

Dissemination

“Learning from successful practices of Lawrence charter schools in engaging parents and promoting educational excellence”

“There is a perception within the City of Lawrence that the charter schools have higher parent participation. There are varying opinions as to why this is—parents are strongly encouraged to participate; teachers and administration dedicate more time to reach out to parents—but a consensus is that they are doing something right when it comes to getting parents in the door.”

Excerpt from *“Opening the Circle” Parental Aspirations for Lawrence’s Schools*
The Executive Summary/Lawrence CommunityWorks

Following the declaration that Lawrence public schools were “chronically underperforming” (2011), the state appointed a receiver to create sweeping changes and develop a turnaround for the system.

Lawrence CommunityWorks, a local non profit, planned a series of Parent Circles—neighborhood gatherings to document parent thoughts and attitudes on education in the City. Similar in concept and intent to the Parent Mobilization Project of LFDEF, Inc. that identified parent involvement as a core principle of LFDCS, the outcome report, presented at the Lawrence Public Library, featured Ralph L. Carrero, LFDCS Superintendent, as a panelist. He was able to address all topics of parent involvement at our school and questions raised by the audience of over 200.

Dissemination of LFDCS’s parent participation model as a central aspect of student achievements was presented at this panel discussion presentation, through this published report, media coverage, a radio talk show and a conference for educators at Salem State University.