applicable), state and local organizations.
- C. requiring that only highly-qualified teachers who are certified in their teaching assignment be hired just as in the public schools
- D. allowing collective bargaining for teachers and staff
- E. Other

Comments:

6. Voucher program options for parents could be improved by:

- A. being required to meet the same academic standards for accountability required of public schools
- B. requiring transparent financial reports from schools that accept vouchers
- C. requiring that only highly-qualified teachers who are certified in their teaching assignment be hired just as in the public schools
- D. allowing collective bargaining for teachers and staff
- E. Other

Comments:

7. Which of the following statements should the LWVOK include in its position on virtual schools?

- A. ____ Students should be screened before admission to a virtual program to ensure that their motives and educational plans are appropriate for successful outcomes.
- B. ____ Virtual schools make sense for a generation that is accustomed to spending hours each day in front of a screen.
- C. ____ Virtual schools should have limits on their use of public spaces, like libraries, in order to fulfill their mission.
- D. ____ Other

Comments:

8. Which of the following statements should the LWVOK include in its position on virtual and blended coursework?

- A. ____ Virtual courses should be used sparingly to compensate for deficiencies in the curricular offerings of traditional schools.
- B. ____ More research is needed to determine whether specific models of blended courses (e.g. flipped courses) are an improvement over traditional courses.
- C. ____ Virtual courses can allow students in smaller districts access to advanced and AP courses that their schools can't offer.
- D. ____ Other

Comments:

9. Which of the following statements should the LWVOK include in its position on post-secondary education?

- A. ____ There should be more interaction between secondary and post-secondary instructors, particularly in areas such as math, to prevent students from having to take remedial courses in college.
- B. ____ More students should be made aware of their options to take AP courses and college courses while still in high school so they enter college with some completed coursework.
- C. ____ The legislature must fund post-secondary education in order to train students for the workforce Oklahoma needs.
- D. ____ The number of colleges should be reduced.
- E. ____ Vocational-technical schools should be encouraged to enter into agreements with private business in order to prepare students for specific jobs.
- F. ____ Other

Comments