



November 25, 2020

Dear Lawrence Public Schools community,

On this Thanksgiving, I find myself more grateful than I have ever been for this extraordinary group of students, families and staff. The past nine months have been an unimaginable challenge for everyone. Your commitment to our schools, and your collective resolve that high quality teaching and learning continue, have carried LPS forward. Thank you.

I am excited today to share the brilliant work of LPS schools in our Stop the Spread Public Service Announcement contest. It gave students and staff the opportunity to express, in their own way, the importance of everyone doing the simple things -- wearing masks, socially distancing, and washing hands -- that will reduce transmission of COVID-19 and make it possible for students and teachers to join each other in classrooms again.

[Congratulations to the winners](#) -- from the Wetherbee, Tarbox, UP Academy Oliver, and Abbott Lawrence Academy -- and to all the participants. These messages are particularly important as we officially begin the holiday season, so I hope you'll help us share these videos as widely as possible! You can find all the videos at LawrencePublicSchools.org and on the [LPS YouTube page](#).

Finally, a reminder that when we return from this break on Monday we will see some remote learning changes for all students in Pre-K through Grade 8. Live remote learning will be available for all Pre-K and K students for the entirety of their morning (8:00am-10:30am) or afternoon (12:00pm-2:30pm) session; and student schedules in Grades 1-8 will extend by 30 minutes, with new school day hours of 8:00am-1:30pm. Please do not hesitate to contact your school with any questions.

Again, thank you all for your support of our schools, please be safe and well, have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Cynthia Paris
Superintendent of Schools