

Family Leadership Institute

Update
March 11, 2022



Equity. Excellence. Empowerment.

Agenda

1. Review of core beliefs and fundamental commitments
2. Overview of Student Demographic Data
3. Review of Overarching Goals of Parent Leadership Institute
4. Potential Strands within the Institute
5. Needs/Next Steps

Lowell Public Schools Demographics

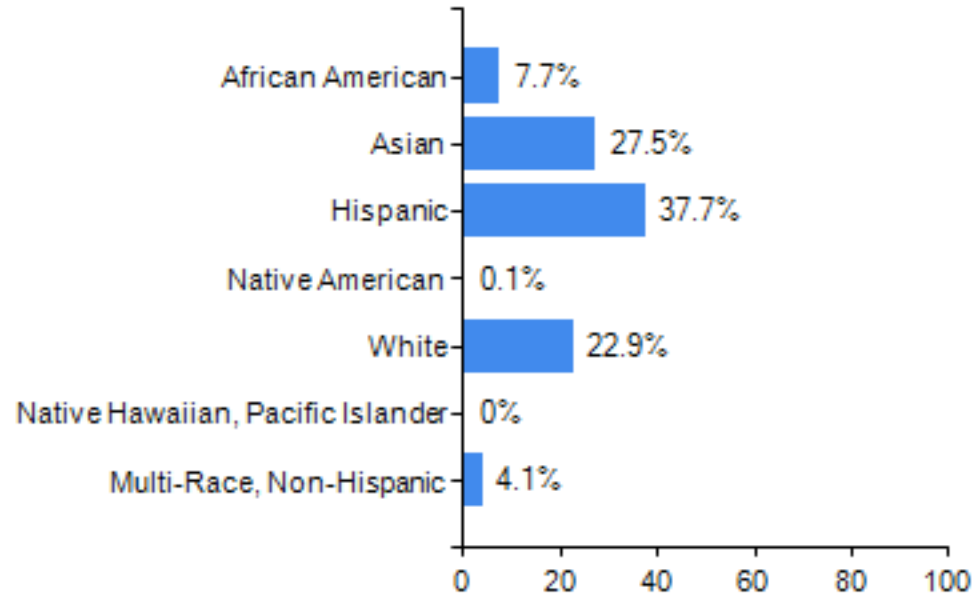
District Type
Public

Number of Schools
27

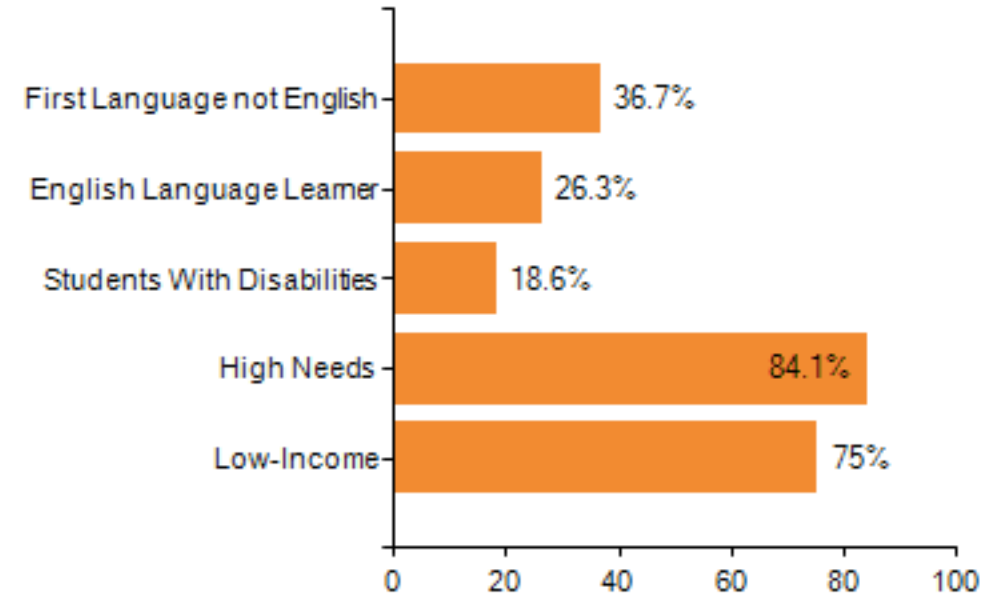
Enrollment
13,991

Grades Served
PK - 12

Student Race and Ethnicity



Selected Populations



Core Beliefs

- A high-quality education is a fundamental civil right of every child.
- Teaching and Learning is the core of our work.
- Families are students' first teachers.
- Sustainable school improvement requires hard and steady work over time.
- Every adult in the system is accountable for the success of all students; the entire community is responsible for their success.

Fundamental Commitments

- Eliminate the racial, ethnic and linguistic achievement and opportunity gaps among all students.
- Provide equitable funding and resources among the district's diverse schools.
- Engage all families with courtesy, dignity, respect and cultural understanding.

Overarching Goals

1. Strengthen individual families' knowledge, skills, advocacy and empowerment
2. Develop of cohort of family leaders who can serve in formal and informal family leadership and advocacy capacities
3. Develop a two-way process where the district and schools learn strategies for improved family engagement *through* engagement with families

Family Institute Strands

1. Workshops and Trainings for Individual Families
2. Referrals and Expanded Workforce/Economic Advancement Opportunities Provided through Strategic District-Community Partnerships
3. Formal Family Leadership Pipeline in Partnership with Post-Secondary Institution(s)

Family Institute Strands

Workshops and Trainings for Families in multiple languages, including topics such as:

- US/Lowell Education System
- College and Career Readiness (all grade levels)
- Literacy (preK-grade 3)
- Social Emotional Learning and Mental Health
- Technology/Digital Literacy
- Advocacy and Empowerment

Family Institute Strands

Workforce/Economic Advancement Opportunities Provided through Strategic District-Community Partnerships

(Adult Education Center; Mass Hire; Job Corp; MA Rehab; Additional Workforce Development Programs, etc.)

- GED
- High School Equivalency/Adult Diploma Program
- ESOL
- Job Placement (including district opportunities)

Family Institute Strands

Formal Family Leadership Pipeline in Partnership with Post-Secondary Institution(s)

College credit/certificate to build knowledge and skills for family leaders to lead in formal positions in core areas such as:

Special Education (SPED PAC), Bilingual Education (EL PAC),
General Parent Leadership (Citywide Family Council), etc.

Family Institute Needs

1. Director of Family Engagement
2. Funding to develop and implement workshops/trainings
3. Funding for developing college leadership cohort for parents
4. Funding for parent-led workshop facilitation
5. Ongoing planning and engagement with community partners and families