



METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT
LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP

Dr. Shawn A. Smith
Superintendent

Lawrence Education & Community Center
5720 Wheeler Road
Indianapolis, IN 46216
(317) 423-8200

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 28, 2026

Contact: Dana Altemeyer, Ed.D., Director of Communications

Phone: (317) 423-8375 / Email: danaaltemeyer@msdl.t.k12.in.us

**MSD of Lawrence Township Announces 2026 Teacher of the Year:
Mr. Lashon Ludington – Skiles Test Elementary School**

INDIANAPOLIS — The MSD of Lawrence Township is proud to announce Mr. Lashon Ludington, sixth grade teacher at Skiles Test Elementary School, as the district’s 2026 Teacher of the Year. A dedicated educator with 28 years of service — all at Skiles Test Elementary — Mr. Ludington has built a legacy rooted in excellence, consistency, and an unwavering commitment to student success.

Throughout his career, Mr. Ludington has taught multiple grade levels, bringing a breadth of knowledge and experience that strengthens his instructional practice and allows him to connect with students across a wide range of learning needs. Known for creating engaging and meaningful learning experiences, he challenges students to think critically, persevere through obstacles, and take ownership of their growth.

“Mr. Ludington exemplifies the very best of our profession,” said Principal Dominique Franklin. “For nearly three decades, he has consistently demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to students, families, and colleagues. He builds authentic relationships rooted in trust, respect, and high expectations. Students know he genuinely believes in their potential. His impact reaches beyond academics, helping shape confidence, character, and resilience in the students he serves.”

In addition to his work in the classroom, Mr. Ludington serves as a basketball coach and mentor, modeling discipline, teamwork, and perseverance. Colleagues describe him as a respected leader who willingly supports staff, contributes to district initiatives, and continually prioritizes what is best for students.

“Mr. Ludington represents the heart of public education,” said Superintendent Dr. Shawn A. Smith. “His commitment to excellence in public education has impacted generations of students. Not only does he teach academic content, he inspires students to believe in themselves, work hard, and strive for success in and out of the classroom.”

The 2026 Teacher of the Year program is sponsored by Equitable Advisors and recognizes educators who demonstrate exceptional instructional practice, leadership, innovation, and dedication to student achievement and well-being.

About the Metropolitan School District of Lawrence Township: The fifth largest school district in the state, the MSD of Lawrence Township serves approximately 17,000 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.