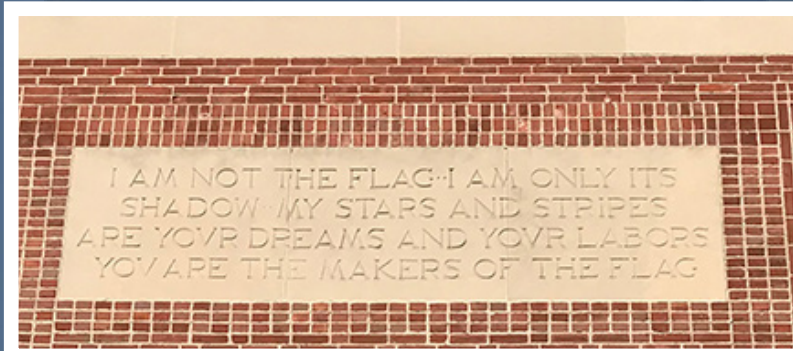


LAWRENCE LEAHY SCHOOL



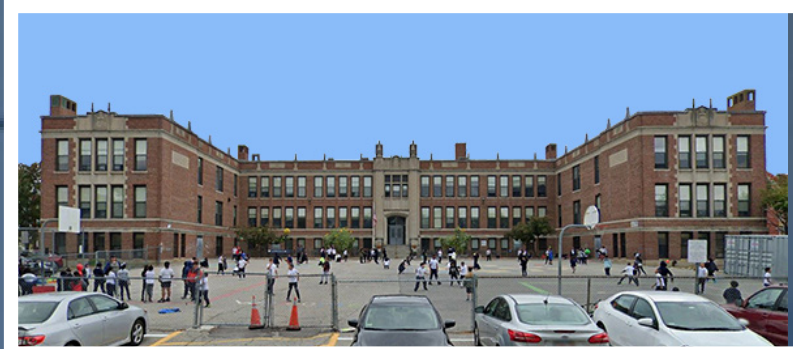
WHY START THIS PROJECT?

As the Lawrence School Department revitalizes its educational programs, the design of the school buildings that support those programs are critical in creating a new vision for the future of Lawrence. Francis Leahy School was built in 1921 and no longer meets the needs of 21st century students. Having served Lawrence students for 100 years, Leahy School is burdened with a deteriorated and outdated infrastructure, which can no longer support educational programs and student needs.



EDUCATION OF THE NEXT GENERATION

The design chosen by the Leahy Elementary School Building Committee is based on the school district's visionary educational program with a design framework that matches other schools - K-8 Education Complex: Leahy Elementary, Lawlor, and UP Leonard.



- » Learning methods are more robust and challenging, such as 'project-based learning'
- » The goal is to create an environment where all modes of learning can flourish as students learn and understand in an enriching and inclusive environment.
- » The new school's design offers appropriately sized classrooms for project-based learning organized by grade level.
- » The integration of "Art, Music and Physical Education classes

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."
Nelson Mandela

The design of the new school focused on creating a joyful place to learn, the "Small Learning Community" for each group brings together social and academic learning. The commitment of families with the education of their children will be beneficial in creating a dynamic and enriching environment.

A BENEFIT FOR EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY

The new Francis Leahy School will serve Lawrence students and the community at large, meeting the needs of 21st century education and serving as a foundational element in the rebirth of this historic and industrial city. The new school will be a civic building that will help define and shape this vibrant urban neighborhood, and will serve as a social and physical anchor for the community. The new school will be a community resource, providing programs and activities that will benefit not only students and their families, but the Lawrence community as well. Adequate and controlled access to these services has been carefully considered in the new plan, including:



- » A high quality, fully accessible "green" design to be used at any time by all users. Indoor and outdoor spaces suitable and safe for a variety of physical activities
- » A building that meets the needs of the educational program in one design
- » Adequate and safe indoor and outdoor spaces for a variety of physical activities
- » A space for exploration and collaboration, part of the small learning community and project-based learning



The K-8 Education Complex approach will reduce the number of transitions for students as they progress through their K-12 educational experiences. The community will be proud of the investments that are being made in future generations of Lawrence students.

"Education is not only what we are taught. It is also the environment in which you are surrounded that plays an intricate part in a student's development and education."
Former Council President and Acting Mayor Kendrys Vasquez, Eagle Tribune, 3/2017

Learn more at:

<https://www.lawrence.k12.ma.us/>

Click on Community followed by Leahy School Building Project

