

PAG Meeting 10/16/2025

LPS Attendees: Kurt, Cate, Amy D, Amy P, Marianne, Dawn

Family Attendees: Meredith Lopez, Kim Phillips, Ginger McGill, Michelle Lower, James Topper, Emma Jenkins, Judy Brasier

PAG: Parent Advisory Group is a mini State of the School presentation that provides parents/caregivers an opportunity to connect directly with LPS leaders.

Discussion topics include the academic program, testing schedules, policy updates, upcoming school and LPS community events, and ways to support the school.

Share information and encourage collaboration between LPS and families

PAG meets four times each year, typically on the 3rd Thursday of the month from 9-10 am

- **October 16, 2025**
- December 18, 2025
- February 26, 2026
- April 16, 2026

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89453990390>

Upcoming Events

Family presentations (via Zoom):

- Oct 16 – Thinking Maps Info Session (7:00 p.m.)
- Oct 20 – Grades 9 & 10 Parent Presentation (10:00 a.m.)
- Oct 22 – Grades 11 & 12 Parent Presentation (12:00 p.m.)
- Nov 7 – Bullying Prevention Presentation (8:30 a.m.)
- Nov 17 – Transition Info Night (6:00 p.m.)

Family & Friends Day: November 5

- Students get to show off the school that their family and friends have heard so much about!
- Special guests such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, and family friends are invited to campus
- Tours, trivia, and snacks
- Get an inside look at the school through their students' eyes.

Holidays and early releases:

- Nov 11 – Veteran’s Day
- Nov 26 – Early Release (11 a.m.)
- Nov 27–28 – Thanksgiving Break
- Dec 1 – Professional Development
- Dec 23 – Early Release (11 a.m.)
- Dec 24–Jan 2 – Winter Break

<https://www.learningprep.org/about-us/calendar>

Enrollment Update

Total enrollment: 122 students

- **Middle School (48 students):**
 - 4th – 1
 - 5th – 5
 - 6th – 9
 - 7th – 12
 - 8th – 21
- **High School (74 students):**
 - 9th – 26
 - 10th – 16
 - 11th – 16
 - 12th – 1

Family Surveys

LPS sends out a 5-question family survey twice a year, and we typically see about a 33% participation rate. This feedback is incredibly valuable to us! We encourage every family to complete the survey and share their input.

1. Were your students' academic needs met this year?
2. Were your students' social-emotional needs met this year?
3. Have the Learning Prep staff been supportive of your family?
4. How has LPS communicated information with you this year?
5. How likely are you to recommend LPS to another family?

Summer Survey Results

- 67.5% of families reported that all academic needs were met, and 32.5% said most needs were met.
- 67.5% reported social/emotional needs were met, with 30% indicating most needs were met.
- 92.5% said that everyone at LPS had been supportive.
- 80% reported receiving all necessary communication, and 17.5% said they received most information.
- 60% of families rated their likelihood of recommending LPS as a 10/10, showing very strong overall satisfaction.

These are positive results and we're always looking for ways we can improve.

Instructional Practices & Progress Monitoring

Skill Development for Independence



Effective instruction supports academics, functional, social & life skills-helps students develop independence and self advocacy

Progress Monitoring



Clear instructional framework allows educators to track progress over time, adjust teaching strategies and document growth towards IEP goals

Educator Collaboration



A shared instructional approach enables educators and related services to work together effectively, creating consistent expectations and high quality teaching

Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)

PLCs meet one to three times per month. Each meeting reviews student progress using data from True Progress tracking, IXL and Lexia assessments, new testing, writing samples, SEARS results, grades, and attendance.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

“Above all, our mission is our students who are seen and celebrated in the safe learning environment they deserve.”

The mission emphasizes that all students are seen and celebrated in a safe learning environment. The DEI Committee meets monthly and includes professional development with external speakers, readings, recognition of heritage months, and an annual climate survey.

MCAS and Competency Determination

- MCAS tests continue to be administered.

MCAS Tests By Grade

Grade	ELA	Math	Science	Civics
4	Grade 4 ELA	Grade 4 Math		
5	Grade 5 ELA	Grade 5 Math	Gr. 5 Science	
6	Grade 6 ELA	Grade 6 Math		
7	Grade 7 ELA	Grade 7 Math		
8	Grade 8 ELA	Grade 8 Math	Gr. 8 Science	Grade 8 Civics
9			HS Biology	
10	Grade 10 ELA	Gr. 10 Math		
11				
12				

- Passing MCAS is no longer directly tied to Competency Determination for graduation, and districts now set their own policies. .
- We're also working with peer schools and professional organizations to advocate for programs like us to be considered in the district's planning.

Summer Program Recap

- 68 students attended, including 8 new students, with a 3:1 staff-to-student ratio.
- The program provided academic support, social opportunities, and field trips to Patriot Place, Kings Bowling, and West Newton Cinema.

After-School Program

- Fall groups include Soccer, Dungeons & Dragons, Improv, Oil Painting, Build/Fix It, Arts & Crafts, Music Appreciation, and Video Games.
- Activities run through early December.

Student Council Events

- Oct 24 – HS Fall Costume Party
- Nov 7 – MS Fall Costume Party
- Nov 17 – HS Movie Afternoon
- Dec 12 – HS Winter Ball

New LPS Family Committee

Committee Leads:

- **Family Committee Chair:** Kim Phillips – kim.phillips.sox@gmail.com
- **Fundraising Chair:** Catherine Flynn – caflynn@deloitte.com
- **Community & Events Chair:** Sara Abbott – sabbott23@me.com
- **Panther Pride Committee Chair:** Christina Mullin – christinamullin05@gmail.com

When PIE disbanded, they voted to disperse their funds- half went to support In-School Experiences and half went to the Student Council to support their events.

- Reptile Presentation planned for March
- Student Council is looking into purchasing equipment for events such as speakers to replace hiring DJs for events.

Family Representatives

Family Representatives will be reaching out to organize school-wide events for High School and Middle School families.

- **High School:**
 - Kathrine Munz–katherinemunz@yahoo.com
 - Lindsey James– linz.james@gmail.com
 - Ingrid Glossoff– ingridglassoff@gmail.com
- **Middle School:**
 - Wynne Meyer– wynnemeyer495@gmail.com
 - Eileen Del Rossi– edelrossi24@gmail.com

Fall Fest

- Saturday, October 25, 2025 – 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. at LPS.
- Activities include music, games, and family fun.
- RSVP via Google Form.

Goals at LPS

This program is launching next Fall (2026). Entering the workforce is one of many paths to independence for our students. This new program will help support students in pursuing a college certificate program with a skill-building component on the LPS campus.



*Introducing a new initiative
through Learning Prep School's
Transition Program*

GOALS AT LEARNING PREP

Certificate in Early Childhood
Education or Cybersecurity for
18-22 year olds

DETAILS:

- ✓ Full-day programming for 1 year
- ✓ Become certified & hireable in Early Childhood or Cybersecurity
- ✓ Partnership with MassBay Community College
- ✓ Educational coach to support college navigation
- ✓ Instruction in functional academics, independent living & career planning
- ✓ Social pragmatics & community access opportunities
- ✓ Appropriate candidates have similar profiles to LPS students
- ✓ Tuition aligned with Learning Prep Day Program

Guiding
Opportunities for
Autonomy
Long-term planning &
Self-determination

**COMING
FALL
2026**



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 learningprep.org

Questions & Discussion

The meeting concluded with open Q&A.

- **Q: Just curious about the Professional Learning communities...Do you share with families who make up the student professional learning community at LPS?**

A: This is the 2nd year of PLC groups. We have not gotten to this phase of PLC. Last year was learning and this year we took what we learned to improve the system. Communicating PLC information to families is a goal, but not a formal outcome yet. Feel free to reach out to have a conversation about your student.

- **Q: When you participate in common reads, would you consider including families and having a book club type zoom to discuss?**

A: Yes. We would love to explore this idea and have thought about it in the past. Have considered the book *The Anxious Child* as a common read. DEI committee has also done common reads in the past.

- **Q: What is our enrollment capacity and what do the bubbles mean for us?**

A: We have capacity for more students, but the 120-130 range seems to be our sweet spot. We do not have a capacity of the number of students per grade.

However, most of our students come from districts that send us students. Referrals from districts are slowing down a bit as districts face budget challenges. MAAPs continues to work on our behalf to ensure districts are fully funded to protect the students who need a placement at a 766 school and give them an equal opportunity.

- **Q: Every LPS student passes MCAS, is that true?**

A: Not every student passes the MCAS test, but there were alternate ways to qualify a student to pass, such as through a portfolio determination, which is no longer offered by DESE since passing MCAS is no longer required for a diploma.

- **Q: Are students still able to get services from the district if they get a diploma?**

A: No, if a student will continue receiving services, they are deferring the diploma; LPS would keep the diploma and issue a certificate of completion. The student can continue receiving services and accept the diploma later.

- **Q: Noticed 6th and 7th graders don't do science MCAS. Why is that?**

A: DESE sets the schedule of which grade(s) take specific MCAS tests.

- **Q: If there is a question about parent satisfaction on the survey, what is done with the response? Is there a follow-up? Is it investigated globally, or is it responded to individually?**

A: The survey responses are carefully reviewed by our Admin Team. We look for trends in the feedback and address trends on a schoolwide level. When specific questions or concerns arise, we follow up directly with the individual family to discuss them further.

If you have individual questions, please reach out to us! We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on December 18th at 9:00am.