



Futures Committee Homework - Meeting 2

September 19, 2022

Homework Items:

1) Futures of Learning Video

LINK: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xoSJ3_dZcm8

Guiding Questions:

- This video was published in 2012, how can this video be applied today?
- In what ways has Lawrence Public Schools prepared for the “Future of Learning?”
- Are there other challenges in the education system that this video does not address?

2) BOE Meeting September 12, 2022 Video

LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MydJi57u4I4>

Beginning at 1 hour 10 minutes, watch the video to understand the initial Board of Education conversation leading into this process.

3) District Finance Video

LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JVhq860e2qs>

For a comprehensive explanation of what makes up USD 497’s funding, please watch the August 9, 2021 Board of Education meeting. Presentation by Kathy Johnson beginning around the 43-minute mark of the meeting.

The goal of Committee Meeting #2 is to focus on the financial situation of USD 497 and draft Finance Belief Statements.

4) Responses from Committee Meeting 1

Review the Committee responses to the questions (pages 2-7):

- What are you trying to preserve and protect?
- What do we need to do to maintain the District's critical values and continue to be an innovative district?
- As you think of Lawrence Public Schools in 10-years, where are your hopes for the district?

What are you trying to preserve and protect?	Classification
Here to protect what used to be a best in class educational system that is not longer so	Board
The future of our district's public schools and the respect and advocacy for educator	Combo
Making logical decisions not based on emotions or public opinion	Combo
Protect against doing for the sake of doing	Combo
The District and the education of all children. Their education provides the new leaders and employees for our community in the future.	Combo
Here to amplify voices and perspectives left out of original school closure discussion. To protect experienced of all students and staff	Combo
Protect and improve student learning conditions and teacher working conditions. Preserve nothing that interferes with this	Combo
Looking out for the marginalized populations in this community	Community
All races represented	Community
Equal access to excellent education, teacher autonomy	Curriculum
Quality education offered at USD497, all students having equal educational opportunities	Curriculum
Preserve historic school bldgs.	Facility
Protect balance of schools across Lawrence	Facility
Protect and advocate for parents of children who never apply for a committee like this. The parents that have felt "othered" for years	Parents
Protect teacher workload	Staff
Keeping good teachers/staff in the district	Staff
Preserve ability of our teacher/ paras to be well cared for (salary and working conditions)	Staff
We need staff that are committed and can live with what they earn	Staff
Protect staff growth potential/\$	Staff
Retain and attract highly qualified and effective teachers/classified staff	Staff
Every student right to quality education and high quality teachers. The continual focus on equity	Staff
Here to protect having top tier professionals working for an employer of choice	Staff
Recruit/retain staff, resources for all staff	Staff
Retaining quality educators	Staff
Accommodations for all students- Special Education	Students
Children in high risk environments	Students
Marginalized students	Students
Access to school, meaningful participation	Students
Protect integrity of learning over emotional decisions	Students
Mental health of our kids	Students
The education of our kids, and the well being of our community	Students
Protect students from adult decisions that aren't through an equity or students lens	Students
Protect students that are from lower socioeconomic levels	Students

USD 497 Futures Committee Responses

Student's opportunity to learn with an awesome staff!!	<i>Students</i>
All students need access to what they need	<i>Students</i>
Student voices	<i>Students</i>
Better equity for students in acad. & tech. (thinking of middle schools here)	<i>Students</i>
That not all change is bad . We have to give students the support they need.	<i>Students</i>
Recognize that all students are impacted and this isn't East vs West	<i>Students</i>
Opportunities for learning for students	<i>Students</i>
Keep mental health, SEL, and student support at the front	<i>Students</i>

What do we need to do to maintain the District's critical values and continue to be an innovative district?	Classification
Strong leadership	<i>Administration</i>
Must have accountability from school administration	<i>Administration</i>
Data and understanding for decrease w enrollment and teacher/staff loss	<i>Administration</i>
Cash, an educated state legislative	<i>Board</i>
What are the District's critical values? And what is req. for accreditation	<i>Board</i>
Strong leadership Better resources/programs	<i>Combo</i>
Open communication	<i>Combo</i>
Be ready to make changes from the ground up and for not everyone to be happy about it	<i>Combo</i>
Open and clear communication	<i>Combo</i>
Courage to try something completely new and confidence/willingness to upset community members to do so	<i>Combo</i>
Stop jumping on the latest education bandwagon	<i>Combo</i>
Think outside the box on where students go to school and how they get there. Also partner with the community more than we do now	<i>Combo</i>
Quality educators, quality and supported curriculum, quality and supported extra curricular activities	<i>Combo</i>
Courageous conversations, retain valued employees, need to think outside the box to be innovative	<i>Combo</i>
Sustainability - ppl care about environment. Walkable schools matter	<i>Community</i>
We can say we value equity in Lawrence- Let's align policies so we are doing better	<i>Community</i>
Show you/we value the people who drive those critical values	<i>Community</i>
More opportunity for experiential learning. Develop corporate sponsored programs	<i>Curriculum</i>
Continue doing what already works	<i>Curriculum</i>
What works for different types of families? Allow for options!	<i>Curriculum</i>
Resources	<i>Curriculum</i>
All idea on the table -provide support for innovation	<i>Curriculum</i>
Strong curriculum and strong curriculum supports for kids struggling	<i>Curriculum</i>
Access to necessary resources	<i>Curriculum</i>
Must have sufficient resources for teachers to do their jobs	<i>Curriculum</i>
Must have resources for students that reflect modern realities	<i>Curriculum</i>
Innovations	<i>Curriculum</i>
We must keep quality teachers and administrators. We must be willing to reflect on current realities	<i>Staff</i>
Community buy in and good strong teachers with support	<i>Staff</i>
Highly qualified staff that stays	<i>Staff</i>
Retain knowledgeable staff	<i>Staff</i>
Paying teachers more than our neighbors	<i>Staff</i>
Strong/caring staff	<i>Staff</i>

USD 497 Futures Committee Responses

Pay competitive salaries for all staff	<i>Staff</i>
Awesome teachers, diverse teachers and students, diverse class options	<i>Staff</i>
More direct support staff	<i>Staff</i>
Are we true innovative? We need to value our staff and remember we can achieve none of this without staff who are taken care of	<i>Staff</i>
Staff, staff, staff! We need open minds and creative, innovative staff	<i>Staff</i>
Staff retention	<i>Staff</i>
Supports for all students that they can access	<i>Students</i>
Mental/ emotional supports	<i>Students</i>
That every student is seen and heard, that every student gets what they need and an environment to do it in	<i>Students</i>

As you think of Lawrence Public Schools in 10-years, what are your hopes for the district?	Classification
They remember a district that provided them w/a more worldly view	<i>Combo</i>
That our schools give students the best education to overcome generational systematic and more obstacles	<i>Combo</i>
Extracurricular support	<i>Combo</i>
Good human able to function in a crazy world	<i>Combo</i>
Access, equity, success and a feeling of being loved	<i>Combo</i>
Our most marginalized kids experience opportunities and community in schools	<i>Combo</i>
Ready to matriculate to next level, well-rounded educations, social/emotional well being	<i>Combo</i>
Education that meets students where they are	<i>Combo</i>
Hopes - quality education that drives/produces future leaders- in all areas of community/ globe!	<i>Combo</i>
Opportunity to access various paths forward (not just college) military, technical, trade, etc.	<i>Combo</i>
Students have options for how they want to learn and have options for participation in a warm, inviting school that's filled with diversity	<i>Combo</i>
Connections with trusted adults, healthy mental and emotional supports, acceptance and amplification of who they are	<i>Combo</i>
A sense of community and belonging	<i>Community</i>
Equity!	<i>Community</i>
Civic engagement	<i>Community</i>
They will have support across the community and it wont be all on the school	<i>Community</i>
To walk away equity minded and willing to speak out against prejudices	<i>Community</i>
They be well educated and have multiple choices through out their education within our district	<i>Curriculum</i>
Liberal arts style education that doesn't privilege STEM	<i>Curriculum</i>
Innovative education	<i>Curriculum</i>
Critical thinking not just fed a curriculum	<i>Curriculum</i>
Small class sizes	<i>Facility</i>
Engaging classrooms and learning environments	<i>Facility</i>
They look back and remember a teacher who made a difference	<i>Staff</i>
For them to feel like they were successful and loved no matter what that success looks like	<i>Students</i>
They would not have to go through a multi-grade classroom in elementary	<i>Students</i>
They are successful citizens in a community and contribute to it!	<i>Students</i>
The skills that are needed to be as independent as possible when they are an adult	<i>Students</i>
I hope for all kids to be successful to the best of their abilities and feel supported doing so	<i>Students</i>
I want them to be prepared with knowledge and skills need for that current world	<i>Students</i>
To feel like their voice mattered	<i>Students</i>
To come away feeling accomplished	<i>Students</i>
Healthy, safe, happy, and cared for	<i>Students</i>

USD 497 Futures Committee Responses

Able to achieve their goals	<i>Students</i>
Resilience	<i>Students</i>
Set them up for success	<i>Students</i>
Lifelong quality learning	<i>Students</i>
Happy fulfilled students	<i>Students</i>
I hope that students will leave empowered with skills and knowledge to be successful and that success is not just defined by college	<i>Students</i>
Kind well adjusted humans	<i>Students</i>
That more of them want to be at Lawrence Public Schools	<i>Students</i>