What Did We Learn from the Alignment Study?

We learned that LT's Preferred Future has a strong foundation, but its five components should tell a clearer, more coherent story about the future we want for every student. The alignment report recommends refining that foundation around **GROW • LEAD • THRIVE**, with stronger attention to student agency, belonging, creativity, and future readiness.

Component	What we learned	Direction for the refresh
Mission — Why we exist	The mission already emphasizes empowering every student through engaging, innovative, supportive learning. Student ownership and leadership need greater visibility.	Preserve its foundation while explicitly including **agency, leadership, and meaningful contribution**.
Motto — Our memorable promise	A memorable promise can connect community, opportunity, and future aspirations.	Keep the current Motto. It is strong and has three powerful words that align with all components. If considering a new option discuss: **"One Community. Endless Possibilities. A Future Without Limits."** This is a recommendation for discussion, not an adopted change.
Vision — The future we intend to create	The vision should communicate an inspiring future more clearly than a general description of a learning community.	Center the vision on **"Together, we inspire every learner to grow, lead, and thrive in an ever-changing world."** Use those three verbs to guide decisions.
Core values — What we believe and how we behave	Existing values provide a strong foundation, but **voice, choice, and leadership** are not explicit enough. Values also need descriptions that show what they look like in practice.	Organize the core values into six clear statements while elevating **Voice, Choice & Leadership** and strengthening connections among excellence, belonging, innovation, community, and stewardship. Provide descriptive statements for each value. Keep the number of CORE values manageable.
Graduate Portrait — Who we want students to become	The seven competencies are strong. The report recommends making creativity, self-direction, leadership, and community contribution more visible.	Consider explicitly adding **creative and innovative thinking**, strengthening **self-directed leadership**, and broadening readiness to **college, career, life, and community**. If competencies are combined, preserve explicit expectations for responsibility, inclusion, cultural competence, and empathy. Consider consolidating the competencies into six.

The central lesson is alignment: the mission explains our purpose; the motto expresses our promise; the vision describes our intended future; the values guide our behavior; and the Graduate Portrait defines the student outcomes we seek.

When these components align, they help LT:

- **Make clearer decisions:** Evaluate programs, schedules, staffing, and resources against shared priorities.
- **Connect words to experiences:** If we promise student leadership, students need meaningful opportunities to exercise voice, choice, and ownership.
- **Focus improvement:** Long-range goals, indicators, strategies, and action plans work toward the same outcomes.
- **Build trust and accountability:** Students, staff, families, and the Board can see whether daily practice reflects our promises.

For LT, the test is simple: Do our purpose, promise, vision, values, and graduate expectations consistently support every student's ability to GROW • LEAD • THRIVE?