



December 8, 2023

Dear Students, Families, Staff, and Community Members of Lawrence Public Schools:

The Lawrence Alliance for Education (LAE) is pleased to announce that we are launching the search for the next Superintendent of Lawrence Public Schools (LPS) and invite you to participate in this process.

Your voice is critically important to this search, and we have planned a robust and transparent process inclusive of community input. We hope you will share your perspective on what is unique and special about Lawrence, the areas that need improvement, and your views of the skills and experience desired in the next leader of our district. We have partnered with Alma Advisory Group, a professional search firm who specializes in an equity-centered process, to assist with a national search for candidates. An introduction to Alma and an overview of the search process will occur at the [Superintendent's Coffee Hour](#) on December 12th at 5:30pm and at the [LAE meeting](#) on December 13th at 6:00pm.

Your participation in community meetings is critical for gathering insights and feedback. We invite you to attend an in-person meeting on one of the following dates. Childcare and light refreshments will be provided.

- **Wednesday, January 17th at Parthum Elementary School – 6:00-8:00 pm**
- **Thursday, January 18th at South Lawrence East – 6:00-8:00 pm**

We are also providing other opportunities for students, families, and community members to engage in the search for a new superintendent, including:

- **[Superintendent Search webpage](#)**: Updates on the status of the superintendent search, details about community meetings, and a link to the survey will be posted on this page of the district's website.
- **A community survey**: The survey will invite you to share what you love about LPS, identify areas where you hope to see improvement, list the skills and experience most important for the next superintendent, and identify the challenges to be addressed moving forward. The link to the survey will be available on the Superintendent Search webpage.
- **Focus groups and on-site interviews**: Representatives from Alma Advisory Group--the search team--will be in Lawrence to talk with students, staff members, and community leaders on **January 17 and 18**. Invitations to follow.
- **Virtual community meetings**: For those unable to attend the in-person meetings on January 17 and 18, virtual community meetings will be hosted in late January. Invitations to follow.

As always, we are appreciative and heartened by the leadership of Interim Superintendent Juan Rodriguez as he has supported the continued progress of our schools over the past 12 months. Thank you for your

partnership as we launch this process as a community to select the next superintendent of Lawrence Public Schools.

Sincerely,

Patricia Mariano

Board Chair, Lawrence Alliance for Education