



AUGUST 2026

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

THE LINK

TO THE LAWRENCE COMMUNITY



A Full-Circle Tradition:

Seniors Return to Their Elementary Schools

LTPS graduating seniors recently returned to their elementary schools for a meaningful tradition that brings their educational journey full circle. Across schools, students reconnected with former teachers, walked familiar hallways, and revisited the classrooms where their learning began. Many joined younger students for read alouds, sitting on the classroom floor just as they once did, creating a simple but powerful moment of reflection and connection. In some buildings, seniors met with current third graders, sharing advice and memories, while others spent time visiting teachers and staff who supported them in their earliest school years. These visits continue to highlight the lasting impact of elementary school experiences and the strong sense of community that follows LTPS students from their first day through graduation.



LTPS Celebrates Student Milestones and Eases School Transitions

Lawrence Township Public Schools celebrated important milestones this spring while helping students feel confident and prepared for the next step in their educational journey.

Across the district, our elementary schools honored “graduating” third graders with moving up ceremonies and clap-outs, celebrating their accomplishments as they prepare to begin Lawrence Intermediate School this fall.

Lawrence Intermediate School opened its doors to welcome students and their families for an open house where they toured classrooms, explored the building, learned about academics and activities, and received a preview of the instrumental music program. Sixth grade student ambassadors were on hand to answer questions and help welcome incoming fourth graders.

Preparing students for the next transition, Lawrence Middle School staff and Cardinal Ambassador students visited LIS for the annual LMS 101 program. Current sixth graders learned about academics, expectations, extracurricular activities, House Relays, clubs, and student life at LMS. Cardinal Ambassadors, House Leaders, and Dr. Milavsky shared advice and answered questions, helping students feel informed, confident, and excited for the journey ahead.

At each transition point from elementary to high school, these experiences help ensure every LTPS student begins the next chapter with confidence and excitement.



Students Stay Engaged Through Summer Learning Across LTPS

Summer is in full swing across Lawrence Township Public Schools, with engaging learning opportunities taking place for students of all ages. Through programs including ESY, Summer Shines, Connect, Camp Eagles, Teen Eagles, Honors Prep, Bridge to LMS, and LIS Jumpstart, to name a few, students are strengthening their skills in English language arts, math, science, and more, through hands-on, interactive learning.

Beyond the classroom, students are enjoying time outdoors, building friendships with classmates from across the district, and participating in activities that make summer learning both meaningful and fun. Whether they are reinforcing skills from the previous school year, exploring new concepts, or preparing for the transition to a new grade level or school, our students are making the most of every opportunity.

A special thank you to our dedicated teachers, principals, support staff, and administrators for creating welcoming, engaging environments where students continue to learn, grow, and thrive all summer long.



Scan to Register



Strategic Planning Sessions Shape Future of LTPS

Lawrence Township Public Schools recently completed a three-session strategic planning process facilitated by the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA). More than 100 administrators, Board of Education members, staff, parents, students, and community members participated in the process.

The first session focused on identifying the district's strengths and challenges, while the second centered on developing a Portrait of a Learner that reflects the skills, attributes, and experiences every LTPS graduate should possess. These discussions helped establish the district's strategic priorities.

During the final session, participants worked together to develop goals and objectives that will guide the district's future work. The resulting strategic planning areas include Health & Wellness, Safety & Security, Future-Ready Academics, Community Engagement & Involvement, and School Culture & Climate.

The feedback and collaboration from stakeholders throughout the process will help shape district priorities and decision-making in the years ahead, ensuring that the voices of the LTPS community remain at the center of future planning efforts. You can read more about the meeting outcomes on our website.

Join Us for "Welcome to the Neighborhood" Family Night!

Whether you're new to Lawrence Township Public Schools or simply looking for a refresher on the many resources available to families, you're invited to our **Welcome to the Neighborhood Family Night on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, from 6:30– 8 p.m. in the Lawrence High School Cafeteria, 2525 Princeton Pike, Lawrenceville.**

This family-friendly event is a great opportunity for parents and guardians to learn more about the programs, services, and supports available throughout the district while meeting district administrators, staff, members of the Board of Education, and community partners. Families will also discover helpful ways to stay connected through district communications, calendars, and other important resources.

Children ages 5 and up are invited to participate in fun activities in the gym while the presentation is taking place, making this an enjoyable evening for the whole family. Light refreshments will be served.

We look forward to welcoming you and helping your family feel connected, informed, and ready for a successful school year. Be sure to register by scanning the QR code. If you have questions, please email info@ltps.org.

Battle of the Bands at LMS

The stage was set, the amps were on, and the talent was incredible! Congratulations to all of the student and staff musicians who rocked the first annual LMS Battle of the Bands. What an amazing showcase of creativity, confidence, and school spirit. We can't wait to see this new tradition grow!

Referendum Projects Move Full Speed Ahead This Summer

While students and staff enjoy a well-deserved summer break, work continues at an exciting pace on the projects made possible through the successful 2025 referendum.

Behind the scenes, district administrators, architects, engineers, construction managers, and specialized consultants are meeting regularly to keep projects on track and ensure every detail is thoughtfully planned. Weekly coordination meetings are being held to monitor progress, address challenges, and prepare for upcoming construction milestones.

One of the most visible projects underway is the complete renovation of the 75-year-old Lawrence Middle School auditorium. The project is progressing steadily, and the district anticipates the auditorium will be ready to welcome students, staff, and community members this fall. The renovated space will provide an updated venue for performances, assemblies, and special events for years to come.

Planning is also advancing for the groundbreaking of the new two-story addition at Lawrence Middle School in the fall. The addition will include new classrooms, a larger cafeteria, and a new gymnasium designed to support both current and future student needs. These improvements represent a significant investment in creating modern, flexible learning spaces while enhancing the overall student experience.

As plans move from design to construction, the district continues to collaborate with a wide range of experts, including traffic engineers, sound and lighting consultants, educational planners, and accessibility specialists. Their collective expertise is helping ensure that every aspect of the project supports student learning, safety, and community use.

We are excited to see these projects take shape and remain grateful to our community for making these transformational improvements possible. Additional updates will be shared as construction milestones are reached throughout the summer and beyond.



All Aboard: Cardinal Kids Get Ready for Preschool

Excitement is already building for the upcoming school year as families of our newest learners gathered in June for Preschool Parent Orientation.

Held for parents and guardians of incoming preschool students, the orientation provided an opportunity for families to learn what a typical day looks like for a Cardinal Kid and gain valuable information to help their children make a smooth transition into school. Families explored the preschool curriculum, learned about classroom routines and expectations, and received practical tips for preparing their children for their first school experience.

In addition to learning about the academic and social-emotional experiences their children will enjoy, parents received important information about transportation, before and after care programs, what to bring on the first day of school, and other resources available to support families throughout the year.

The event also gave families the chance to ask questions, connect with district staff, and begin building relationships that will help make the preschool experience a positive and successful one. There will be another orientation day on August 27, where the students will have the opportunity to visit their classrooms and meet their teachers ahead of the start of school.

Lawrence Township Public Schools is proud to welcome its newest crew of Cardinal Kids across the district's six preschool sites. Our preschool classrooms are in all four elementary school buildings, our community partner, Lawrence Day School, and Lawrence High School, which partners with the Early Childhood Growth and Development class for high schoolers and gives those students hands-on learning opportunities in the preschool classroom.

We look forward to partnering with families as these young learners begin an exciting journey filled with discovery, growth, friendship, and learning. We can't wait to welcome our Cardinal Kids through the doors this fall and watch them soar! Stay tuned for the reveal of their new mascot!



Away for the Day: Bell-to-Bell Focus on Learning

To support student engagement and minimize distractions, our "Away for the Day" expectation requires that all personal electronic devices remain put away and unused throughout the entire school day—from the first bell to the last. This bell-to-bell expectation applies to any non-school-issued electronic device, including but not limited to cell phones, smart watches, earbuds, Meta glasses, and similar personal technology devices. By keeping devices away during the school day, students can stay focused on learning, build meaningful connections with peers and teachers, and fully participate in the educational experience.

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Cell phones off


#AwayForTheDay!

Learning on




**Coming in September 2026
to all district schools**

LHS Celebrates Juneteenth Through Student Leadership and Learning

Lawrence High School recently hosted a meaningful Juneteenth celebration that showcased the talent, leadership, and voices of our students. The event featured a performance by the Gospel Choir in the auditorium, led by graduating senior Ayomide Dada. Students also organized an engaging Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) panel moderated by Caitlyn Grimes, featuring HBCU alumni, current students, and aspiring future HBCU attendees. Panelists shared their experiences, insights, and advice, inspiring students to explore the many opportunities available through HBCU. The celebration also highlighted Lawrence High School's AP African American Studies course. Current students shared personal reflections on how the class deepened their understanding of history, culture, and identity. The discussion, moderated by Hope Blanton, gave prospective students an authentic look at the impact of the course and encouraged others to consider enrolling. In addition, we are so proud that the Lawrence High School Gospel Choir performed at the Lawrence Township 3rd annual community Juneteenth celebration, held at the Municipal Building, under direction of Dr. Jametta Clarke. Organized by the Lawrence Township Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee and chaired by LTPS alumna Paige Johnson, the event brought community members together to commemorate Juneteenth, celebrate freedom, and reflect on our shared history. We are incredibly proud of our talented students for representing LTPS with such heart and soul.



Kindness Kids Are Spreading Kindness Around Town

Each year, Ben Franklin kindergarten teacher Mrs. Krisak takes her "Kindness Kids" on the Kindness Bus to share handmade Be Kind posters with local businesses and community partners. This special tradition reminds everyone that even the smallest acts of kindness can make a big difference.

This stop at the Lawrence Township Police Department is just one of many ways these young students are helping brighten our community one poster, and one act of kindness at a time.

LTPS Welcomes Jeopardy! Champion Jamie Ding for Inspiring Community Event

Lawrence Township Public Schools was honored to welcome Jeopardy! champion and Lawrence resident Jamie Ding for a special evening of learning, curiosity, and inspiration on June 17. Ding, whose remarkable 31-game winning streak on Jeopardy! captivated audiences nationwide, shared his journey to and through his historic run on the iconic quiz show. Speaking to an audience filled with LTPS students, families, staff, and community members, Ding reflected on the experiences that shaped his success and the lessons he learned along the way. Throughout the evening, Ding emphasized the importance of remaining curious, asking questions, and embracing lifelong learning. His message resonated with students of all ages as he encouraged them to pursue knowledge not simply for achievement, but for the joy of discovery. The program featured five Lawrence High School students: Slavia, Xintong, Zach, Niyati and Eleanor, who joined Ding on stage to ask questions submitted in advance by LTPS students from across the district's schools, along with questions of their own. Following the moderated discussion, Ding answered questions from audience members and remained after the event to meet attendees and pose for photos. The opportunity to interact personally with the local champion was a highlight for many students and families. The event provided students with a unique opportunity to hear firsthand from someone who achieved extraordinary success through dedication, preparation, and a genuine love of learning. Lawrence Township Public Schools extends its heartfelt thanks to Jamie Ding for his willingness to inspire the next generation of learners and leaders. His message served as a powerful reminder that curiosity, perseverance, and a passion for knowledge can open doors to incredible opportunities.





Are you interested in becoming a substitute teacher for Lawrence Township Public Schools?

Scan the QR code or visit <https://ltps.org/substitute>







