

Student Opportunity Act Plan 2024-2027

We Heard You.

We engaged families, educators, administrators, and community members to prioritize areas of need for the next three years. We amplified often-marginalized voices. We looked at data to support the plan. We leaned on the expertise of school leaders to protect and grow investments that better support Lawrence students. Some priorities will remain the same from the first round of SOA funding (2020-2023), including investments in co-teaching, social emotional support and high quality instruction. Other priorities were added from community input.

The top three priorities identified in the community survey were:



Providing additional academic support



Expanding enrichment opportunities including arts, electives, and athletics



Supporting students' social emotional health



1229 responses to the community survey



46% of survey participants were families/parents/caregivers



32% of survey participants were teachers



414 responses submitted in Spanish

What is the Student Opportunity Act (SOA)?

The Student Opportunity Act (SOA) is a Massachusetts law passed in November of 2019 that seeks to remedy inequities in opportunity and achievement in the state's schools. SOA requires each district to create an evidence-based plan for reducing persistent disparities in achievement across student groups.

Student Opportunity Act Plan

We Act

Systems to Support Students and Families

We are investing in:

- Increasing number of paraprofessionals, interventionists, counselors, and behavior analysts across the district
- Adding homeless and newcomer specialists to schools
- Launching of a new Parent Academy to provide families with tools and resources to engage in their student's education
- Revamping the system of school-based translation and interpretation support
- Increasing supports for students with limited or interrupted education (SLIFE)



**\$15
MM**



**\$26
MM**

Systems to Engage in Deeper Learning

We are investing in:

- Launching and expanding a Bilingual Education Program
- Expanding Multilingual Learner and Special Education Co-Teaching programs
- Expanding of enrichment opportunities at each school
- Comprehensive college and career planning experience for high school students
- Purchase of high-quality curricular materials paired with high-quality professional development in early literacy practices, multilingualism, high-quality family engagement, culturally responsive pedagogy, and restorative practices

Hiring and Retaining Educators Committed to Lawrence's Success

We are investing in:

- Increasing partnerships with higher education institutions to develop pathways to grow our own educators and leaders
- Retention initiatives including tuition assistance, licensure coaching support, and paid teacher and leader fellowships
- Market salary adjustments for teachers, paraprofessionals, and school-based staff



**\$8
MM**

Want to read the full plan? <https://bit.ly/lawrence-soa>