

LOWER SCHOOL

Diversity Consortium

THE VALUE OF A PRIVATE/
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL EDUCATION

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

7:00 - 8:30 PM ON ZOOM

As independent schools first began to diversify, they did so by bringing students into their communities from singular economic and geographic backgrounds. Because the LSDC is aware of the danger of a single story, our aim is to reach all Boston area Black and Hispanic/Latinx families, to make ourselves known as schools that welcome and value a multitude of perspectives. We acknowledge the complex and difficult history of independent schools and understand the reservations families may have as they consider whether to enroll their child(ren) at a historically White institution. As members of the LSDC, we feel confident in our schools' commitment to diverse, equitable, and inclusive practices and in the transformational educational experience that each of our schools provides.

Participating Schools



DERBY
ACADEMY
1784



Moderator & Panelists

D.A. Rachael S. Rollins, Special Welcome

is the United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts. Confirmed by the United States Senate on Dec. 8, 2021, Ms. Rollins is the chief federal law enforcement officer for the District of Massachusetts and the first Black woman to hold the position. Rachel is a 1989 alum of BB&N, and a current parent of a BB&N student.



Lawrence Alexander, Moderator

is the leader for Carney, Sandoe & Associates' Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion practice, which is responsible for leading retained searches for school leaders and providing consultative support for boards, executive leadership, and faculty and staff.



Karla Winter, Panelist

is a Senior Manager Consultant at Leidos Engineering working in the Energy Management Industry leading Energy Efficiency initiatives in the Northeast. Karla has several years of experience in business management in different industries working as a consultant in Latin America, and as an entrepreneur in Boston. She is a parent of two boys; a sixth grader and a ninth grader at BB&N. Karla is Co-chair volunteer at LAHFA group (Latin American and Hispanic Families Association) at BB&N.



Brandon Allen, Panelist

is a founding partner of TXV Partners, an early-stage human performance and software venture firm headquartered in Austin, TX. He focuses on investments across consumer technology and software. Prior to TXV, Brandon was a management consultant for Charlic and Stax. In 2019, Brandon was appointed by Governor Greg Abbott to serve on the board of the Texas Chiropractic Examiners. Brandon is a Brimmer and May alum of 2012.



Brandon Odom, Panelist

is the Head of Middle School at the Fessenden School in West Newton, MA. Before joining the Fessenden community, he served as an Upper School Assistant Dean of Students and Associate Director of Admissions at Thayer Academy in Braintree, MA. In his many roles in independent schools, he has worked on developing a strong partnership between students, parents, faculty, and staff to cultivate an inclusive community.



Aldo Guerrero, Panelist

is the Director of Risk Management & Safety at Unifirst, leading a proactive, strategic approach to risk management, assessment, and mitigation. Aldo is responsible for broadly leading the various insurance programs, safety initiatives, and needs, including all resources that support placement, renewal, and marketing. Aldo is a current parent at Milton Academy.



Sharra Owens-Schwartz, Panelist

is the parent of a 6th grader at Belmont Day School. She is the Vice President of DEI at Rocket Software and is the first ever global diversity, equity and inclusion leader at the company. She chairs the Diversity Committee. Sharra is a member of the Board of Advisors for Massachusetts Technology Leaders Council, Boston Area DEI Group, Making Our Strong Communities Stronger DEI Collaborative Initiative and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.



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