

# ANNUAL REPORT

2023 - 2024





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# *WE ARE* LPS

Offering a wide range of courses and extracurricular activities, the district continues to expand its educational opportunities by providing Makerspaces at every Pre-K through fifth-grade site.

In addition, high school course offerings are available to seventh and eighth graders, and the Life Ready Center (LRC) continues to grow its number of offerings to include various Advanced Placement (AP) classes, concurrent enrollment courses, trade and skill course offerings, Fine Arts programs, as well as, FFA and Ag programs. The district greatly expanded virtual learning opportunities to accommodate students who prefer to do work outside a traditional classroom. In addition, LPS is a 1:1 district with technology devices.

Preparing for the road ahead, LPS students work through one of four pathways: college, career, military, or trade. While enrolled at LPS, students can attend concurrent enrollment and/or technology courses for free. This includes books and fees and enables students to take college-level courses while still earning their high school degree. It is entirely free for students. Through initiatives and partnerships, LPS sets the standard for academic excellence in Southwest Oklahoma and across the state.

LPS is committed to ensuring all students have access to interest-specific educational opportunities in a safe and welcoming environment. A special thanks goes to the Lawton Fort Sill community for their continued support. Through bond funds, LPS was able to fully replace Eisenhower Middle School, add safe rooms to elementary schools, upgrade various technologies, and purchase new textbooks. None of this would have been possible without the support of the Lawton/Ft. Sill community.

Every day at LPS is a collaboration between educators, parents, citizens, and community partners coming together to motivate and exhilarate young minds. LPS is preparing Life Ready Graduates!







## BOARD OF EDUCATION



**ZELDON RICE**  
PRESIDENT, AREA 5



**CARLA CLODFELTER**  
VICE PRESIDENT, AREA 1



**MARY BRADLEY**  
MEMBER, AREA 4



**PATTY NEUWIRTH**  
MEMBER, AREA 2



**ELIZABETH FABREGA**  
MEMBER, AREA 3



**COL. JAMES PEAY**  
FORT SILL LIAISON

Each board member serves a five-year term, with one board position up for election annually. In addition, Fort Sill is represented on the board through a non-voting member appointed by the post's commanding general. Board member representation of citizens is determined by the physical home address of each citizen.

The public is welcome at all meetings of the board. In addition, all meetings are live-streamed on the district's LPS TV YouTube channel. Meetings follow the guidance of the Oklahoma Open Meetings Law, which allows the board to hold executive sessions to discuss personnel or legal matters. Executive sessions are closed to the public and to school personnel; however, any discussion must be confined to these areas and any action resulting from the discussion must be taken when the board reconvenes in open session in a public vote.

The board president and superintendent prepare each meeting's agenda, which follows an established format. Items may be placed on the agenda to provide information or for possible board action. If the item requires formal action, legally, the board can only act on it if it has been included on that meeting's agenda.

Meeting dates for each calendar year are determined during the preceding December and are filed with the county clerk's office at the Comanche County Courthouse in Lawton. Agendas for each meeting are posted on the district's website 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Regularly scheduled meetings of the Lawton Board of Education are typically held on the first Monday and third Thursday of each month, at 5:15 p.m. in the Shoemaker Center Auditorium. Shoemaker is located at 753 Fort Sill Boulevard, Lawton, Oklahoma 73502. Previously recorded meetings can also be found on the LPS TV YouTube page.



# THE DISTRICT



## EISENHOWER HIGH

PRINCIPAL: JAY LEHR

5202 NW GORE  
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@IKEEAGLES



## EISENHOWER MIDDLE

PRINCIPAL: KALLAN GLASGOW

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## LAWTON HIGH

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## LIFE READY CENTER

DIRECTOR: CHARLOTTE OATES

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## LAWTON VIRTUAL

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Learning Tree Academy

## LEARNING TREE

PRINCIPAL: LANA WELCH

1908 NW 38TH  
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## NEW HORIZONS

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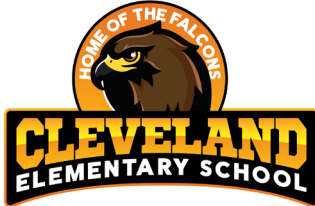
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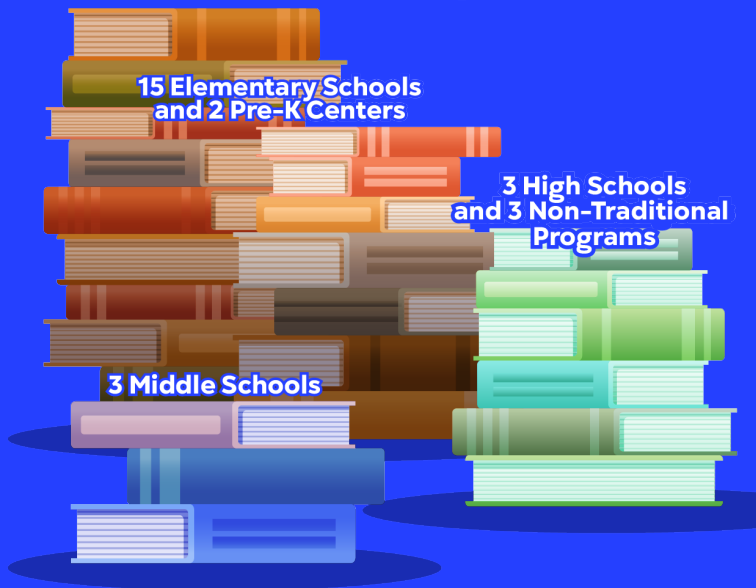
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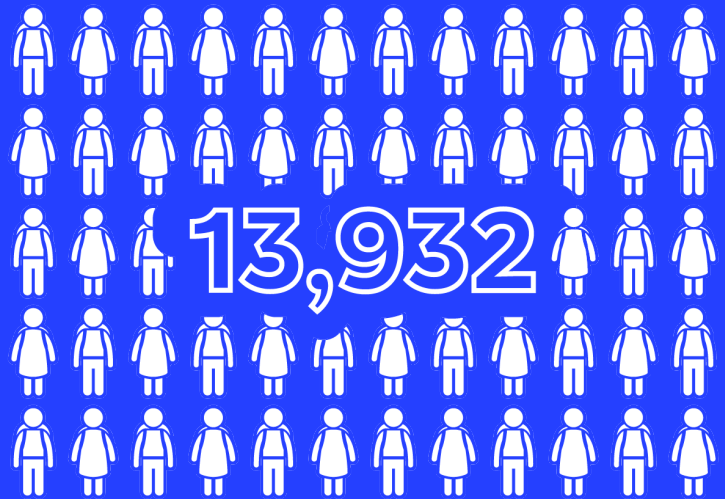
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 WWW.LAWTONPS.ORG/HBE  
 @HUGHBISH



## District Campuses:



## Student Enrollment:



## District Staff:

2,193 District Employees



1,094 Certified



1,099 Support

## Four Strategic Goals:

### Student Achievement

OBJECTIVE 1: Increase life readiness  
OBJECTIVE 2: Improve mastery of core content

### Culture & Climate

OBJECTIVE 1: Improve student behavior  
OBJECTIVE 2: Increase parental involvement  
OBJECTIVE 3: Improve stakeholder satisfaction

### Personnel Enhancement

OBJECTIVE 1: Enhance staff through training and development  
OBJECTIVE 2: Improve student-centered use of technology  
OBJECTIVE 3: Recruit and retain staff

### Resources

OBJECTIVE 1: Improve and maintain facilities and technology  
OBJECTIVE 2: Improve student programs  
OBJECTIVE 3: Increase the number of grant requests

## District Revenue:

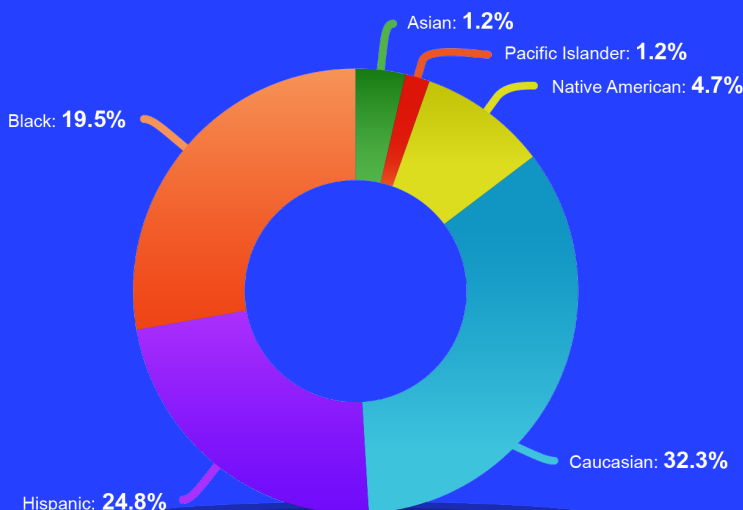


Local/County: 15.1%

State: 53.8%

Federal: 31.1%

## Ethnicity Breakdown:



28.2%

Parents are active duty military or work on Federal property



## DISTRICT REVENUE

Local/County: 15.1%  
 State: 53.8%  
 Federal: 31.1%

## DISTRICT STAFF NUMBERS

31.9% with advanced degrees, 11.1 average years teaching experience

Teachers: 1,094    Administrators: 50  
 Counselors: 51    Support Staff: 1,099

## AVERAGE ENROLLMENT TRENDS

2023/24: 13,932\*    2020/21: 12,669  
 2022/23: 14,355    2019/20: 13,475  
 2021/22: 13,626    2018/19: 13,714

## STUDENT POPULATION

Asian: 172  
 Pacific Islander: 170  
 Hispanic: 3,452  
 Caucasian: 4,506  
 Native American: 660  
 Black/African American: 2,722

## STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Identified as Gifted and Talented: 11%  
 Identified in Special Education: 20.1%  
 Identified as English Language Learners (ELL): 4.7%

## SCHOOL SITES AND GRADE LEVELS

### HIGH SCHOOLS: 3 SCHOOLS (GRADES 9-12)

Lawton High  
 Eisenhower High  
 MacArthur High

### NONTRADITIONAL PROGRAMS: 3 SCHOOLS (GRADES 9-12)

Gateway Success Center  
 Life Ready Center  
 Lawton Virtual Academy: (Grades Pre-K-12)

### MIDDLE SCHOOLS: 3 SCHOOLS (GRADES 6-8)

Central Middle  
 Eisenhower Middle  
 MacArthur Middle

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS: 17 SCHOOLS (GRADES PK-5)

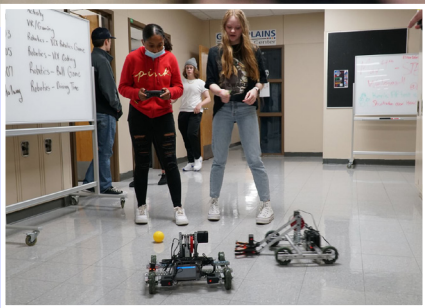
Almor West Elementary	Lincoln Elementary
Carriage Hills Elementary	New Horizons Learning Center (PK Center)
Cleveland Elementary	Pat Henry Elementary
Crosby Park Elementary	Pioneer Park Elementary
Edison Elementary	Ridgecrest Elementary
Eisenhower Elementary	Sullivan Village Elementary
Freedom Elementary	Whittier Elementary
Hugh Bish Elementary	Woodland Hills Elementary
Learning Tree Academy (PK Center)	



## HIGHLIGHTS



## LIFE READY CENTER



The Life Ready Center (LRC) is Lawton's first-ever collaborative center for LPS high school students! In its second year of inception, the LRC is an extension of the district's three high schools and non-traditional programs.

The facility is centrally located in town for convenience to each high school. It houses AP courses, Lawton FFA and Ag classes as well as introductory and advanced elective opportunities for all LPS high school students. Additionally, the district has teamed up with our local educational partners Cameron University and Great Plains Technology Center to provide on-site programs, concurrent courses, and resources for students across the district.

Transportation is no issue for students at the traditional sites as LPS shuttles students every hour to and from their home schools to the center. The LRC provides unique opportunities for students to get

involved with their learning experiences to include the Lawton Public Schools Legacy Art Gallery, a media production studio, and an academic resource center to name a few.

Educators are committed to providing students with an innovative learning environment that will provide skills the students will need to set the course for life beyond high school.

If a student doesn't see a particular course available in the LRC catalog, the district is open to suggestions for new course offerings. The courses and programs available have doubled since they first opened the doors in 2021.

For a full list of courses available at the LRC, view the LPS high school course catalog located on the district website. Students interested in taking a class at the LRC should visit with their counselor.





In the Fall of 2021, LPS implemented a new educational program to provide an early introduction to multiple career opportunities where students can discern their passion. This program works directly to provide a hands-on learning experience in several areas of trade and education.

LTAP stands for Lawton Technology Applications Program, and it is a program which focuses on learning real-world skills in areas such as carpentry, welding, automotive repair, and agriculture. At Lawton Public Schools, educators believe that students must be taught both in and out of the traditional classroom setting. The LTAP allows for this to take place for students.

This is just one of several initiatives LPS has to prepare students for the next chapter in their scholastic and personal life. The program aims to truly engage students who choose to participate, increase their life readiness through building these skills, and foster interest in career readiness through early introductory programs.

LPS strives to ensure that each student shares in the wealth of educational and immersive opportunities available. The LTAP works in tandem with the districts Makerspaces, Life Ready Center, and the Great Plains Technology Center to ensure that there is a pathway to success for students taking a pathway to the trades.

Lawton Public School's mission is to prepare Life Ready Graduates and in a world where a college degree is not the only path to success in life, it is important that programs such as the LTAP exist.



# DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

## PURPLE STAR

Lawton Public Schools (LPS) became the first public school district in Oklahoma to be designated as a Purple Star District.

Becoming a designated district requires 70% of schools in a district to earn their own campus-level Purple Star designation by meeting a set of criteria which exhibits high consideration of and commitment to students and families connected to our nation's military. Purple Star designations last for three years before schools must reapply.

To show that schools are dedicated to their military families and meet the necessary criteria for a designation, each school must have a staff member fill the role of military liaison – a position which requires the identification of military-connected students for the purpose of connecting those students with services and aiding in the coordination of supportive campus-wide programs.

Additionally, each campus must offer professional development for staff members regarding military-connected students, and update their web pages with resources regarding campus integration, academic planning and available curriculum, and counseling and support services.

Students also take charge by leading a transition program that serves to assist military-connected students in transitioning into the campus.

Finally, each campus chooses one final activity to complete their documentation to receive a Purple Star. Schools may choose between creating a resolution which shows support for military-connected students and their families, hosting events in recognition of the Month of the Military Child or Military Family Month, or partnering with a local military installation to bring active-duty military members to perform an activity with the school.

The Purple Star Schools Program assists military service members and their children with the process of integrating into a new educational environment and promotes support of the social and emotional growth and well-being of military students.

For more information on LPS' Military Child and Purple Star Programs, visit the Military Child page on the LPS website.







## MAKERSPACE

Every elementary student participates in the Makerspace program. This quality program is designed to teach students about STEM-related subjects in a fun and engaging way. It encompasses hands-on, real-world, problem-solving lessons that are intertwined with the Oklahoma State Science, Language Arts, and Math standards with a concentration on engineering, computational thinking, and entrepreneurship.

Vanessa Perez, Assistant Director of Educational Technology, oversees the Makerspaces and shares its impact on students.

"Kids learn when they make connections and Makerspace helps them make those connections," Perez said. "I think the kids are having fun and they're learning and that's what really matters."

Cassie Reeh, Gifted and Talented teacher and Makerspace instructor went through the courses the students are doing now. She believes the skills the students are learning are enhancing their educational experience in a different way.

"A lot of times we rely on writing or drawing, but this gives them another avenue to interpret their feelings and what they have learned," Reeh said. "The skills they are learning are moving into technology that is a part of a new norm and the things that they have learned throughout the camp has given them more tools to use to be able to express themselves."

Makerspace programs are housed on-site at every LPS elementary site and daily schedules are managed by principals. The program also includes after-school coaching events such as robotics teams.





# DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS



## CAREER & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION



At Lawton Public Schools, we believe in empowering students to both explore their passions and achieve success beyond the traditional college pathway. Career and Technology Education (CTE) offers a different approach that prepares students with workforce-driven skills, opening up a world of viable opportunities right here in Lawton, Oklahoma.

We challenge the notion that college is the only path to success and recognize that not every student's journey involves pursuing the traditional four-year degree. Our mission is to nurture life-ready citizens who contribute to their community in diverse ways, and CTE provides the perfect platform to achieve this goal.

CTE allows students to explore their interests and passions early on, providing a clear path forward. We want to develop and focus a student's drive and motivation and ground their learning in what is truly important to them.

By offering a range of programs and courses from Cameron University, the Great Plains Technology Center (GPTC), and other AP/Dual Credit courses, we ensure that every student has access to the opportunities they need to excel.

Even if students are college-bound, a background in CTE provides them with a solid foundation for success. Our CTE programs not only teach essential technical skills, but also focus on cultivating leadership abilities, time management, organization, financial planning, and other soft-skills that are crucial to be considered truly life-ready.

Teachers with a CTE certification make a significant impact on students' learning experiences. By ensuring our educators have direct backgrounds in their respective fields, we instill confidence in students that their teachers truly understand the industry. These





certifications also equip our teachers with the latest industry knowledge and practices, ensuring our students receive the best education possible.

CTE classes are conveniently located at our high school campuses and the Life Ready Center. We have also integrated STEM programs into our middle schools, either as standalone programs or in partnership with our Technical Applications Program (TAP). For a comprehensive list of CTE courses, parents/students can refer to the programs section of our course catalog.

We have created 13 career pathways throughout the CTE program to guide students towards their desired jobs and opportunities once they leave LPS. These pathways provide clarity, helping students make informed decisions about their academic and professional futures.

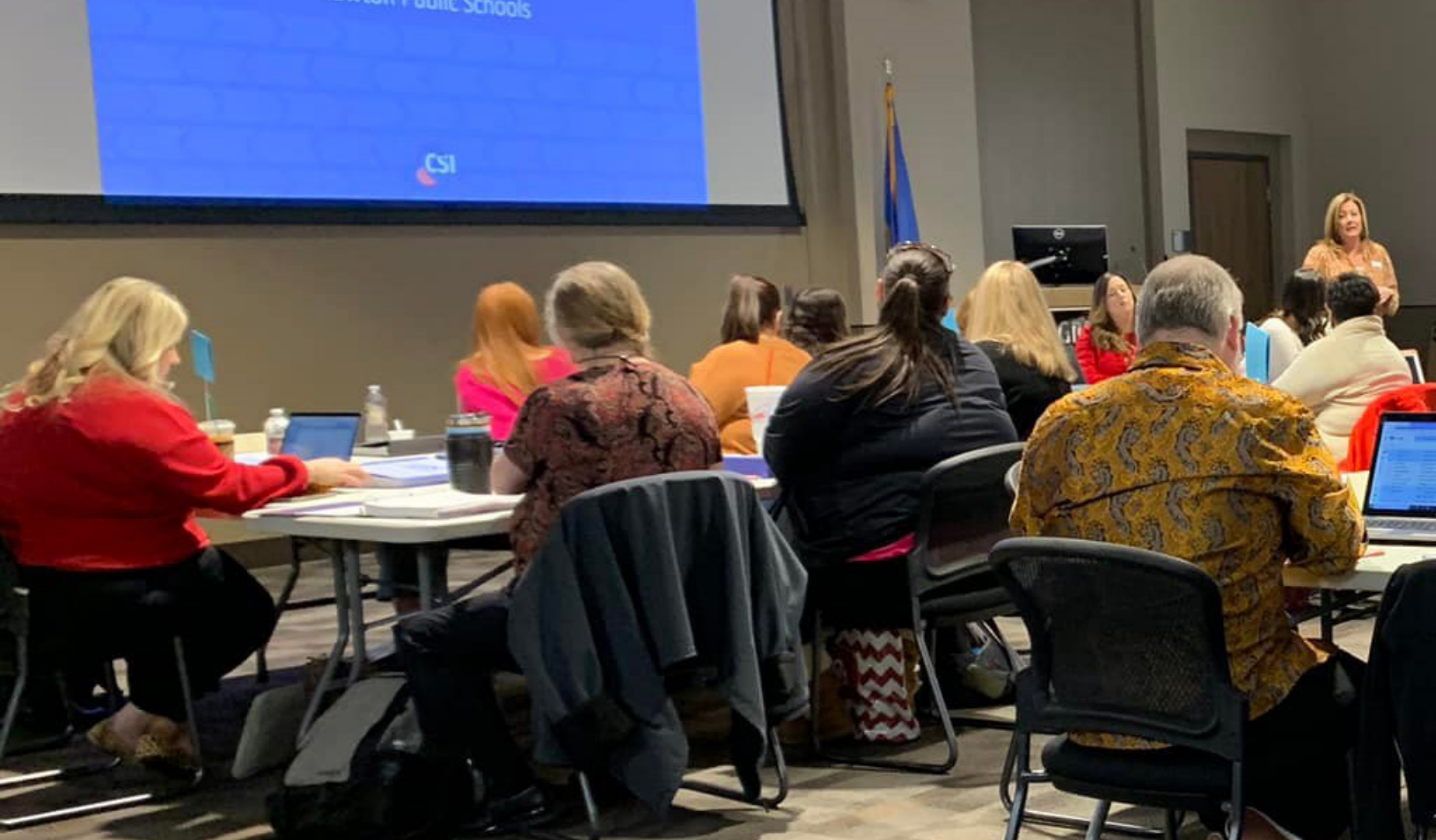
Within our CTE curriculum, students can earn industry

certifications that are recognized and valued by employers. These certifications serve as a testament to a student's skills and follow them throughout their academic and professional careers.

Internship opportunities are also on the horizon. This year, we are introducing business and agriculture internships, with plans to expand further. If you are an industry professional interested in developing an internship, we are open to collaboration to build a stronger local community and provide valuable experiences for our students.

Through these programs, we want to drive students to success, embrace academic diversity, and empower each student to achieve their full potential. CTE is the bridge between education and the real world, equipping students with the skills they need to thrive in their chosen careers.





*LAWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS*

# STRATEGIC PLAN

Lawton Public Schools (LPS) launched a new strategic planning initiative in the fall of 2021. The school district collaborated with the Oklahoma State School Boards Association (OSSBA) and the K20 Center of Education Community Renewal at the University of Oklahoma to facilitate the CSI process.

The Continuous Strategic Improvement (CSI) began with a publicly-available community survey opportunity and allowed staff, students, parents, community members and stakeholders to share their hopes and dreams for the district and student achievement over the next five years. Results from the community assessment survey was just the start of the process.

The CSI plan was broken up into four phases: Engage, Plan, Act and Achieve. Prior to the Planning Phase, the CSI planning committee composed of students, staff, parents and community members was created. Each LPS site selected a member to represent their school and address needs. The CSI committees spent five months working on the plan identifying goal areas and objectives. In May 2022, the Board of Education took action to approve the Strategic Plan developed by the CSI committee.

This strategic plan is the framework through which the district supports the development of each child to their fullest potential. The committee and district will put into action the initiatives and action steps identified in the framework to provide a positive, thriving and healthy school culture.

LPS aims to continue to be a premier school district in the state of Oklahoma and remains dedicated to those served in our community.





## CORE BELIEFS

- Creativity and innovation
- Relevant content
- Basic skills
- Counseling services
- Enrichment
- Attention to student strengths and weaknesses
- Opportunities to locate, evaluate, and use information
- College and career readiness
- Collaboration
- Community support
- Remediation

## CORE VALUES

- Quality teachers
- A respectful and nurturing environment
- Buildings and grounds
- Small class sizes
- Up-to-date technology
- Quality programs
- Parental involvement and support
- Strong, collaborative leadership
- Safe/efficient environment
- Democratic decision making
- Innovative teaching

## CORE EXPECTATIONS

- Effective communication skills
- Critical thinking skills
- A mastery of core content
- Organization, goal setting, and time management skills
- Creativity
- Conflict resolution skills
- Life skills
- Financial skills
- Appropriate and skilled use of technology



# GOALS & OBJECTIVES

## GOAL 1: STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Objective 1: Increase college and career readiness  
Objective 2: Improve mastery of core content

## GOAL 2: CULTURE & CLIMATE

Objective 1: Improve student behavior  
Objective 2: Increase parental involvement  
Objective 3: Improve stakeholder satisfaction

## GOAL 3: PERSONNEL ENHANCEMENT

Objective 1: Enhance staff through training and development  
Objective 2: Improve student-centered use of technology  
Objective 3: Recruit and retain staff

## GOAL 4: RESOURCES

Objective 1: Improve and maintain facilities and technology  
Objective 2: Improve student programs  
Objective 3: Increase the number of grant requests





## PHASE 1: ENGAGE

It is critical to the fidelity and sustainability of public education that educators engage stakeholders in reflective dialogue about the purpose and process of education in a local context. To provide input data and ideas for later strategic planning processes.

## PHASE 2: PLAN

To help districts find a shared sense of purpose and direction, allowing local citizenry to shape the future of their community and the role of their schools within those communities.

## PHASE 3: ACTION

Our challenge is not whether or not changes in public education are needed in the new millennia, but rather which changes will result in transforming education and sustaining our democratic way of life. Transformation of our public schools will require school and community leaders to repurpose and reimagine schooling, not just reform it.

## PHASE 4: ACHIEVE

Schools need collaborative and innovative workplaces in which teachers and leaders have the capacity to focus on student learning.





# *DISTRICT* PROFILE

## ELEMENTARY HIGHLIGHTS

Excitement for learning and passion to explore are key to creating life-long learners. LPS provides innovative educational opportunities and experiences for students through connectivity of learned concepts and applications. Recognizing that students need more than pencil and paper to learn, the district has implemented Makerspace programs in every elementary site. This program provides an opportunity for growth and exploration in the educational space. 1:1 technology makes it possible for students to continue their education beyond the traditional classroom.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

Special education services range from early childhood special education services, where young children receive specific services (e.g. speech or language therapy) or attend a Developmental Delay class, to an extended high school Transition Program for students ages 18-21, who due to their disabilities need some additional transition services. LPS also works with the Department of Rehabilitation services to ensure our students are Life Ready Graduates. Such programs include the Work Adjustment Training (WAT) and TechNow.

### WORK ADJUSTMENT TRAINING

Work Adjustment Training helps develop methods for increasing employment skills and finding ways to overcome vocational barriers in a real work setting.

If individuals have little or no work history, this program may be what they need. We'll help participants understand the meaning, value and demands of work. Not only does Work Adjustment Training teach valuable real life skills, the program also achieves the following:

- Teaches individuals about work tolerance and stamina
- Identifies need for further training and support to achieve and maintain competitive employment
- Builds self-confidence
- Offers career exploration opportunities

### TECH NOW

Tech Now is an entrepreneurship course that develops career skills, offering youth the opportunity to use design software and build computers and related technology skills aimed at creating physical products that can be sold. The Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services partners with Tech Now to help high school age youth with disabilities prepare to enter the workforce and to lead independent lives.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

The LPS middle school administration and staff provide a supportive climate and culture for students transitioning from elementary to middle school. Holding to the high expectations and demands of learning, students begin to make independent decisions regarding their educational experiences. Students are able to select specialized courses based on student interest keeping with the district's vision of creating opportunities. Offerings include media broadcasting, speech & debate, medical detectives, robotics, athletics and high school level courses to name a few.





## HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

From PreK to senior year, LPS continues to create opportunities for students to explore their post-secondary pathway – college, career, military or technical/trade. High school can be exciting as well as challenging for many students. This is a time for students to make the necessary preparations for life after high school. Whether choosing to go directly to work after high school, join the military, or attend Career Tech or college, there are options available and LPS has a team of educators and staff members dedicated to assisting students. We encourage our students to take advantage of these years and the services available to them.

## SECONDARY ATHLETICS

- Archery
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Bowling
- Cross Country
- Cheerleading
- Dance
- Football
- Golf
- Soccer
- Softball
- Swim
- Tennis
- Track
- Volleyball
- Wrestling

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES & ORGANIZATIONS

- Academic Team
- Art Club
- Band
- Book Club
- Crimestoppers
- Drama
- Decathlon
- FCA
- FFA
- German Club
- JROTC
- Key Club
- Military Child Club
- National Honor Society
- Newspaper
- Media Production
- Multicultural Awareness Club
- Open Doors
- Orchestra
- Partners Club
- Prideline
- Robotics
- Student Council
- Spanish Club
- Vocal Music
- Yearbook

## DISTRICT PROGRAMS

- Concurrent Classes - Free for students/Paid for by district
- Vocational Opportunities at Great Plains Tech Center - Free for students
- E-Sports/ Gaming Classes
- Photography Classes (Beginning and Advanced)
- Agriculture Classes
- Advanced/ Creative Art Classes
- Legacy Art Gallery
- Art Sale for Student Art
- Social Emotional Learning designated time daily
- Student Mentor Program - Education Alive
- Student Leadership Class (All high school leadership students meet at LRC monthly to participate in Chick-fil-A Leadership Training Program)
- Technical Application Program (Hands-on career based classes)
- Gifted and Talented

## SCHOOL SAFETY

- The Lawton Public Schools Police Department provides full police services to all LPS students and employees twelve months a year. In addition to police services, the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training (CLEET) accredited police department provides physical security for LPS property and event security for after hours functions.
- LPSPD has an elementary marshal assigned to every school.
- Oklahoma School Security Institute Tipline
- Teen Council
- Security systems at all LPS sites



# PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

## PROBLEM SOLVER

Students learn how to problem solve, using this critical skill for life readiness. Students learn to look at challenges from a fresh perspective. Therefore, they take more calculated risks. If students practice problem solving consistently, they can develop greater situational and social awareness. Problem-solving is essential to a child's development because confident and productive children usually grow up as successful and confident adults.

## COLLABORATOR

Each student brings a unique skill set to the classroom. Being a strong collaborator helps students integrate into a team quickly and effectively. Collaborative skills, such as effective communication, conflict management, and active listening are skills that will be useful for the rest of a student's life. Appreciating another's perspective helps to build empathy. Students will relate to their decision-making process and can better recognize their contributions as valuable.

## INNOVATOR

Innovation in education encourages students to explore, research and use all the tools to uncover something new. Teachers, lessons, and curriculum have to be flexible. The thinking process that goes into being innovative will help students develop their creativity and problem solving skills. We have to give them tools that will make them productive in their future careers. Students are innovators when given the opportunity to be creative with their learning.

## COMMUNICATOR

At all levels of education, students must be able to communicate effectively. Communication is a life skill that will allow students to express themselves and ensure thoughts and information are received effectively. Effective communicators will be active listeners who can write, speak and engage others through visual and nonverbal communication.

## CREATOR

Creators are not only innovators, but they are also problem solvers when it comes to completing tasks. Being a part of the solution versus the problem is something creators thrive on. A creator plays a critically important role in learning and personal development, as well as building self-esteem. Look for your creators to find multiple pathways to success and let them take the lead.

## LIFE READY

Preparing Life Ready Graduates includes coursework aligned with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities needed for success after graduation. Lawton Public Schools fosters a passion for learning, and offers opportunities for our students to engage with those in and outside of the classroom. Ensuring students have opportunities and not roadblocks during their educational journey is just one way to a successful Life Ready Graduate!







*LIFE READY*

# GRADUATES

Lawton Public Schools has established the highest standards for academic excellence and is committed to investing in both students and teachers. Our goal is to prepare graduates who are “life ready,” and to that end, LPS provides a wide range of extracurricular activities, chances for community partnerships, and a variety of subjects for every grade level.

Our dedication to academic excellence is unwavering, and we take great pride in making sure that we are able to meet the needs of our students in terms of their education. To inspire and motivate young minds, our educators, parents, and partners come together every day.

Please don’t hesitate to let us know about any programs, courses, or opportunities that you’ve come across in another district and would like to see offered here. We would be delighted to include you and your family in the LPS neighborhood. We can say with pride, “We are LPS!” because of people like you.





LAWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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