



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

What: Metropolitan School District of Lawrence Township joins presenters for National Education Conference
When: Sunday, March 20 at 2 p.m. CDT
Where: Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan Ave (various conference rooms)
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Chicago, IL - Next week, Metropolitan School District of Lawrence Township (MSDLT) Superintendent, Dr. Shawn A. Smith and members of his team will join 1,600 educators and education leaders at ASCD's *Recharge and Reconnect* annual conference. ASCD is the nation's leading organization for professional learning for K-12 educators and will host its conference from Friday, March 18 through Monday, March 21 at the Hilton Chicago (720 S. Michigan Ave.).

Dr. Smith, along with Chief Academic Officer, Mr. Troy Knoderer, Director of Human Resources, Dr. Justin Hunter, and author and President of Leadervation Learning, Dr. Vernita Mayfield will present on MSDLT's continued work to eliminate racial disparities in student achievement. MSDLT has long been a leader in equity-based approaches to improving student outcomes with an equity policy adopted by the Board of Education in 2015.

"Our 2020-2021 equity audit process created a powerful opportunity for our faculty, staff, parents, and students to not only share their voices and experiences, but to be active partners in leading meaningful long term systems-change for our district," said Dr. Smith.

Dr. Smith and team will present to educators from across the country about MSDLT's year-long equity audit examining how policies, practices, and outcomes related to racial equity. The presentation will also cover the school corporation's community-driven implementation planning.

He shares, "While we still have a great deal of work ahead of us, I am proud that our national peers will have a chance to learn from our experiences. I hope that educators and education leaders will be able to use what they learn from MSDLT to improve outcomes for students in their home schools and districts."

Reconnect & Recharge, ASCD's 2022 annual conference, will be held at the Chicago Hilton from Friday, March 18 through Monday, March 21. Visit events.ascd.org/annual-conference to learn more.

About the Metropolitan School District of Lawrence Township:

The ninth largest and fastest growing school district in the state, the MSD of Lawrence Township serves approximately 16,000 students across four Early Learning Centers, eleven Elementary Schools, two Middle Schools, two High Schools, a Center for Innovation and Technology, and an alternative setting high school. Lawrence Township strives to be the district of destination, a reputation built over the years based on the district's award-winning staff, accomplished administrators, high-achieving students, supportive community, and innovative educational programs. Visit our website at www.LTschools.org.