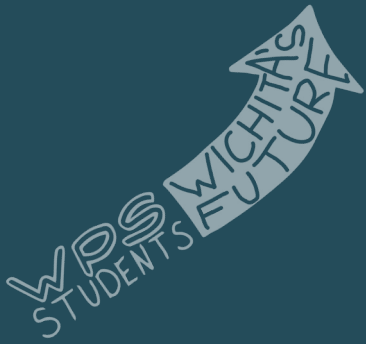


STRATEGIC PLAN & STRATEGIC PRIORITIES UPDATE

August 10, 2026

OUR VISION & MISSION

The Wichita Public Schools will be the premier district of choice, and inspire each student and staff member to thrive and become future ready within the greater community.

Wichita Public Schools prepares each student to achieve readiness for life, college and career through an innovative and impactful educational experience.



STUDENT SUCCESS OUTCOMES

Increase academic achievement and graduation rate.

By 2029, the WPS graduation rate will rise to 85%, increasing from 79.2% graduation rate in 2023.



Prepare students for life, college and career.

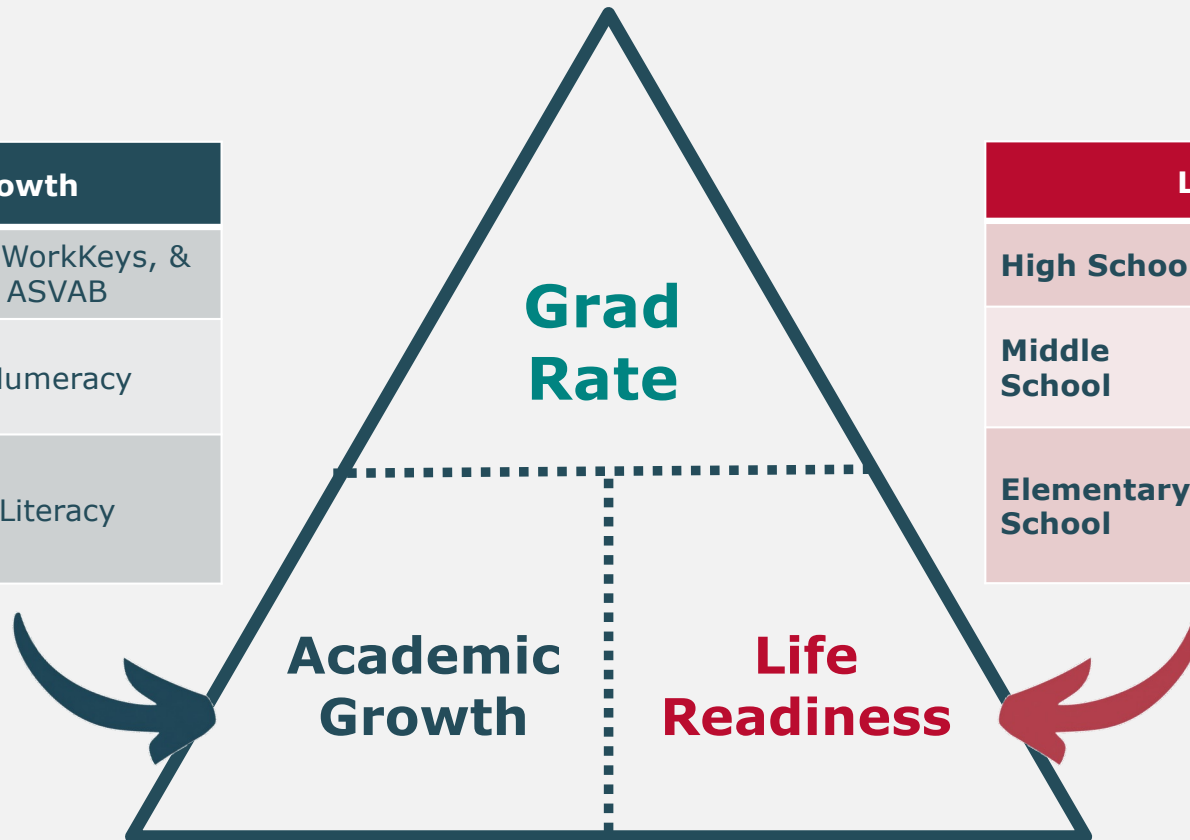
The percentage of students earning five or more postsecondary assets will reach 50% by 2029.

Create and enhance safety and belonging.

Increase the percentage of students that feel safe and connected to their school from 80.3% to 90% by 2029.

Reframing the Strategic Plan

Academic Growth	
High School	ACT, WorkKeys, & ASVAB
Middle School	Numeracy
Elementary School	Literacy



Life Readiness	
High School	Postsecondary Assets
Middle School	Early Exposure to High School Opportunities
Elementary School	Expanded Opportunities for Middle School Enrichment

STRATEGIC PLAN REFRAME

Current Strategic Plan

Increase academic achievement and graduation rate	
①	Graduation Rate
②	ACT and ACT WorkKeys (HS)
③	8 th Grade Math Proficiency (MS)
④	3 rd Grade Reading Proficiency (ES)
Prepare students for life, college and career	
⑤	Postsecondary Assets
↻	Monthly Graduation Check (HS)
↻	5-Year Plan (MS)
↻	Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ES)
Create and enhance safety and belonging	
✗	~~Self-reported sense of safety and connection~~
↻	Daily Attendance (HS, MS, ES)

Proposed Strategic Plan

① Graduation Rate		
	Academic Growth	Life Readiness
High School	② ACT, WorkKeys, & ASVAB	⑤ Postsecondary Assets
Middle School	③ Numeracy	Early Exposure to High School Opportunities
Elementary School	④ Literacy	Expanded Opportunities for Middle School Enrichment

STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL PROPOSALS

Graduation Rate – Increase the graduation rate from **85.1%** to **86%** by the class of 2027.

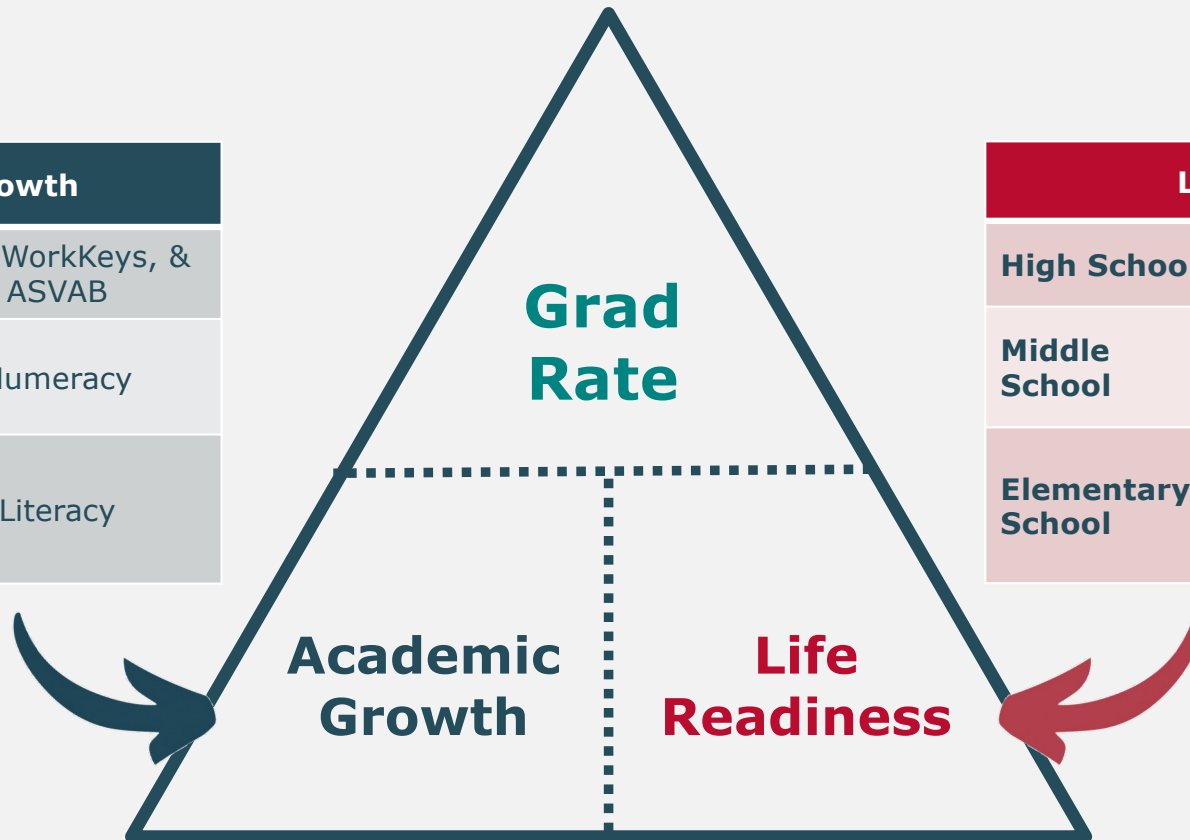
	Academic Growth	Life Readiness
High School	Increase students scoring a 21+ on the ACT, silver+ on ACT WorkKeys, or 31+ on the ASVAB from 44.6% to 46% by the class of 2027.	Increase students in the class of 2028 with one or more postsecondary asset from 53% to 65% by fall of 2027.
Middle School	Increase middle school students scoring level 2 or higher on the math state assessment from 55.2% to 58% by spring of 2027.	Increase early exposure to high school opportunities from 227 to 245 by fall of 2027.
Elementary School	Increase 3 rd – 5 th grade students scoring level 2 or higher on the ELA state assessment from 57.8% to 60% by spring of 2027.	Increase outgoing 5th grade students who do not need Tier 3 reading intervention from 82.6% to 85% by spring of 2027.

ACADEMIC GROWTH GRADE LEVEL GOALS FOR 26-27

Kindergarten	Increase students proficient on kindergarten word segmenting from 70.4% to 73%.
1 st Grade	Increase students proficient on 1 st grade CBMR from 40.6% to 44%.
2 nd Grade	Increase students proficient on 2 nd grade CBMR from 49.1% to 52%.
3 rd Grade	Increase 3 rd grade students scoring level 2 or higher on ELA KAP from 58.4% to 60%.
4 th Grade	Increase 4 th grade students scoring level 2 or higher on ELA KAP from 58.0% to 60%.
5 th Grade	Increase 5 th grade students scoring level 2 or higher on ELA KAP from 56.9% to 60%.
6 th Grade	Increase 6 th grade students scoring level 2 or higher on math KAP from 54.1% to 58%.
7 th Grade	Increase 7 th grade students scoring level 2 or higher on math KAP from 56.2% to 58%.
8 th Grade	Increase 8 th grade students scoring level 2 or higher on math KAP from 55.2% to 58%.

Reframing the Strategic Plan

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STRATEGIC PLAN BOARD UPDATES

Graduation

January

May

Academic Achievement

September

October

June

Life Readiness

November

February

March

SUPPORTING OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

We have been making gains across our Strategic Plan.
We have also engaged our staff to identify areas of needed support.
How do we identify and address areas of high need to further progress?

Essential Questions:

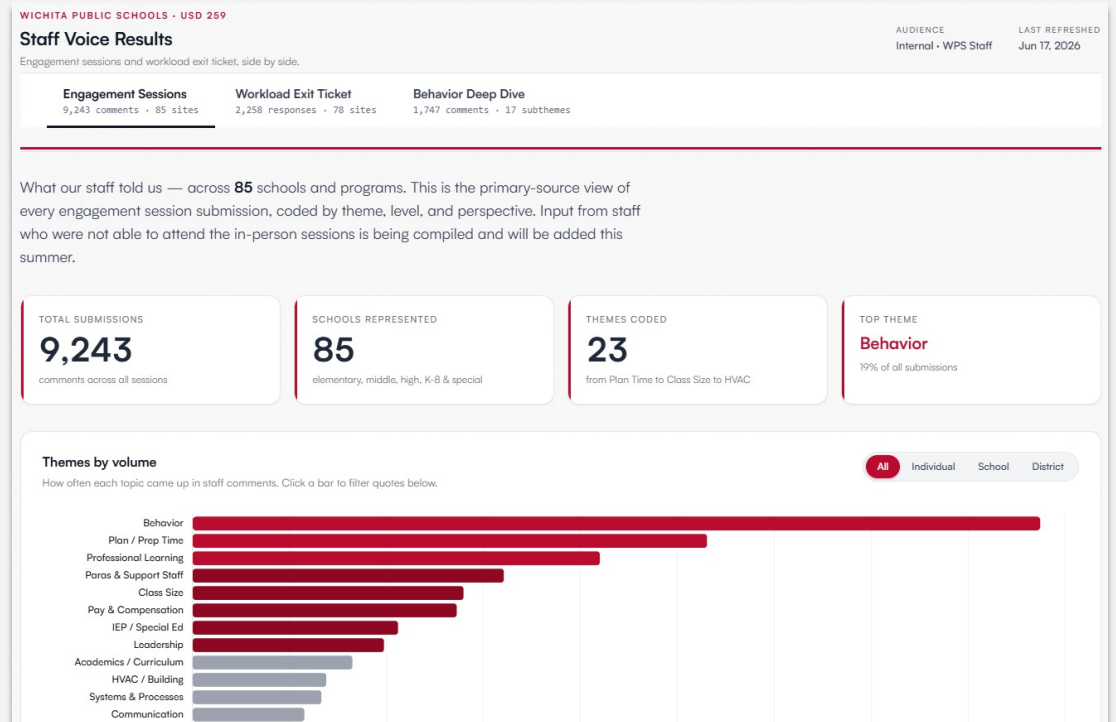
- What supports are needed?
- How do supports align to the Strategic Plan?
- What strategies do we engage to intervene?
- How do we implement and monitor progress?

WHAT SUPPORTS ARE NEEDED?

2026 WPS Listening and Engagement

WPS ENGAGEMENT IN 2025-26

- Fall Listening Tour – Facilities
- Spring Engagement Tour – Employee Experience
- Publishing Engagement Tour Dashboard (pictured)
- Bond Engagement Sessions and Community Focus Groups
- School Connection Day (April)
- Site Councils



2026 SPRING ENGAGEMENT TOUR

What is one change, support or condition that, if improved, would noticeably make an impact for:

1. Yourself (individual)
2. Your school (local)
3. Our district (system)

Open text entry on all prompts.

Table discussion on School-level reflection.

Staff discussion on WPS reflection.



SPRING ENGAGEMENT TOUR THEMES

Top 5 Themes by School Level, reflecting % share of comments (shaded for weighted emphasis)

<u>Elementary</u>	<u>K-8</u>	<u>Middle</u>	<u>High School</u>
Behavior (25%)	Class Size (14%)	Behavior (18%)	Behavior (11%)
Plan/Time (14%)	Behavior (12%)	Plan/Time (11%)	Cell Phones (8%)
Professional Learning (10%)	Professional Learning (10%)	Professional Learning (10%)	Plan Time (8%)
Paras & Support (9%)	Plan/Time (9%)	Pay (6%)	Pay (7%)
Class Size (7%)	Paras & Support; Pay; Leadership (7% Tie)	Class Size (6%)	Professional Learning (6%)

SPRING ENGAGEMENT TOUR THEMES

Top 5 Themes by School Level, reflecting % share of comments (shaded for weighted emphasis)

Elementary

K-8

Middle

High School

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BRIDGING TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN

We heard from our staff

- Student behavior is a consistent concern and most pronounced among Elementary Schools – agency in classrooms, severe behaviors, supports, consistency
- Workload demands include Behavior Plans (Elem), New Curriculum, Lesson Planning, Grading, and Student Attendance (High School)
- Increased access to ‘time’ is important (Notably Elementary), including Planning Time and Professional Learning events

...And we also know that

- Enrollment declines in 2025-26 outpaced expectations (3% instead of 1%)
- WPS Facilities and spaces exceed enrollment
- Our community wants more Future Ready Centers and innovative programming
- Our magnet design needs refreshed and aligned

HOW DO SUPPORTS ALIGN TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN?

Developing Strategic Priorities

STRUCTURES SUPPORTING OUR PROGRESS

Strategic Plan

What students should know and be able to do

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- ACT, WorkKeys, ASVAB
- Postsecondary Assets
- Engage enrichment opportunities
- Early exposure to next level opportunities
- Graduation

Strategic Priorities (New)

Creating the conditions and supports for Strategic Plan success

- Supports the Strategic Plan
- Responsive to staff voice
- Operational support focus
- Emphasis on removing barriers
- Celebrating improvements and efficiencies

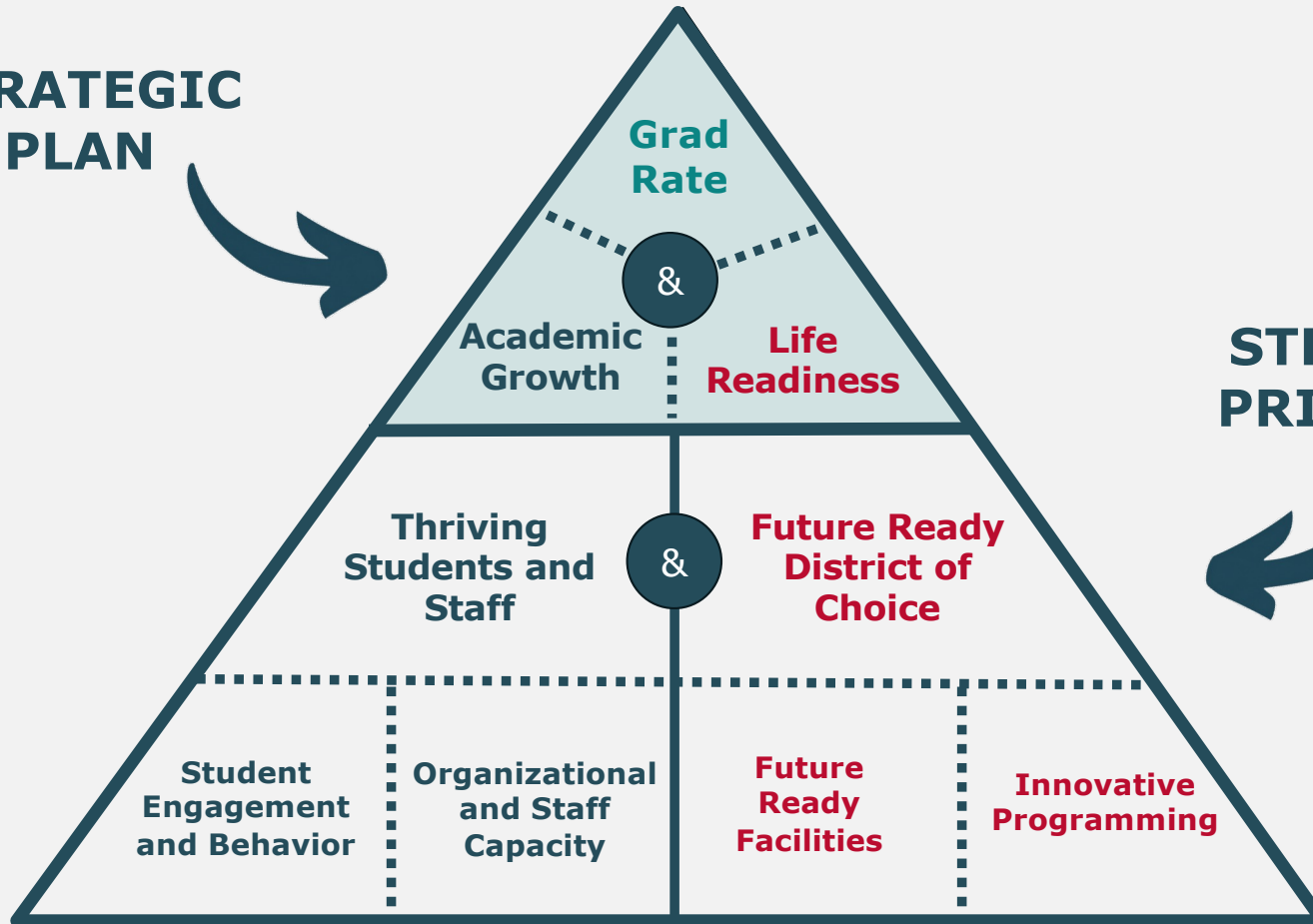
**2026-27
Addition**



'Our Why'

1. Support the Strategic Plan
2. Articulate strategic clarity – communicate priorities and connections to 2026 Tours
3. Align our highest needs with our strongest supports

**STRATEGIC
PLAN**



**STRATEGIC
PRIORITIES**



WHAT STRATEGIES DO WE ENGAGE?

Developing Strategies and Action Plans

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND BEHAVIOR

Vision

Students and staff experience a supportive culture that invests in their wellbeing and mutual success.

Strategies

- School-wide Behavior Plans
- Bell-to-bell ban on personal electronic devices
- Emergency Safety Intervention (ESI) clarity on appropriate use and reporting
- Code of Conduct revisions
- MTSS/GEI process (supporting students without overidentification)
- Re-integration processes following Level 3 Consequences
- Restorative Practices
- Elementary Alternative Program
- Microgrants for excellence in behavior strategy development

ORGANIZATIONAL AND STAFF CAPACITY

Vision

Students and staff experience a supportive culture that invests in their wellbeing and supports in their success and growth.

Strategies

- Establish a workgroup in the identification of time-saving opportunities
- Assess the time, nature, and focus of Professional Learning investments
- Provide clarity to school leaders regarding site-based decisions and central-office decisions (e.g. programs)



FUTURE READY FACILITIES

Vision

WPS is a future ready, innovative district of choice that equips students for life and career success.

Strategies

- Engage our external and internal community in Bond education
- Communicate a schedule of Capital Improvement Plan projects that affirms staff voice from the 2025 Fall Listening Tour and facility needs
- Complete internal enrollment trend study and propose necessary changes to optimize resources (people, places, and money thrive)



INNOVATIVE PROGRAMMING

Vision

Design and implement a plan that inspires employment, postsecondary enrollment, and enlistment opportunities through a comprehensive K-12 series of choice.



Strategies

- Align K-12 pathways, programming, and feeder patterns
- Sustain and improve choice and magnet programs that meet community needs
- Provide to the Board: Transportation policy options that balance family needs and District resource priorities

HOW DO WE IMPLEMENT AND MONITOR PROGRESS?

Structures and Measures

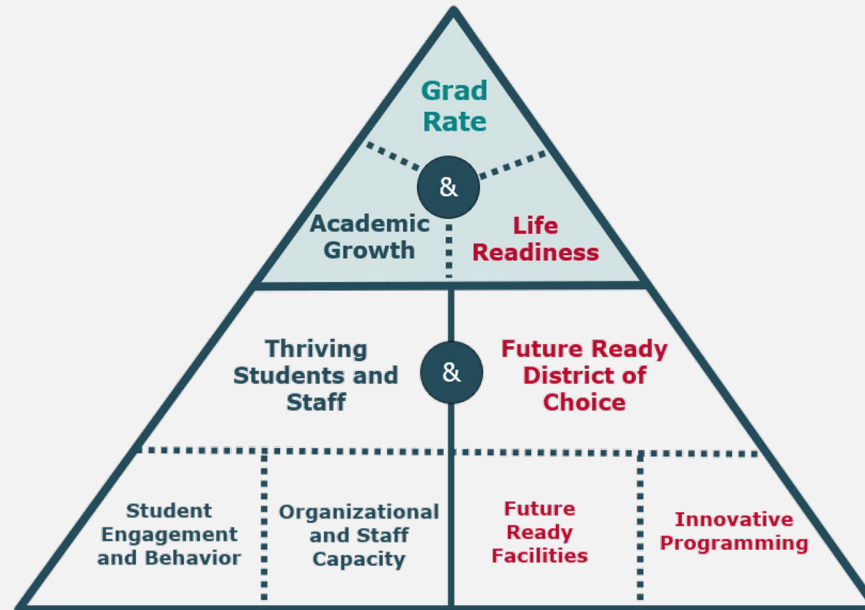
IMPLEMENTATION AND UPDATES

- Engaging partners in feedback regarding strategies and proposed direction
- Finalize action plans and resource alignment
- Identify measures of success for progress monitoring
- Establish a Strategic Priority Team to lead projects and accountability
- BOE updates at 2026-27 Board Meetings (December, April, June)
- Continue engaging staff for voice and feedback



RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Board vote to approve the proposed vision for the Strategic Plan and Strategic Priorities.



STUDENTS
TODAY
↓
LEADERS
TOMORROW

LIFE
COLLEGE
AND
CAREER

QUESTIONS

Dr. Loren Hatfield, Chief of Schools

Holly Ingram, Assistant Superintendent of Learning Services

Stephen Christian, Chief Human Resources Officer

WPSPROUD



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