PLEASE FILL OUT OUR COMMUNITY SURVEY

LAWRENCE
Lead • Achieve • Succeed

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

REIMAGINED

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LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

INVEST IN LAWRENCE

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Lawrence Township Public Schools

DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN

ASPIRATIONS

Our community engaged in a planning effort to shape the future of Lawrence Township Public Schools. We will strive to make all of these ideals true:



WELLNESS

We know and understand our students as the unique individuals they are.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

We engage each student at their level, facilitate high levels of learning, and cultivate curiosity.



EQUITY, DIVERSITY, & INCLUSION

We welcome, celebrate, and build relationships with every member of our community.

LAWRENCE
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Lawrence Township Public Schools

Superintendent Goals

Goal 1-
Pre-K Expansion

By the end of the '23-'24 school year, the district will increase access to high-quality preschool education by expanding capacity with an addition of 2 classrooms focused on serving our lower SES community. 21.5% of the full Pre-K universe will be served while maintaining or exceeding the existing standards of educational excellence as outlined by the Department of Education (DOE) PEA grant guidelines.

Goal 2-
Curriculum Pathways

The Superintendent will guide all activities planned to support curriculum pathways outlined for '23-24 school year that are in alignment with the district's strategic plan.

Goal 3-
Connections

The Superintendent will nurture a network of relationships with key stakeholders including school board members, district administrators, teachers' union representatives, community leaders, and parents, engaging in regular communication and collaboration to foster a shared vision for educational excellence and drive measurable improvements in student outcomes across the district.

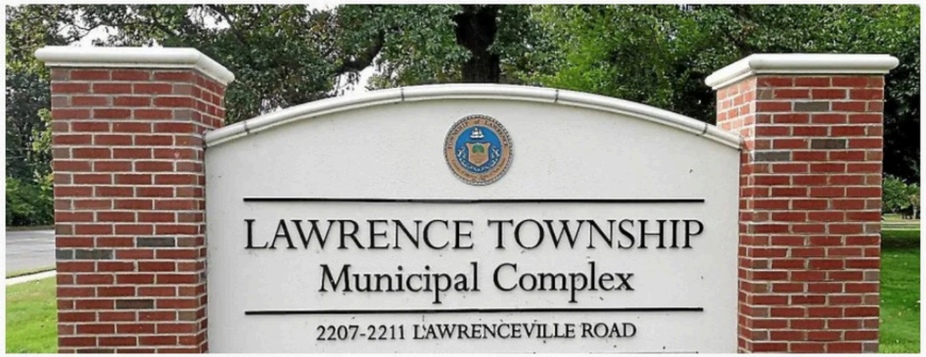
LAWRENCE
IS GROWING!



LOCAL NEWS

SUBSCRIBER ONLY

Lawrence, Robbinsville to get state pre-K funding



SUBMITTED IMAGE

Lawrence Township Municipal Building

By JEFF EDELSTEIN | jedelstein@trentonian.com | The Trentonian
PUBLISHED: March 13, 2024 at 4:06 a.m. | UPDATED: March 13, 2024 at 4:09 a.m.

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PRESS RELEASE

www.ltps.org • 2565 Princeton Pike, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648 • (609) 671-5405

Robyn A. Klim, Ed.D.
Superintendent

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 25, 2024

For more information, contact:
Jen Baldassari— (6 Schools
jbaldass

Lawrence Township to Expand Preschool Under New State

LTPS projected to serve nearly 500 new preschoolers by the end of five-year rollout

LAWRENCEVILLE, New Jersey — Lawrence Township Public Schools is excited to announce a significant preschool program, thanks to its successful application for Preschool Expansion Aid (PEA) funding from t Department of Education. This initiative, part of the Board of Education's and Superintendent's mission success of all Lawrence children, will bring high-quality, universal preschool to the district at no cost to fa

The district has been preparing to begin the expansion immediately, opening its first new class on Febru revamping of the existing Cardinal Kids program to a five-day a week, full day preschool program housed High School. In addition to serving more three and four-year-olds, the expanded program, which previou smaller scale, will also allow more high school students to enroll in the popular "Early Childhood Growth Development" course in the future. The hands-on experience in this class allows high school students to theoretical knowledge in a real-world "laboratory" setting. The program also serves as a pivotal compon

Lawrence District To Expand Preschool Program Thanks To New State Aid

In five years, the district is projected to open its doors to nearly 500 Lawrence preschoolers.

Sarah Salvadore, Patch Staff

Posted Thu, Jan 25, 2024 at 12:37 pm ET | Updated Thu, Jan 25, 2024 at 3:54 pm ET



In five years, the district is projected to open its doors to nearly 500 Lawrence preschoolers.

Dr. Klim's Korner: Expansion coming for the LTPS preschool program

By Dr. Robyn Klim Apr 1, 2024 Updated May 1, 2024

It is with great pleasure and excitement that I reflect on my first seven months as Superintendent of Lawrence Township Public Schools.



My journey with LTPS and its amazing Board of Education has been nothing short of transformative, filled with collaboration and support to ensure the success of our students. As we move into the future of Lawrence together, I want to take a moment to introduce myself to the public I have yet to meet, and share some significant initiatives that have unfolded during this short but impactful period.

My name is Dr. Robyn A. Klim, and I am honored to serve as superintendent here in Lawrence. With a doctorate of education from the American College of Education, my research has centered on addressing educator needs and developing curricula that support the social and emotional

dinal Kids program at LHS," said Dr. Robyn Klim, S
oungest students in the district will have the oppo

pen this school year will be in one the district's ow
strict is slated to open additional classrooms each
ors to nearly 500 Lawrence Township preschoolers.

wrence Township Public School's commitment to
ve barriers and provide equal opportunities for fa

sion, strategic plan, or to view the application, ple

TRENDING NOW

Articles

###

lic Schools serve a diverse population of students and familie
ver 1,300 students attend our four PK-3 elementary schools, ove
s in grades 7-8 attend Lawrence Middle School, and over 1,150 s

1. Trenton man wanted to k
a mass shooting at Robbi
Aldi, authorities allege
2. The Cult and Culture of L
Jason
3. Fennelly announces the s
Court in Ewing
4. Happy Valley: Combining
talent for the greater goo
5. Former players to honor
legend Joe Hibbard
6. Katie Ziliani serves up qu
Robbinsville softball
7. West Windsor Farmers' M
21st season

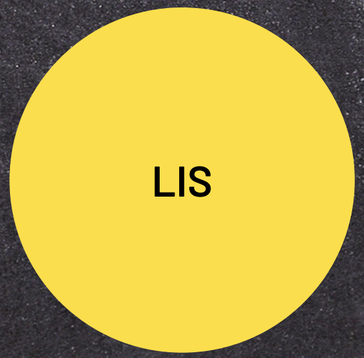


LTPS FUTURE GRADE RECONFIGURATION



Pre K-2

All four elementary schools house a portion of the preschool universe, plus grades K-2.



Grades 3-5

Third grade moves to LIS. LIS embodies “Upper Elementary” model, housing grades 3-5.



Grades 6-8

Sixth grade moves to LMS. LMS embraces DOE-recommend model of Middle School, housing grades 6-8.



Grades 9-12

LHS remains grades 9-12.





Lawrence Township Public Schools Explores Evidence Based Restructuring for Optimal Educational Development

Lawrence Township Public Schools is exploring a strategic restructuring of grade level distributions to create a more developmentally and academically appropriate environment for all of our students. This evidence based initiative involves a five-year vision to transition to grade bands of third through fifth, and sixth through eighth, aligning our district with the State Department of Education recommended model. Research consistently shows that this grade level distribution better aligns with the cognitive and social-emotional development of students, providing an environment where they can thrive academically and developmentally. Lawrence Township Public Schools recognizes the importance of these transitional years and believes that this structure better prepares our students for the academic challenges ahead. Furthermore, by embracing true "upper elementary" and "middle school" models as opposed to the current hybrid, quasi-middle school approach, we address our families' wish to keep our kids "young" by housing our students in an elementary building longer.

This move also enhances the educational experience by providing additional resources, specialized facilities, and extra-curricular opportunities that are developmentally appropriate for each age group, such as intramural and school sports for our sixth graders, as well as banding the mandatory state tested grades together. The district is excited about the positive impact this restructuring will have on students, fostering a seamless educational journey that nurtures their growth and development. Lawrence Township Public Schools is embracing these changes with a vision of fostering an educational environment where every child can thrive.

This plan is in the infancy stages and the community can expect a five-year operational plan to be furnished this fall.

A district of excellence



Dr. Klim's Corner

Robyn A. Klim, Ed.D., MCSW

At Lawrence Township Public Schools, we are constantly seeking ways to enhance the learning experience for our students, ensuring they have the best possible opportunities to learn, grow and succeed in the classroom and beyond. I am thrilled to share with you an exciting initiative that will revolutionize the way we approach education in Lawrence Township Public Schools – the evidence-based strategic restructuring of our grade level distributions to better align with the cognitive and social-emotional development of students.

This journey has been guided by two pivotal factors.

First, in close consultation with experts in the field of education, our district has been diligently researching and evaluating the most effective grade level distribution models.The culmination of this research unequivocally supports the sixth through eighth grade middle school model as the best fit for students' academic and social-emotional needs. In addition, this year we were awarded Preschool Expansion Aid (PEA) funding from the New Jersey Department of Education which will bring 500 preschool students to our district over the next five years.

The connection between these two components became clear.

Our community has voiced a clear desire to integrate preschool in their neighborhood elementary school buildings. We listened, and began looking at ways to expand those buildings to hold this new population. We employed architects to examine the footprint of our existing elementary schools to see where, if anywhere, they could be expanded. Private property and wetlands "landlocking" our schools, coupled with the prohibitive cost of any vertical construction, rendered this approach unfeasible.

Consequently, we came to the realization that now is the opportune time to move toward our evidence-based, long-term goal of future grade-level reconfiguration. Aligned with the Department of Education's recommended model, our vision is to transform every elementary school to PreK through second grade, uniting grades three to five in a nurturing upper elementary school, and grades six to eight in an expanded, modernized

developmentally and academically appropriate environments, we will be laying the foundation for a district of excellence, where our students will thrive academically and emotionally.

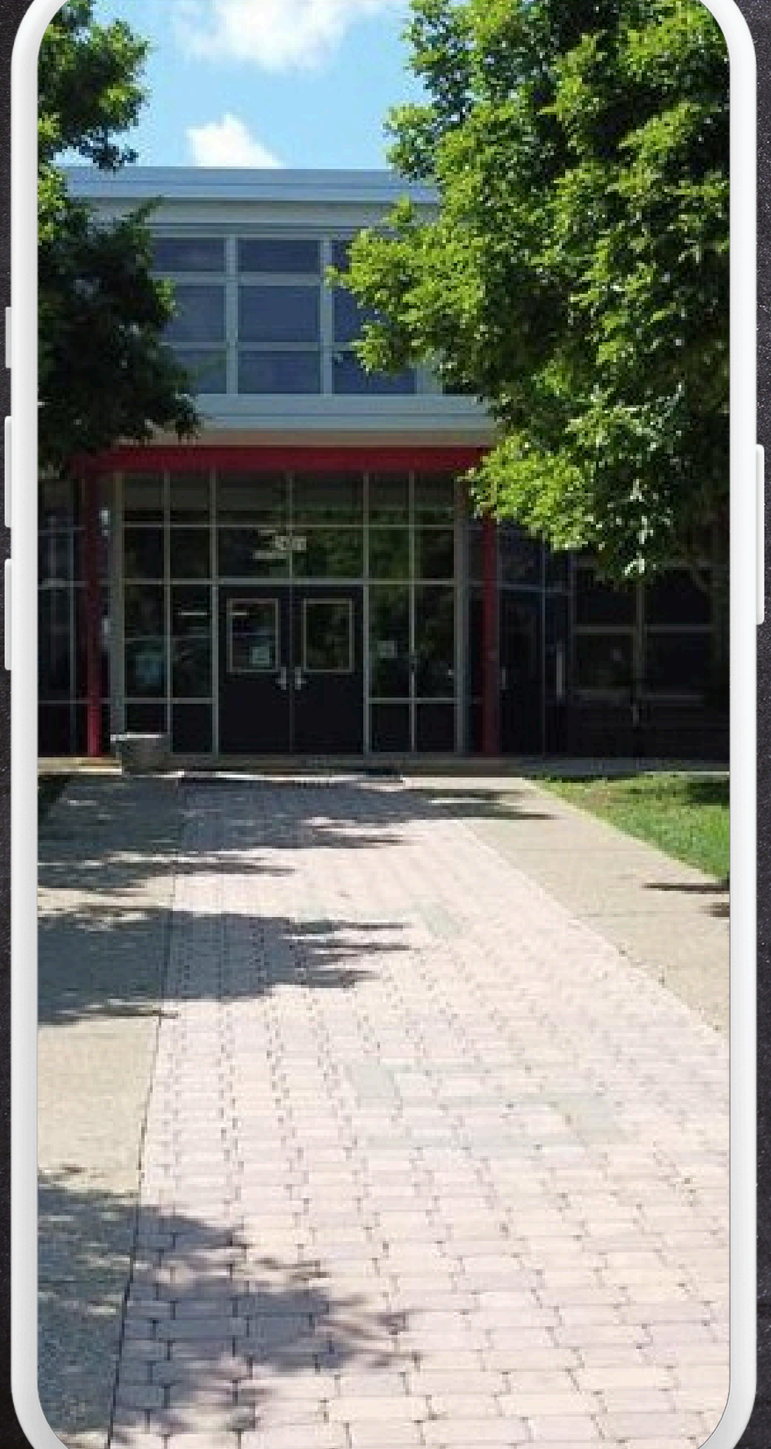
For example, by realigning our grade levels, we can provide the necessary resources, specialized facilities, and extracurricular opportunities that are tailored to the unique needs of each age group. For instance, our sixth graders will have access to intramural and school sports programs previously unavailable, enriching their physical and social development. Also, because this reconfiguration bands the mandatory state-tested grades together, we can better focus our resources and support on ensuring our students are prepared to meet and exceed academic standards.

But this transition is about more than just changing grade configurations; it's about enhancing the entire educational experience for every student in our district. We listen to and value our community's input and are committed to ensuring that all of our students have the support and resources they need to thrive and succeed. We've heard our families' concerns and desires to keep our children "young" by housing them in an elementary school building for a longer period of time. By embracing this "upper elementary" school model, we respect that wish, as well as the developmental needs of our students as they progress through their educational journey. Similarly, in Lawrence Middle School, our sixth graders will inhabit a dedicated wing, fostering a supportive environment as they acclimate to middle school culture and curriculum expectations.

I understand that change can sometimes be met with apprehension, but I want to assure you that this transformation is rooted in research, best practices, and a deep commitment to the well-being and success of our students. We are excited about the positive impact this restructuring will have on our entire community, and we hope you join us on embracing this journey towards a more effective educational environment and create a brighter future for generations to come.

I invite you to join me at our May 22 Board of Ed meeting where we will be discussing the first step of the journey: reviewing architectural plans to expand our middle school. Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Dr. Robyn Klim is superintendent of the Law-



THE RESEARCH ON MIDDLE SCHOOL



Grade levels 6-8 grouped together:



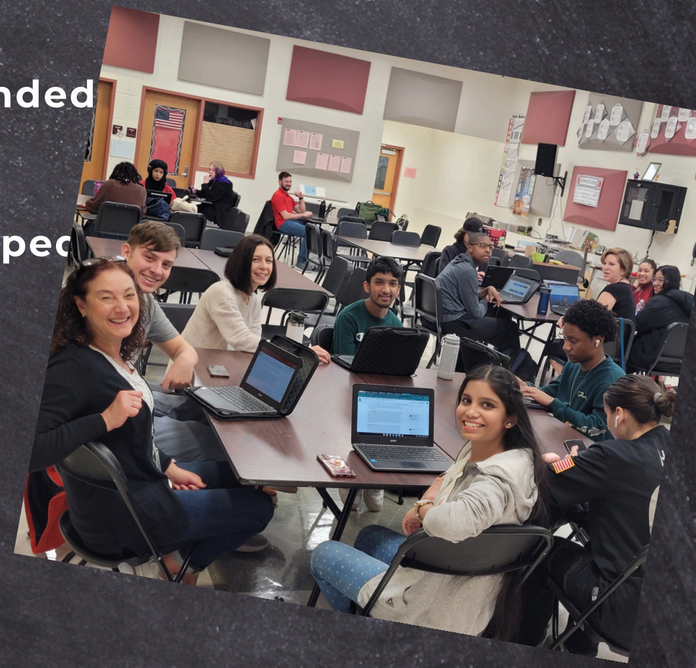
- Promotes academic success through consistent educational approaches
- Consolidates resources, professional development & program oversight
- Provides supportive social environment
- Increases opportunities for leadership and peer mentorship
- Provides access to more diverse course offerings
- Gives sixth-graders access to extracurricular activities





BENEFITS OF RECONFIGURATION

- Evidence based: developmentally & academically appropriate environments
- Aligns LTPS with the State Dept. of Education recommended model
- NJ state learning standards & tested grades will be grouped together
  - Upper elementary grades 3-5
  - Middle school grades 6-8
- Integrated services and resources available within the school community
- Preschool in neighborhood elementary schools





LTPS Reimagined

5-Year Plan

Research and build reconfiguration plan, including LMS expansion project

Year 1
23-24
(NOW)

Referendum Vote March 2025

Year 2
24-25

Construction/ Transformation

Year 3
25-26

Construction/ Transformation

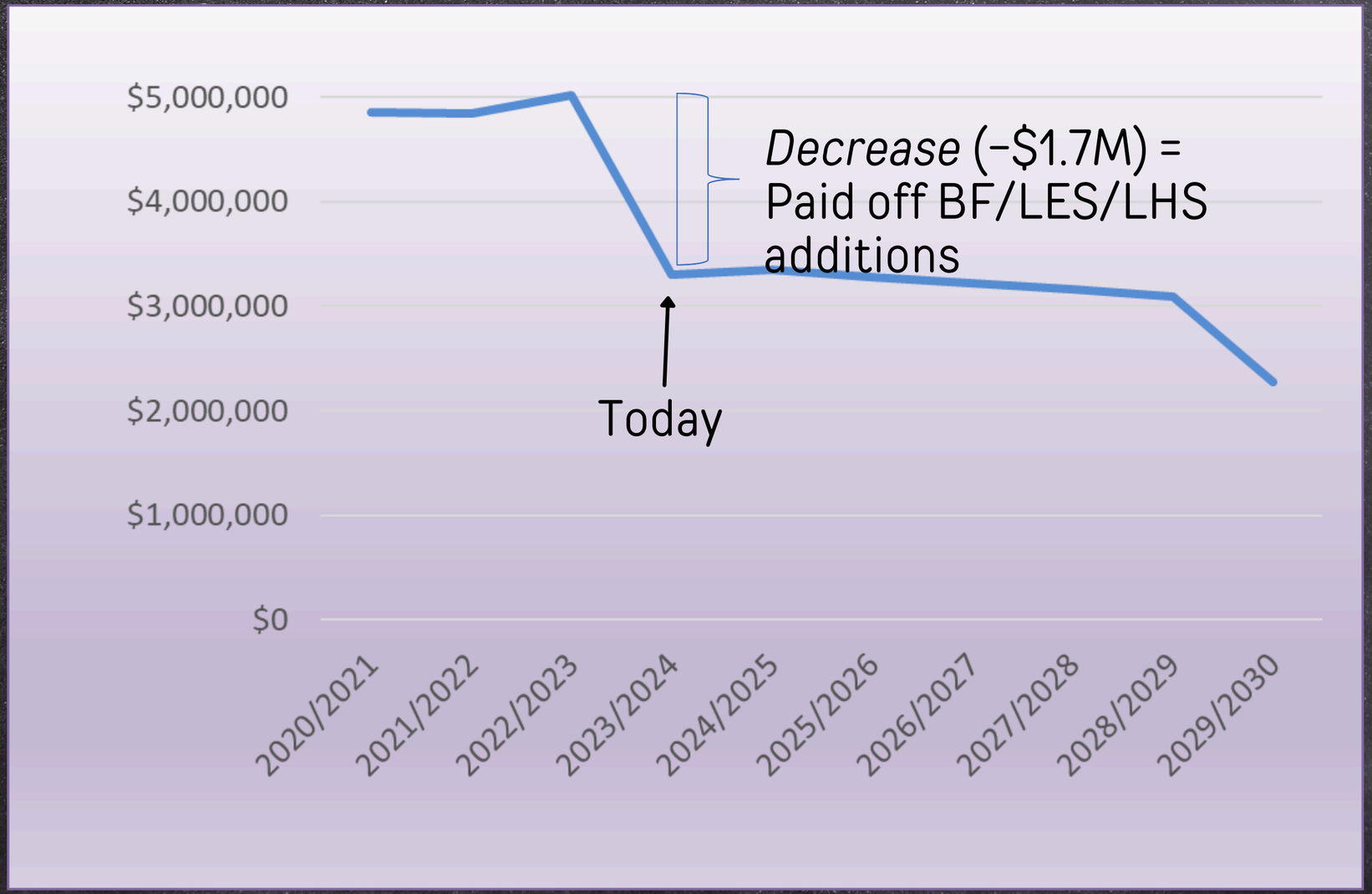
Year 4
26-27

Projected Reconfiguration occurs

Year 5
27-28
(or 28-29)



WHY NOW?



INVEST IN LAWRENCE



Direct Link
Community Meeting



LMS staff reviews plans



Mayor, Township manager , staff, families, and community members reimagine LIS



Leadership team reviews plans

Anchor House
Architects
Athletic Director
Board of Education Committees
Bond council
Bridgewater Raritan Public School District
Coaches
Community members
District Leadership
ECV
Environmental Consultants
Ewing Public School District
Families
Financial Advisors
Growth and Redevelopment Committee
Lawrenceville Main Street
Lighting consultants
Local Teacher Union (LTEA)
LTEF
Mayor of Lawrence
Mercer Council
Metuchen Public School District
Municipal Govt
New Jersey Association of School Administrators Executive Board
NJ Council of Education Members
NJ Dept of Education County Office Officials
NJ Dept of Education Office of Early Childhood Education
Parents
Planning Board
Police Department
Preschool owners
Principals
PTOs from all seven schools
Retired staff members
Site Engineers
Special Ed Parent Advisory Group
Staff
State level Teacher Union (NJEA)
Teachers
Town Council
Township CFO
Township Engineers
Township Manager
Traffic Engineera
Wall Public School District
West Windsor Plainsboro Public School District
YMCA



Board of Ed Committee Chairs meet with architects



Members of the community review plans



LIS staff reviews plans



Principals and BOE president meet with architects