In order to achieve educational equity and excellence for students of all races and backgrounds, the Lawrence Board of Education and Superintendent will establish a learning climate of high expectations, set annual equity and achievement goals, and charge district- and school-level teams with responsibilities for developing strategies to eliminate achievement disparities while improving achievement for all students.

MISSION
Lawrence USD 497 is a learning community committed to ensuring educational equity and excellence so that students of all races and backgrounds achieve at high levels and graduate prepared for success in college, careers and life in a diverse and rapidly changing world.

VISION
The school board, administration, teachers and staff build positive relationships, seek multiple perspectives, set high expectations and hold each other accountable for ensuring that through equitable access to rigorous, culturally relevant and seamlessly aligned curriculum and effective, research-based instruction, all students achieve at high levels, graduate on time and are well prepared for their future.

EXCELLENCE - Raise the achievement of all students in the Lawrence Public Schools

EQUITY - Raise achievement for all students, while closing achievement gaps

ENGAGEMENT - Develop a learning community of school, family and community partnerships committed to ensuring educational equity and excellence so that all students achieve at high levels and graduate prepared for success in college, careers and life

2016-17 GOALS
1. Develop and align district expectations for curriculum, instruction, and assessment to raise the achievement of all students.
   - Focus Areas: Learning Forward, Future Ready; Personalized Learning in Blended Environments, Equitable Access to Technology (1:1), Kansas College & Career Ready Standards, High School Course Options & Graduation Requirements, Middle School Schedule & Enhancing Integrated Core, College & Career Center & Virtual School Options.

2. Enhance programming and supports to meet the varied academic, social, emotional, and behavioral needs of each student.
   - Focus Areas: Ci3T Student-Centered Support System, LGBTQ+ Supports, Special Education/Gifted Services; Suicide Prevention Training, Mental Health Services, Extended Learning Options, Wellness, Outdoor Student Learning Opportunities, School Start Times, Schedules, & Calendar; Student Health & Wellness.

3. Create a personalized professional learning plan to support students and staff.
   - Focus Areas: Equity, Beyond Diversity Training, Culturally Relevant Instruction, Discrimination & Harassment Policy, Engagement of Communities of Color, Professional Learning, Personalized Learning in Blended Environments, Technology Integration, Digital Learning, Leadership Academy.

4. Expand communication and community connections through increased engagement.

5. Allocate capital and human resources to deliver quality educational programs and services in adaptable, high-performance facilities.