

Dear Lewis-Palmer School District 38 Staff, Families, and Residents,

D38 hosted ten Community Collaboration Events during January and February. Approximately 200 parents, community members, staff, and students attended these events. We received significant input regarding our next steps in D38. You may find a full report of the results at lewispalmer.org/communitycollaboration.

In reflecting on the input we have received, it is unquestionable that our community shares a common vision to provide our students with a world-class education that prepares each and every one of them for a successful future. How we partner together in realizing this vision involves our community working together as *One Team, Our Team*. Working as a team does not mean that we always agree on every detail or see things from the same point of view. Channeled well, constructive critique and productive conflict can propel us toward exploring opportunities and possibilities in the details of our work. Conversely, if we persist in focusing on what divides us, we will inhabit a house that cannot stand. Working in opposition to each other and losing sight of what we have in common will erode the very spirit of public education, and make no mistake, our students and community will ultimately suffer the consequences. This outcome is unacceptable. Our community can do better, and our children deserve the very best we can give them.

Over the past several weeks, and in ongoing interactions with students, staff, parents, and community members since the start of my tenure, I am continually impressed and inspired by the interest and passion our community has shown in looking at different ways to tackle our challenges. When we focus on collaborating around possibilities and priorities, we can articulate a better way to move forward. Our D38 leadership team and Board of Education is fully committed to partnering with our community to provide a world-class education for every student's benefit.

To this end, I am excited to introduce the beginning of the [D38 Strategic Plan](#). The Strategic Plan specifies five key goals and related priority work under each goal to help us realize our shared vision. The goals work interdependently, and some priorities may evidence overlap and connection to multiple goals. For example, when we work to improve the physical security of our schools, this relates to the bigger goal of cultivating a safe, healthy, and welcoming school environment, while also ensuring effective asset management. Similarly, as we develop creative and sustainable ways to support our teachers and staff through compensation increases, this work strengthens our professional learning culture and demonstrates a broader commitment to ensuring high-quality education and relevant educational experiences for all students.

While our goals and priorities paint the bigger picture of what we are striving to achieve in our Strategic Plan, we still need to take additional steps to identify measurable objectives, key action steps, attainable timelines, responsible parties, and resources needed to accomplish our goals. We look forward to continuing to partner with our broader community to accomplish this work and make our plan a living and breathing document for all to see. As we indicated in our Community Collaboration Events, we will be utilizing community task forces to help support different goals and priority work. If you expressed an interest in serving on a task force, we will follow up with you soon. If you would like to express interest now, please contact info@lewispalmer.org.

Thank you all for your continued support and investment in D38 schools and the future success of every one of our students.

In Partnership,

K.C. Somers, Ed.D.

Superintendent

Lewis-Palmer School District 38