



Lawrence Public Schools • Post Office Box 1498 • Lawrence, MA 01842

Cynthia Paris
Superintendent of Schools

September 6, 2019

John Connolly, Chair
 Lawrence Alliance for Education
 Lawrence Public Schools
 237 Essex Street
 Lawrence, MA 01840

Dear Mr. Connolly,

Per your request, I am writing regarding the future of the current Lawrence Public Schools District Turnaround Plan. After consultation with LAE members, as well as key members of our district leadership team, I am formally recommending the existing Turnaround Plan be renewed.

The priorities for the district that I outlined in my entry findings report to the LAE in February aligned well with the renewed turnaround plan. For example, the chart below shows how the priority areas from my entry report fit within the renewed turnaround plan.

Current Priority Area	Renewed Turnaround Plan
Improving teacher recruitment and retention	Turnaround Plan Strategic Objective 2 includes: "In the coming years, the district will continue to focus on building strong recruitment pipelines and developing new strategies for retaining skilled teachers and staff."
Strengthening systems to support at-risk students	Turnaround Plan Strategic Objective 3 includes providing strong social emotional supports to students, as well as developing targeted supports for special education students and English learners.
Reshaping the high school redesign plan	Turnaround Plan Strategic Objective 4 includes: "...LPS and Lawrence High School Campus leadership is undertaking a comprehensive redesign of LHS. The backbone of the planned redesign is to create a more structured learning environment in the 9th and 10th grades, while gradually releasing responsibility to 11th and 12th graders to become independent, self motivated learners."
Ensuring equitable distribution of resources	Turnaround Plan Executive Summary includes: "The effective use of resources to maximize student achievement is the principle on which all of the district's strategies will be based."

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LPS remains committed to the mission and core strategies presented in the initial 2012 plan and affirmed in its 2015 renewal, and with deepened focus on the areas above we expect to build on the progress of previous years.

I look forward to continuing this important work with you, and providing any support I can throughout a potential renewal process.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "CParis".

Cynthia Paris
Superintendent of Schools