



# Agenda

## *OFFICE OF STUDENT, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP*

- Lawrence Working Families Initiative (LWFI)
- Lawrence Institute for Student Success (LFSS)
- Play to Learn (P2L)
- Professional Learning Communities (PLC)
- Family Engagement Summit

# OFFICE OF STUDENT, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

## Mission

*The Family Resource Center (FRC) ensures our students and families have greater knowledge and access to essential community and school resources to address social, health, economic and academic challenges.*

## Overview

The FRC supports families, students, schools, and the community with a myriad of programs and services that expand and deepen high-quality partnerships in service of student success. These services include continuous collaboration with schools and parents on behalf of the student's academic, and social-emotional learning success. Our primary goal is to provide proactive initiatives that aid school readiness, parent partnerships, and family economic success, providing the tools of community resources, educational stability, and more. The department also deploys liaisons to help foster school events and effective home-school partnerships.

## COMPOSITION & STRUCTURE OF THE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

- District Enrollment PK-8
- District Attendance Support
- Education Stability Services
- Home and School Communication Mediation
- Family Engagement Partnership Council
- Lawrence Family Institute For Student Success -LFISS
- Lawrence Learns Initiative for School Readiness/ Play to Learn
- Lawrence Working Families Initiative
- Tutoring Services
- Tu Voz Council (Your Voice Council)
- Virtual Coffee Hours by Grade Spam (3 Days)
- Community Resource Links



# Lawrence Working Families Initiative (LWFI)

LWFI is a 10 year old cross-sector collaborative led by Lawrence Community Works and the Lawrence Public Schools. LWFI makes employment and family engagement the cornerstones of a comprehensive strategy to increase family economic success and support. LWFI channels the strong support and shared vision of LPS, and more than 40 partners that include local and regional nonprofits service providers, regional/ nonprofit employers. LWFI has managed to place LWFI has placed 684 families in jobs and trainings since its launch in 2015 (Incl. CNA, ESOL, and more)



# Lawrence Working Families Initiative (LWFI)

In addition to career coaching, financial literacy and referral processes, LWFI invests heavily in career training for Lawrence parents such as: our LWFI PARAEDUCATOR Program. A Free 9 month program, designed to help support our LPS parents and adult learners. Partners such as the Lawrence Adult Learning Center, Lawrence Community Works, Northern Essex Community College, The Community Group.

## LWFI Para-Educator Program

- Since our first cohort in 2019, we have graduated a total number of 69 and 19 currently participating in this years cohort.
- As of September of 2023, 66 have been placed to work as Paraprofessionals in and our district.

## LWFI MTEL BootCamp

- Since 2021 we have had a total number of 56 Para's and 26 who are currently enrolled 15 of them who have become certified teachers and are working in our district.



# Lawrence Family Institute Student for Student Success (LFISS)

The Lawrence Family Institute for Student Success is a series of nine facilitated meetings led by program Coordinator and / facilitators trained in the institute philosophy and approach. Each class meeting is supported with lessons designed to be responsive to the issues that parents bring to the table. The institute has different components, Early childhood development, Pre-K level), elementary, middle, and high school level.

- Curriculum is designed with the purpose of guiding parents through an empowerment process utilizing key elements such as raising the parent's level of concern regarding their children's education, providing parents relevant information, and moving parents into positive action.
- Program runs in both English and Spanish
- Every class is offered twice: once in the morning and again in the evening or late afternoon
- Parents learn how to navigate the LPS system and gain the confidence and skills required to be inspirational advocates for their children's education
- Parents learn how to collaborate with teachers, counselors, and principals
- Parents are better equipped to support children's emotional and social development
- Create a supportive home learning environment

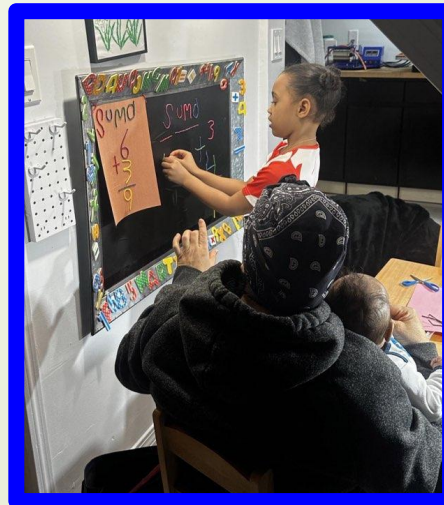
*Arlington Complex launched the institute on October 24th with over 200 families attending the AM & PM Sessions.*



# Play to Learn (P2L)

Educators in schools facilitate the program with families, building relationships, learning from one another, and sharing information about how the magic of play and learning takes place in the classroom.

Play to Learn consists of 5 series, concentrating on areas of EL and Math. We support 3 schools in the Fall and 3 schools in the Spring. We currently have a total of 150 families participating across the district.



# Professional Learning Community (PLC)

A professional learning community(PLC) is a team in which members regularly collaborate toward continued improvement in meeting a collective goal, rooted in a shared vision while implementing family partnership engagement best practices and mutual support in services of student success.

## **Expected Outcomes / Goals**

LPS Parent Liaisons, Family Engagement Liaisons, and staff in similar positions

- Regularly scheduled meetings with FRC staff and guest speakers designed to build a peer network of support and to learn about promising practices that can aid you in your professional role.
- Gain a deeper understanding of, and commitment to, the concept of high-quality family engagement, as defined by frameworks and practices that foster authentic home-school partnerships to support student success;
- Have the ability to apply the value of stakeholder involvement in their own problem-solving process with regard to specific challenges within their school community; and,
- Draft a plan to address a personal or school-based problem of practice using the new tools and knowledge acquired during this year's Professional Learning Community
- Join an expanded professional learning and mutual support community of family engagement practitioners
- For the 2023-2024 school year we have a total of 23 Liaison participants



# Better Together:

## Family School Partnership Summit 2023

### District Team

The summit is about partnership. Districts are strongly encouraged to send a partnership team of up to 12 people that includes both family members and educators (at least 25-50% should be family members).

- Each team member needs to register for the summit.
- Team needs a designated District Team Lead who will help organize the team, support team members, and serve as a point of contact for Summit organizers.
- In addition to family members and educators, team could also include student representatives, community members, and other people vital to local family school partnership efforts.



# Better Together: Family School Partnership Summit 2023

The summit is a unique and powerful opportunity for family members and educators to talk about the lives of students, the success of schools, and ways we can be better together. More than 50 workshops, visit resource tables, and participate in other activities designed to help families and educators create the strong partnership relationship students need to thrive!

During the summit, we were able to:

- Reflect on the experiences students are having in school and the support they need from adults.
- Share ideas about strong family school partnership: what's working and what could improve.



