

Citizens Academy

September 24, 2020



LEXINGTON
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- Nearly **90%** of school age children in Lexington are enrolled in the public schools.
- We currently serve **6,937** students in grades PK through 12 (as of September 24, 2020).
- **Just under a third** of our students have a first language other than English, approximately **9%** are English language learners, approximately **14%** are receiving services for a disability and just over **5%** are economically disadvantaged.
- Our district includes **6** elementary schools (serving grades K - 5), **2** middle schools (serving grades 6 - 8) , and **1** high school (serving grades 9 - 12).
- The district is also home to a **pre-kindergarten program, the Lexington Children's Place**, and our student body includes 250 students from Boston in the **Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity, Inc. (METCO) program**. Each school also houses at least one **district-wide special education program** to service low incidence disability areas by offering more intensive support.



LPS by the Numbers

LPS & COVID-19

Our planning process started last spring and prioritizes health, safety, and the well-being of our school community (see [LPS Blueprint Planning Principles & Data Collections](#), August 20, 2020).

LPS received \$1.6 million in CARES Act funds; an additional \$2.9 million was allocated to the Town of Lexington. LPS has accounted for all \$1.6 million of the COVID-related costs.

Visit our [LPS COVID-19 website](#) for the most up-to-date news and information.

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Teaching and Learning

Did you know?

The Maria Hastings Elementary was recently (as in today!) named a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence! This is the most recent of a number of LPS school to receive the award, including Clarke (1992-93, 2013) & Bridge (2010) & Harrington (2019). Congratulations to all our Hastings Heroes!

To begin the 2020-2021 school year this fall with two teaching and learning models:

Remote Learning Academy: This option is available to any LPS student in grades PK-12 and is designed to respond to the needs of those students, families, and staff who are immunocompromised, as well as others who thrive in a remote learning environment.

Hybrid Learning Model: This option provides PK-12 students and staff with a combination of in-person and remote teaching and learning experiences

Curious about LPS RLA & Hybrid enrollment? You can check out [LPS student demographic breakdowns](#), as of September 9, 2020.

Teams of teachers and curriculum leaders from all subject areas and grades met during the summer to identify priority standards, develop lessons, and identify instructional materials to adjust to the new teaching and learning conditions for this school year. We will be offering a series of presentations at our upcoming school committee meetings to discuss how we have streamlined and adjusted out curriculum: October 6th (High School), October 20th (Middle School) and November 17th (Elementary).

Professional Learning Highlights

Summer Professional Learning

- Summer Course Catalog offered a variety of courses to educators and employees, primarily around topics of technology integration and diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- All-Staff Professional Learning Days August 18-20th were designed to share important safety, building, and scheduling updates with staff, featuring the keynote presentation *Self-Care, Healing, and Equity- Responsive Practices When The World Feels Heavy* by Dr. Dena Simmons.

Fall Professional Learning

- After giving educators a few weeks to settle into the school year, the Fall Course Catalog is about to “go live” with additional DEI, Technology, and many other course offerings.
- Lexington Learns Together, the district Professional Learning Day on November 3rd is being reimagined for this year, going fully remote! Educators will choose from a variety of workshops to attend, with a focus on DEI, hybrid, and remote learning practices, and self-care.

Programmatic Updates

Did you know?

Nearly 450 English Language Learners (ELLs) were tested remotely via Zoom this summer.

Services are delivered by our ELL staff at all of our buildings PK - LHS.

- The philosophy of the ELL Department is an additive one, meaning the purpose of all learning is not to replace a child's heritage language with English, but to grow, develop, and honor both/multiple languages.
- True bilingualism is the goal.
- ELL services this year will be delivered both in-school and remotely. This ensures that students have the opportunity to learn and practice English at home, as well as when they are in the classroom.

Finance and Operations

- **Total FY 21 Operating Budget = \$118.36M**
- Total FY 21 Capital Projects Budget = \$1.299M
- Total Enrollment = 7,190 students Oct. 1, 2019 (PK-12) Per DESE
- Per Pupil Costs = \$18,687 (FY19) Per DESE
- The role of Finance & Operations is to ensure mandated services and School Committee policies are funded
- Coordinate rounding requirements with enrollment growth and change
- Collaboration with Town Manager and Municipal Services in budget development

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Facilities and Master Planning

Did you know?

- A new Lexington Children's Place (PK) opened in September 2020 and a new Maria Hastings elementary school was opened in February 2020. This was part of a series of building projects and redistricting, with new assignment areas approved in December 2020, to address overcrowding in LPS schools.
- LHS Statement of Interest (SOI) to MSBA was re-submitted in March, 2020.

LPS & the Town of Lexington have a shared Facilities Department.

During the pandemic, our Facilities Department has been instrumental in keeping our buildings and air clean and making physical modifications to our facilities (e.g. installing plexiglass partitions and shields) to prepare for 2020 school year. As of September 8, 2020, the Department of Public Facilities has repaired 364 items out of 371 total items from our HVAC punch list (98.1% complete).

Prior to the pandemic, LPS convened a Master Planning Advisory Committee (MPAC), engaging community members in thoughtful deliberation for a period of 18 months. This effort was in partnership with the architectural firm DiNisco Design, who helped create a versatile and useful Master Plan that (1) serves as a decision-making roadmap; and (2) contains a repository of master planning data, including enrollment projections and a space utilization and program analysis. After our "pandemic pause," LPS is nearing completion on our fully updated Master Facilities Plan!

Technology

- Turn-Back of Capital Funds
- Continued 1:1 Computing Initiative
 - FY 20 - Chromebooks for all Grade 3 classrooms across LPS and increased access to iPads for all Grade K-2 students across LPS
- Professional Learning: Provided numerous courses related to technology during the Spring 2020 school closure through Fall of 2020 for the opening of school
- Wireless Upgrade: FY 21 - Increased bandwidth two-fold (5GB → 10GB connection) to accommodate increase in devices
- Collaborated with METCO to provide increased WiFi access for students to and from school
- Collaborated with Human Resources around implementing digitized workflows

Did you know?

This fall the LPS Technology Department has deployed approximately 1400 devices to elementary students while also supporting 1:1 computing for 4100 students at the middle and high school level to ensure our students have access to remote instruction during the 2020-21 school year.

Social & Emotional Learning Updates

- Interface (Counseling referral service for all Lex residents)
- K-12 Curriculum & Services, including social-emotional learning, academic advising, post-secondary planning
- TeleCounseling
- Parent Workshops (e.g. Selective College Admissions, College Financing Seminar, Bullying Prevention & Cyber-Safety, Transition to K, MS & HS)

Did You Know?

- Focus on engaging students & social connection
- Building community with *Sources of Strength* at middle schools & LHS
- Prevention: *Signs of Suicide* in grades 7 & 9
- *Minding Your Mind* program at LHS

LPS Strategic Planning

Joy in learning | Curiosity in life | Compassion in all we do.

Diversity,
Equity, and
Inclusion

Redefining
Success

LPS Core Values

We all Belong

Use Your Mind

Be Curious & Have Fun

Care for Yourself and Others

Do Your Part

Be Courageous

*Embrace Your Revolutionary
Spirit*

You are Enough

Students as
Active Agents

Authentic
Learning
Experiences



Estabrook Elementary 4th and 5th Grade
CARE FOR YOURSELF AND OTHERS

Lexington Student Voices



LEXINGTON
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

LPS Strategic Plan:

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

- Office of Equity & Student Supports
- Partnership with Community Groups
- Hiring for Diversity
- DEI Curriculum
- Outcome Disparities



How can I stay up to date on what's happening in LPS?

- Visit our [website](#).
 - See [here](#) for news and updates related to COVID-19 and LPS
- Check out School Committee agendas (posted [here](#)) and watch meetings (online or through Lexmedia)
- You can also follow @lexingtonsuper on Twitter

