

Dr. Robyn A. Klim Superintendent

March 3, 2025

Dear Lawrence families,

As we continue to work together to ensure the best possible educational experience for our students, I want to take a moment to share important information about the upcoming **March 11**, **2025**, school referendum and why your participation in this vote is so important.

At Lawrence Township Public Schools (LTPS), we are committed to providing a high-quality, forward-thinking education that meets the needs of all students. However, to maintain and enhance the learning environments that support our children's success, we want to invest in the necessary improvements to our facilities. This referendum is not about luxuries—it's about critical needs that will allow us to continue offering an exceptional education while keeping our schools safe, modern, and prepared for the future.

Through this referendum, we aim to renovate and expand our 75-year old Middle School to support 21st-century learning, and create a true middle school model by moving sixth grade to Lawrence Middle School. Research supports the 6-8 grade middle school model as the best fit for students' academic and social-emotional needs.

We know that financial decisions require careful consideration, which is why this plan has been crafted with fiscal responsibility in mind. The district waited until past debts were paid off before proposing this project, and we will receive nearly 12% of the project's cost back from the state. Going out for a referendum allows Lawrence to reclaim state education funding that we already contribute—without it, those dollars will be sent to other districts instead of benefiting our own students.

Strong schools help maintain strong property values, attract families and businesses, and create a vibrant, engaged township. This project also incorporates accessible facilities for the whole community to enjoy.

I encourage you to learn more by visiting <a href="www.ltps.org/referendum">www.ltps.org/referendum</a>, where you'll find detailed information, FAQs, and recordings of presentations.

Finally, I urge you to make your voice heard on **Tuesday, March 11**. Polls will be open from 6 am-8 pm in your <u>usual voting locations</u>.

Your vote matters, and together, we can continue to build a bright future for Lawrence Township. Thank you for your continued support of our schools and our students.

Respectfully,

Robyn A. Klim, Ed.D., LCSW

Superintendent of Schools

