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Message from the Superintendent of Schools Dr. Laurie Heinz

To the District 64 Community:

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 has a long-standing reputation of excellence. We educate approximately 4,400 students within eight schools from early childhood through grade eight. We are located in northern Cook County where schools are innovative, high achieving and some of the best that Illinois has to offer. Our students move onto Maine Township District 207 where academic excellence focuses on acceleration of learning and preparedness for an educational experience beyond high school. District 64 and District 207 work collaboratively to align programs and services to ensure we meet the changing needs of our student body, and the internal and external demands of increased academic rigor, while ensuring fiscal accountability to the Board of Education and larger community.

In order to do so, we need to be extraordinarily focused on our goals with a clearly outlined roadmap to reach them. Our new 2020 Vision Strategic Plan provides this direction. Our goals have been prioritized to provide a clear and unambiguous roadmap leading us to 2020. It is this focus on continuous improvement -- a "growth" mindset -- coupled with a future focus that helps frame why our 2020 Vision is of critical importance to District 64.

The development of the plan was led by consultant Bob Ewy and a steering committee comprised of almost 40 staff and community members. The committee has already received input from almost 1,000 community members who participated in surveys earlier this spring regarding their desires for District 64; who engaged with the Steering Committee directly through community outreach with stakeholder groups, such as Rotary and Kiwanis; who participated at preview sessions; or who emailed or talked with me in my visits with parents, staff and community members. Such outreach mattered in order to ensure many voices were represented and to help shape our five-year plan. The plan took four months to develop with the committee and Mr. Ewy. The District's senior leadership team also worked in between committee sessions with guidance from Mr. Ewy to further craft objectives and outcomes.

The document defines both *what* is important to achieve (the strategic objectives) as well as *how* they will be achieved (strategies and outcomes). The educational landscape continues to change rapidly. Therefore, our most important focus over the next five years is to accomplish the six objectives defined in the strategic plan. These goals and their related strategies, desired outcomes, and indicators, will drive our continuous improvement efforts across all schools and administrative departments for the benefit of all students.

The District 64 strategic plan provides the Board of Education, administration and both professional and support staff direction over an extended period of time to organize expertise, develop systems, and allocate resources to achieve the District's mission. It also includes the basic measures (key performance indicators) in a *Balanced Scorecard* that will be used to assess that progress from where we are now -- our baseline -- through the next five years. The success of District 64 is defined when



looking across multiple measures in this new tool -- a *Balanced Scorecard*. This scorecard will help us monitor and report progress toward goals to the Board of Education and larger District 64 community. Goals that are well written and monitored will help clarify our work and allow us to know when we have met our targets. The scorecard will also provide a wide array of measurable data that can be displayed on our Website, adding a further level of transparency. We believe these measures will serve as strong predictors of our success in fulfilling our mission and vision.

The strategic plan will be used by the Board of Education and District staff to improve organizational alignment and performance. It will help make the best use of the valuable financial and human resources the community provides the District by improving efficiency and effectiveness.

We are proud to present this plan and look forward to moving together toward our shared 2020 Vision for District 64

For Your Children, Dr. Laurie Heinz, Superintendent



Message from the District 64 Board of Education Dr. Anthony Borrelli, President

To the District 64 Community:

With the conclusion of our existing five-year strategic plan, the Board of Education directed the Superintendent to conduct the formation of a new plan to look forward to 2020. The time frame of five years allows for the development of new educational methodology and best practice in education and provides for the real life implementation into the educational programs of our District.

A strategic plan can take many forms and can have many purposes. The definition offered by our planning facilitator Bob Ewy affirms that the primary value of strategic planning is its power to involve people in a process leading to new understandings and insights about what District 64 might confront in the future and how it should react to those challenges. Some future challenges can be anticipated, others cannot. As identified through our community-informed planning process, our new District 64 plan anticipates the challenges that might affect the future health and well-being of the District as best we know them now, what they imply for the education of our students, and what should be put in place to address and resolve them.

The strategic plan is the map with which the District directs its priorities in all aspects of education from reading to math to social/emotional growth, as well as our facilities and financial challenges. But not only does the map provide the goals and aspirations that the District would like to achieve, the strategic plan also measures those intended outcomes as a measure of success in the implementation of the plan itself.

The strategic plan put forth to the community by the Board of Education is an active one that is intended to provide results, not just activity. This plan is results-oriented. All strategies and goals of the plan, developed through the contribution of numerous members of the community, staff and administration of the District, intend for a constant focus on *continuous improvement*. Continuous improvement means this District and this Board will not be satisfied with the status quo. The taxpayers of this District and the children of this District deserve the best that can be educationally provided for by the District.

On behalf of the taxpayers of the District, the Board of Education of District 64 endorses the continually improving goals, directions and outcomes of the District over the next five years through the 2020 Vision Strategic Plan document.

On behalf of the Board, Dr. Anthony Borrelli, President



DISTRICT MISSION AND VISION

The mission statement is a concise statement that focuses the community and District staff on the most essential outcome District 64 hopes to achieve. Our mission statement is a description of what needs to be accomplished for the benefit of our students. It is a statement of the basic purpose of District 64, of the reason why the school district exists.

Mission: Inspire every child to discover, learn, achieve, and care.

A vision statement is a broad and general description of what District 64 wants to achieve or accomplish for its students in the future. It helps all District stakeholders visualize where we want to go and what we are trying to build. It serves as a guide for choosing current and future courses of action.

Vision: Inspire all students to discover their strengths, embrace learning, achieve personal excellence, and demonstrate care. Students thrive in a rich, rigorous, and innovative curriculum delivered by highly qualified teachers. Each student learns and grows in a safe, nurturing environment. In collaboration with students, parents, teachers and the community, District 64 provides opportunities for each learner to investigate, be successful, be resilient, and become inspired and empowered as they contribute to our global society.

GUIDING PHILOSOPHY: CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

At its essence, continuous improvement means the desire to get better minute by minute, hour by hour, and day by day. It is an acknowledgement that nothing in any organization is perfect and that there are multiple opportunities for improvement that continuously present themselves. Continuous improvement is the recognition that the pursuit of excellence is a moving target. What is excellent today may be the definition of mediocrity tomorrow. Never accepting the status quo is the only way to keep a great school district great. In short, we practice continuous improvement so tomorrow is better than today. Stated another way, if you stand still, you'll get left behind.

Continuous improvement is what we desire for our students as they learn throughout the year and move from grade level to grade level and subject area to subject area. It is the Park Ridge-Niles District 64 staff commitment to this growth mindset that creates outstanding student performance levels in academics, the arts, and in physical performance. The results staff members achieve is a reflection of how well continuous improvement is practiced across all schools and departments.

The successful practice of continuous improvement focuses on:

- improvements that are based on many, small changes rather than large radical changes;
- ideas for improvement that come from the talents of the existing staff, a recognition of the broad range of expertise and information among staff members;



- a habitual practice staff members use to continually seek ways to improve their own performance; and
- a District-wide standardized approach to the practice of continuous improvement.

In order for continuous improvement to work effectively, a related district practice must also work equally effectively, that of data-informed decisions. Data-informed decisions require the continual collection of accurate information in order to improve productivity, eliminate waste, and manage the District's resources effectively and efficiently. The focus for data collection are the six strategic objectives.

The District Balanced Scorecard is used from several perspectives. School Board members, District staff, and community members use it to analyze the general performance of the District. The Balanced Scorecard also is used by department personnel to analyze how well strategies defined in the District strategic plan are working, are targets being met, and are outcomes being achieved. If not, are improvement activities being initiated? Additionally, the Balanced Scorecard is used by staff members to monitor performance and determine improvement priorities, an essential part of school improvement planning.

CURRENT AND FUTURE CHALLENGES

District 64 has worked hard over the years to develop a reputation described as a standard of excellence in education. This standard of excellence is constantly challenged by local, state, and national economic conditions, by state and national unfunded mandates, by technological innovations, and by societal demands and pressures for increased accountability. The world in which we live continually demands better systems and tools to achieve high levels of performance. District 64 is constantly faced with the challenge of achieving higher and higher levels of excellence, while operating in the new national norm of doing more with less. Constant attention to these challenges and how they interact with the District is necessary in order to continue to live up to our standard of excellence reputation.

Understanding and addressing these challenges is one of the main reason the District has created this strategic plan. Carefully defining these challenges enables the development of relevant strategic objectives that create the opportunity to not only sustain District 64 over time, but focuses improvement activities where they will have the greatest potential to positively influence students' learning experiences. The six following **challenges** (in no rank order) were identified using an external and internal scanning process, the collection of community survey information as well as community outreach by the Strategic Planning Steering Committee.

Key challenges District 64 faces:

- 1. Meet the increasing academic, behavioral, physical, social, and emotional health needs of our students. (1A-C, 2A-C, 3A-B)
- 2. Provide a rigorous educational program that will prepare students for a successful high school experience and future careers. (1A-C, 2A-C, 3A-B)
- 3. Maintain the current variety of programs and services with the constraint of limited and diminishing financial resources while complying with state and federal mandates. (5B, 6A-F)
- 4. Provide students with real-world, complex problem-based learning within the regular school



- curriculum. (1A-1C, 2B)
- 5. Provide learning spaces in aging facilities and also accommodate other student needs in schools that are safe and secure. (5A-C, 6B)
- 6. Provide the necessary professional development and staff support for the ever changing demands to implement new and updated educational and technological innovations. (4A-C)

These challenges drive the most important strategic objectives for District 64 to address over the next five years. By focusing on these challenges, the District is assuring each student the best possible education that prepares them to be successful in high school and beyond. That said, as the educational and financial landscape continues to shift, our plan will adapt as needed. The Strategic Planning Committee will meet annually to revisit Strategic Objectives and Challenges.



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE ONE:

Develop Students Who Master the 4C's - Communication, Collaboration, Creativity, and Critical Thinking

District 64 students face a world in which access to knowledge and integration of technology will continue to grow, evolve, and change at a rapid pace. To be ready for these unknown challenges, students must be creative, innovative, agile, and resourceful problem-solvers.

To meet this challenge, District 64 will need to provide students with complex, real-world inquiry-based learning opportunities. They collaborate with students in their classroom, from across the District, and across the world to focus on solving community, state, national, or world issues/problems of interest. They think critically and demonstrate artistic expression. Technology supports their approach to inquiry-based learning. Students will become adept at the four C's (communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking) as outlined in the "Framework for 21st Century Learning" researched by the Partnership for 21st Century Learning.

Strategy	Desired Outcomes	Measures
A. Engaging, Motivating, and Challenging Educational Program The educational program includes opportunities that prepare students to achieve success in high school and beyond. These opportunities enable students to: (1) explore, discover, and optimize their individual strengths; and (2) recognize and help them overcome their weaknesses. Student outcomes are evaluated and benchmarked locally and nationally against the best educational systems.	Early Childhood - grade 8 Core, Encore, and Elective offerings broaden student experiences, prepare all subgroups to achieve success in high school and beyond, and support critical thinking and creative expression. Program reviews are conducted and recommendations are implemented (e.g., kindergarten program, middle school program, Channels of Challenge program) A curriculum review cycle that provides timely audit of current practices and research.	Learning Walks (non-evaluative) levels of student engagement (UNDER DEVELOPMENT) Spring-to-spring comparative analysis of PARCC and MAP achievement (status and growth) to benchmark districts in reading and math (Data available in Fall 2015) Student mastery of increasingly rigorous targets set for Educational Ends assessments District 207 high school performance portfolio (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)
B. Inquiry-Based Learning Integrate inquiry-based learning into curricular experiences. We learn best when we are at the center of our own learning. Within the context of our Board-approved curriculum, inquiry-based learning is a learning process through questions generated from the interests, curiosities, and perspectives of the learner. Students explore interconnected concepts and collaborate to address real-world problems for an	Students regularly experience authentic learning activities designed to answer a question, solve a problem, or develop something that reflects the kinds of issues and situations found outside of class. Students conduct learning projects in areas of study linked to Common Core State Standards (CCSS)/District Priority Standards. Students have opportunities to explore their curiosities, talents and interests.	A minimum of two inquiry-based learning units at each grade level (to be developed). Student performance rubric for the 4 C's (UNDER DEVELOPMENT): • communication • collaboration • creativity • critical thinking



authentic audience.	Students are skilled in communicating, collaborating, thinking critically, and designing creatively (learning targets incorporated with CCSS).	
C. Technology Integration We use technology and digital resources to provide differentiated learning experiences for students. Technology provides a consistent structure for students to learn, work, and practice collaboratively and independently in an interactive digital environment.	Students work in collaborative, engaging, relevant, and personalized learning environments with the use of modern technology for all learners. Teachers have a high level of comfort in integrating technology into their instructional practice and classroom learning environment.	Learning Walks (non-evaluative) levels of implementation (UNDER DEVELOPMENT) Grades 3-8 Students self-reporting on BrightBytes questionnaire data for the Classroom domain Grades K-8 Teachers self-reporting on BrightBytes questionnaire data for the Classroom domain Survey to Parents regarding 1:1 Chromebook initiative (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE TWO:

Provide a Rigorous Education for All Students

Appropriately rigorous learning experiences motivate students to learn more and learn it more deeply, while also giving them a sense of personal accomplishment when they overcome a learning challenge. A rigorous education is grounded in the concept of educational equity, the belief that all students—regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, English proficiency, or disability—should pursue a challenging course of study that will prepare them for success in high school. In a rigorous educational system, instruction and assessment are driven by formally adopted standards and measurable outcomes.

In an rigorous educational system, teachers employ high-impact instructional strategies to support students with mastery. Practices that have a significant impact on student learning are: standards-based planning, formative assessment (including feedback and individual student goal-setting), creating a classroom culture for learning, and differentiation. Rigorous educational systems recognize that the social-emotional health of students contributes not only to students' academic success, but also to their overall well-being.

Strategy Desired Outcomes Measures Curriculum Maps are aligned to A. Aligned, Articulated Curriculum % of completed curriculum maps District 64 will have a written state and national standards. for each Core, Encore, and Elective course curriculum in all subject areas to ensure that students across grade Curriculum Maps identify the levels are learning the same content. Learning Walks (non-evaluative) essential learning outcomes that The curriculum will be based on to determine student must be taught by grading period at national standards. understanding of learning each grade level or course in all outcomes and goals (UNDER subject areas. Standards-based education creates DEVELOPMENT) high expectations for all students and Learning outcomes have been provides a consistent guide for the % of documented and online unit evaluation of student work. A core repacked into unit plans for all plans that include common set of standards-based concepts and formative and summative subject areas. competencies form the basis of what assessments all students should learn. Unit plans are documented and easily accessible to staff. The written curriculum identifies intervention and enrichment options and includes aligned instructional materials. Staff, students and families know the learning expectations for each unit of instruction in all subject areas to answer the question "What must all students know and be able to do by the end of this unit?" (e.g., via Web page, newsletter, email) Teacher teams have common pre-assessments, formative, and



	summative assessments that are accurate, valid, and aligned to learning outcomes for each unit.	
B. High-Impact Instruction Use the teaching strategies that will cause the greatest student achievement. These strategies are: • standards-based planning • formative assessment (including feedback and individual student goal-setting) • positive classroom culture • differentiation Learning is differentiated to particular academic needs, interests, and learning preferences. The learner has a voice and choice about the what, when, and how of his/her own learning.	Classroom instruction is characterized by high expectations; clear and consistent learning targets; a variety of opportunities to demonstrate levels of understanding. It also includes high levels of engagement and student initiative. Teachers integrate high-impact instructional strategies to support student learning. These strategies are: standards-based planning formative assessment (including feedback and individual student goal-setting) positive classroom culture differentiation Teachers use common formative and summative assessments results to improve instruction, determine student intervention and enrichment needs, and monitor individual student learning. Implementation of District-wide SEL program which fosters a District 64 learning culture.	Learning Walks (non-evaluative) - levels of student engagement (UNDER DEVELOPMENT) Spring-to-spring comparative analysis of PARCC and MAP achievement (status and growth) to benchmark districts (Data available in Fall 2015) Student mastery of increasingly rigorous targets set for Educational Ends assessments Social-Emotional Learning indicators (UNDER DEVELOPMENT) 5 Essentials (5E) Survey for students (grades 6-8) in the areas of Ambitious Instruction & Academic Personalism
C. Standards-Based Reporting Standards-based reporting makes it clear what students are learning. It shares information about student performance and growth related to priority learning outcomes. In District 64, the Mastery Learning Committee has convened to address this topic.	Parents and schools communicate regularly and clearly about information important to student success. Schools inform families about standards and how they relate to the curriculum, learning objectives, methods of assessment, school programs, discipline codes, and student progress to promote two-way communication. Comprehensive standards-based reporting system that provides all stakeholders with accurate information about student performance and growth related to learning outcomes.	Stakeholder satisfaction survey to determine effectiveness of standards-based reporting (UNDER DEVELOPMENT) Parent University exit slips (UNDER DEVELOPMENT) Clear targets and current performance posted to Website dashboard annually (MAP, PARCC, subgroup performance, Educational Ends)



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE THREE:

Differentiate to Meet the Academic and Social/Emotional Health Needs of All Students

Differentiated educational experiences enable students to become engaged, self-directed learners who are socially competent, emotionally self-aware and demonstrate resilience.

The notion of a public education available to all students "on equal terms" has broadened to include considerations for an increasingly diverse population of school children. This increased diversity among students in District 64 includes languages, families, cultural backgrounds, economic levels, and life experiences. Instructional accommodations, modifications, and differentiation all center on addressing the individual learning needs of students, supporting their mastery of content standards and related indicators.

District 64 applies appropriate methods to identify the extent to which each need impacts a student's education. Customizing academic, creative, behavioral, physical, social, and emotional learning opportunities maximizes student growth. Customization requires articulating clear learning targets, coaching students to set rigorous personal goals, and partnering with students to monitor and reflect at timely intervals.

Strategy	Desired Outcomes	Measures
A. High-Quality Tier 2 and Tier 3 Intervention Tier 2 and 3 interventions are offered in addition to participation in high-quality Tier 1 classroom instruction. Tier 2 and	Three tiers of instruction are provided in Math, Reading, Writing, and Social Emotional Learning (SEL).	Spring-to-spring comparative analysis of subgroup achievement on PARCC and MAP (status and growth) to benchmark districts (Data available in Fall 2015)
3 instruction must be qualitatively different from initial instruction, offer students a new approach, and offer additional learning time. In District 64, the Core Plus Committee has convened	Students are provided appropriate program/service options to support their learning.	Tier 2 and Tier 3 intervention participation rates for students with at-risk academic performance
to address this topic.	Students master grade-level curriculum and are prepared for success at the next grade or subject level.	Special Education students serviced in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) data
	Student mastery is analyzed by grade level, subject area, and identified groups, including: English Learners (EL), special education (Individualized Education Plan - IEP), and low socioeconomic status (SES).	
B. Data-Driven Decision-Making	District 64 has Data	Implementation rates of
Schools must establish a strong culture	Decision-Making Guidelines and	data-based decision-making
of data, which is used to ensure that data-driven decisions are made frequently, consistently, and	uses this process for continual improvement.	guidelines by school (fidelity checklists)
appropriately. This data culture should emphasize collaboration across and	Teachers set target and learning goals for all students in Tier 2	PARCC/DLM performance gaps for specific subgroups [special
within grade levels and subject areas to	and Tier 3.	education (IEP), low



diagnose problems and refine educational practices.	Students examine their own data, know their learning goals, and actively work to reach them.	socioeconomic status (SES), and English Learners (EL)] (Data available in Fall 2015)
	Student mastery is analyzed by grade level, subject area, and identified groups, including: English Learners (EL), Individualized Education Plan (IEP), and low Socioeconomic Status (SES).	MAP performance gaps for specific subgroups [Special Education (IEP), low socioeconomic status (SES), and English Learners (EL)] (Data available in Fall 2015)



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE FOUR:

Foster Effective Communities of Practice Through Professional Development and Staff Support

Achieving a rigorous education based on high academic and behavioral expectations for all students can only be achieved by actively supporting educators in their continual development of professional skills and knowledge. Educators need to continue to build a shared knowledge and a solid foundation to support students in fulfilling their academic, social, physical, creative, behavioral, and emotional potential. New discoveries in instructional practice and applications of technology to the learning environment require staff members to stay current in their chosen profession, which requires face-to-face and virtual opportunities for development and training. These interactions occur in an environment of collaboration and shared decision-making with staff and administrators to assure that the best opportunities for development experiences are available to all staff.

Strategy	Desired Outcomes	Measures
A. Collaboration & Teaming for Continuous Improvement Expand a culture founded on	Opportunities to grow professionally in a collaborative and teaming culture are frequent.	5 Essentials survey data in the areas of Collaborative Teachers & Effective Leaders
collaboration and teaming. Build a culture of continuous improvement through a growth	The District maximizes time, talent, trust, respect, teacher empowerment, and collaboration to	District teacher satisfaction survey (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)
mindset.	improve results in student growth and achievement.	District parents satisfaction survey (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)
	Individual, department, and building goals are aligned to achieve District goals.	Percentage of school SMART goals achieved
B. Professional Communities of	All teachers participate in	Participation rates in Communities
Practice	face-to-face and virtual	of Practice
Professional staff are given opportunities to work as colleagues and participate in	collaborative learning opportunities focused on strategic plan initiatives.	Communities of Practice feedback
learning communities. They critically reflect on the teaching process, the thinking and actions of students, and	Teachers have continuous access to information and can become part of a learning community at anytime.	
content. They grow professionally through dialogue, inquiry, and action research.	Teacher leaders moderate learning community discussions and actions as part of discussion groups related to their area of expertise. Staff	
Staff development and professional learning are not	members participate and share best practice examples.	
restrained by location through the use of virtual and online activities.	Face-to-face staff development is followed by an ongoing series of virtual learning community discussions about how to apply	



Professional Professional Development Provide differentiated professional development in five areas: • standards-based planning • formative assessment (including feedback and individual student goal-setting) initial tra Professional professional Professional high-implidentified bigh-implidentified feedback and individual student goal-setting)	determine level of implementation (UNDER DEVELOPMENT) ent will support the ent of Strategic determine level of implementation (UNDER DEVELOPMENT) Coaching program satisfaction feedback
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STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE FIVE:

Provide Safe and Secure Learning Spaces to Support 21st Century Learners

Student learning is enhanced by the school environment in which they learn. The capacity and flexibility of facilities to support learning creates opportunities for teachers to deliver differentiated, innovative curriculum for students.

As the Master Facilities Plan will outline, the most important actions of District 64 to create optimal learning environments are to:

- Manage resources efficiently and effectively to enhance teaching and learning;
- Provide attractive, safe, secure, and healthy spaces in which students can engage in active and meaningful ways;
- Create flexible spaces that foster communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity among students and staff;
- Create engaging, technology-rich learning environments;
- Explore ways to obtain community and business support by responding to opportunities to obtain available grant money and other resources;
- Be a good steward of the environment and the community by designing or redesigning facilities that are energy efficient and sustainable; and
- Monitor population trends and examine building additions, boundary changes or grade center learning spaces options.

This will require being creative about the way space is used, and rethinking how to make space more functional, more collaborative and flexible.

Strategy	Desired Outcomes	Measures
A. Life Safety & Universal Access Incorporate life-safety requirements and Universal Access into facility projects.	The District's facilities are in compliance with the Illinois School Code including the School Construction Code, Health Life Safety requirements, the Illinois Barriers Act and all other referenced codes.	Completion of all required Category A items identified in the Health Life Safety Survey in the required timeframe ADA accessibility requirements will be addressed for each facility. Based on code requirements and available funding, the District will make improvements in the ADA accessibility of our facilities.
B. Master Facilities Plan The District will be thoughtful in the way it designs facility and site improvements to create functional, collaborative, and flexible spaces consistent with enrollment projections.	Mindful of financial resources, District facilities are functional, collaborative, and flexible spaces that meet changing student enrollment and support 21st century learning.	Projects are aligned with Strategic Plan and available funding. Administration prioritizes projects, bringing recommendation and funding source information to Board for approval on a yearly basis.



	Implementation of Master Facilities Plan as prioritized over the life of the five-year plan and beyond. Adopt a cohort survival enrollment projection model (under development)	
C. Environmental Health Enhance teaching and learning through the environmental health of facilities.	Provide students and staff with an inviting, safe, and healthy environment. Energy efficient and sustainable facilities. Reduction in facility maintenance expenditures and increased life cycle of building components. Implementation of professional development for Facility Management Department staff to support a high level of satisfaction with facilities (program under development)	Satisfaction survey data of students, staff, and community with District facilities (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE SIX:

Maintain Fiscal Responsibility that Reflects a Commitment to Student Learning and a Rich Variety of Programs and Services

The Board has created a goal to extend the original, 10-year referendum commitment made in 2007 by four years to 2020-21. The District must be cognizant of the factors that affect the financial health of District 64, while continuing to provide a variety of programs and services for all students.

Strategy	Desired Outcomes	Measures
A. Financial Stewardship Use data to proactively manage District finances in a climate of changing funding patterns and increased mandates from local, state, and federal governments.	Maintain responsible approach to fiscal operations, ensuring cost efficiencies while maintaining high quality programs, services, and staff. Utilize all revenue sources. Understand local, state and federal legislative threats to funding through involvement in professional associations, ED-RED and FED-RED. Assess the impact of salaries and benefits for all employee groups. Utilize financial models to project impact of future increases in expenditures and changes in revenues. Provide transparent, easy to access financial data to community. Periodic updates to the Board of Education on legislative threats Data displayed on financial dashboard.	Monthly financial reports and investment summaries Annual long-term staffing projections based on future enrollment projections (UNDER DEVELOPMENT) On demand long-term financial projections model (UNDER DEVELOPMENT) Annual financial audit (Unqualified Auditor Opinion)
B. Finance Priority Projects Finance priority projects identified in the Health Life Safety Survey and the Master Facilities Plan.	The Board of Education, staff, and community are aware of facility needs and financing options to make informed decisions about a project priority list. District classrooms support 21st Century learning.	The Board adopts an annual project priority list and determines financing Rubric to assess how classrooms support 21st Century learning (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)



C. Fund Balance Policy Adhere to the Board's fund balance policy	Meet all of the District's financial obligations and cash flow needs in a timely manner Monitor days of cash on hand in the District's operating funds on June 30 of each fiscal year against fund balance policy (120 days).	Report days cash on hand at close of each fiscal year Track progress continuously in meeting the Board's extended referendum goal of 2020-21 (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)
D. Finance Priority Programs Collaborate with all District departments to ensure adequate funding is available for student programs and services	District departments will work together to understand the financial needs of the District to develop realistic and timely long-range budget priorities.	Fund priorities recommended by Program Review Committees
	Long-term curriculum needs and state/federal initiatives considered when forecasting budget needs.	
E. Plan for Future Challenges Be prepared for the impact of future enrollment changes	Accurate enrollment trend data. Review enrollment trends and conduct a boundary study to understand financial options to meet changing enrollment.	Provide adequate spaces to accommodate expected enrollments at all schools
F. Parent and Community Education Engaging with parents and	District 64 provides information to parents, staff and	Advisory committees include volunteers
community members can inform, complement, reinforce, and accelerate educators' efforts.	community members about the alignment of resources to strategic initiatives.	Provide annual updates on investments in student learning and financial challenges
		District Satisfaction Survey (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)
		Website dashboard to communicate progress on all Strategic Plan metrics (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)



IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGIC PLAN

It is the responsibility of the District 64 Board of Education, senior leadership, District administrators and all other staff members to implement the District's mission, vision, and core values and align all activities to achieve the strategic plan objectives. District 64 must be focused, because well-deployed strategic objectives are the means to achieving exemplary student performance. The strategic plan provides District leaders the information they need to move from an abstract set of strategic objectives to an actionable set of priorities. The strategic plan strategies, desired outcomes, and key performance indicators form the "game plan" to achieve the mission, vision, and strategic objectives.

The Board and senior leadership play key roles in communicating the District's mission, vision, and strategic objectives to community members, parents, and staff in order to gain consensus, support, and commitment. It is the Board's responsibility to monitor the implementation of the strategic plan as well as the resulting outcomes, using the key performance indicators derived from the data sources specified in the strategic plan scorecard.

District 64 will utilize two tools that are essential to the successful implementation of a school district strategic plan: 1) an implementation tree, which is a plan that describes what will happen and when it will happen to achieve the strategic plan strategic objectives; and, 2) a Balanced Scorecard, which identifies the key performance indicators under each goal and performance targets. The Balanced Scorecard will be monitored to determine progress, allowing any necessary corrections to be made throughout the duration of this strategic plan.

DISTRICT 64 STRATEGY MAP

See Appendix 1 for the Strategy Map.

The strategy map provides a graphic organizer of the District's strategies under each strategic objective. It provides the "blueprint" that District leaders will use to accomplish the mission, vision, and strategic objectives. District senior leaders use the strategies identified in the strategic plan to determine what specific programs, processes, and practices will be implemented over time. A strategy map is a useful graphic that shows all the strategies that need to be in place for the strategic plan to be accomplished and illustrates how the different strategies support each other. Equally important, Board members, the superintendent, District staff members, parents, and others can use the strategy map to monitor implementation activities and review the performance of strategies as their influence is felt within the organization.

DISTRICT 64 BALANCED SCORECARD

See Appendix 2 for the Balanced Scorecard.

The scorecard identifies the key performance indicators that the District and its stakeholders will monitor to determine progress toward specific targets and ultimately the successful achievement of the strategic objectives. The key performance indicators are the metrics that define the standards the District will hold itself accountable for and the most salient measures within each strategic objective. Key performance indicators may be modified accordingly after each annual plan review. Baseline



data will be provided where available to reflect our current status on these indicators. Five-year targets will be set for each key performance indicator, considering the importance of high standards for all students, our already relatively high levels of performance in many areas, and national benchmarks from Baldrige award-winning districts. The Board of Education will track performance annually against these baseline data and the five-year targets.

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

A summary of the development of the plan is included as Appendix 3.



GLOSSARY

Aligned, articulated curriculum - An aligned, articulated curriculum clearly outlines what students are expected to learn. It ensures that students across grade levels at different schools are learning the same content. The curriculum is aligned to state and national standards.

Balanced scorecard - A balanced scorecard is a way for districts to show the progress made toward strategic plan goals. A balanced scorecard, sometimes called a *dashboard*, shows data from past and current years, as well as the target for the final year of the strategic plan. District 64's Balanced Scorecard (Appendix 2) is available on the District 64 website.

BrightBytes - The BrightBytes Survey measures how well a district is implementing technology to support student learning. The survey is administered to students, parents, and teachers. Districts receive a score (Beginning, Emerging, Proficient, Advanced, Exemplary) in four different areas: classroom, access, skills, and environment. On the scorecard, the following notations will be used:

Communities of practice - Communities of practice are groups of educators who come together to talk about teaching and student learning. Communities of practice are sometimes called Professional Learning Communities. Through these conversations, educators can brainstorm and access the best ideas for supporting student achievement. Communities of practice focus on four important questions:

1) What do we want students to learn? 2) How will we know when they have learned it? 3) How will we support students who are struggling? 4) How will we challenge students who have already mastered the goals?

Curriculum map - A curriculum map identifies what students will learn within a unit of study. In addition, a map identifies how long teachers should focus on certain topics and what assessments they can use to measure student learning. Maps also include ideas for supporting struggling students and challenging more advanced students.

Differentiation - When teachers differentiate instruction, they design lessons so that all students can learn, regardless of differences in learning needs. In differentiated classrooms, teachers consider students' background knowledge, readiness, ability, and interests when planning for instruction.

Educational Ends - The Educational Ends are general goals that District 64 has for all students in each area valued by the District, including: Critical Thinking/Problem Solving, Foreign Language, General Music, Health, Instrumental Music, Language Arts, Math, Physical Education, Science, Social Emotional, Social Studies, and Visual Arts. Assessments have been developed to measure the Educational Ends goals. They include standardized tests as well as assessments created by District 64 teachers. Each year, our students' performance on these assessments is reported to the Board. More information about the Educational Ends can be found on the District 64 website.

Environmental health - To support student learning, it is important that our schools are attractive,



safe, and secure. Factors that influence environmental health are the school building, school grounds, temperature, noise, lighting, space, furniture, and equipment.

Fast feedback form - A fast feedback form is a short survey that can be administered quickly following an event or learning experience. Fast feedback forms give us valuable information about stakeholder perceptions and take only a short time to complete.

Formative assessment - Formative assessments are formal or informal ways of gathering information from students about their learning. This information is then used by teachers to change instruction and improve learning. Research shows that students learn more in classrooms where teachers use formative assessments to change instruction.

High impact instruction - Research shows that certain teaching strategies lead to greater student learning than other strategies. These strategies are often called "high impact instruction." The teaching strategies that are known to cause the greatest student learning are: standards-based planning, formative assessment, creating a positive classroom culture, and differentiation.

Learning Walks - Learning Walks are non-evaluative classroom walk-throughs. During a Learning Walk, a teacher, administrator or other staff member observes students in order to answer a question or learn more about student learning. For example, a Learning Walk might answer the question, "Are students engaged?" or "Are students participating in differentiated activities?" or "Do students understand the goal of their learning?"

MAP (**Measures of Academic Progress**) - The MAP test is administered in Math and Reading to students in grades 3-8. MAP is a computerized adaptive test. This means that the test responds dynamically to each student. The difficulty of each question is determined by the student's response to the previous question. Adaptive testing captures a child's current level of knowledge, and thus more accurately measures what a child currently knows and needs to learn next. MAP assessments can measure academic growth over time. National norms are available for comparison to individual or group results.

Measures - The District 64 Strategic Plan includes measures. Measures are the tools we will use to share our progress with all stakeholders. For example, measures might be student performance on a standardized test or parent survey data. A summary of our performance on each measure can be found on the District 64 Balanced Scorecard on the District website.

PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) - In Spring 2015, the PARCC Assessment replaced the ISAT as the Illinois State assessment. The PARCC is administered to students in 3rd-8th grade and is designed to measure student mastery of the Common Core Standards in English language arts and mathematics.

RtI (Response to Intervention) - Response to Intervention is a process teachers use to identify and support students with learning and behavior needs. In an RtI Model, all students have access to



quality instruction in the general education classroom. Students who struggle are then provided with additional help or more time to improve their learning. This help is called an intervention. Decisions about interventions are based on how students respond to them.

- **Tier 1** The general education classroom where all student have access to quality, differentiated instruction.
- **Tier 2 -** Support for students that is provided in addition to Tier 1, and goes beyond what is provided for all the students. For example, Tier 2 may include small group instruction provided by the classroom teacher or by a literacy teacher / interventionist.
- **Tier 3** More intensive support that goes beyond what is provided to students in Tiers 1 and 2.

Note: The State of Illinois now refers to the Response to Intervention Model (RtI) as Multi-Tiered System of Instruction (MTSI). For clarity, we are still using the term RtI in District 64's Strategic Plan.

SMART goals - SMART goals are written so that they are <u>Specific</u>, <u>Measurable</u>, <u>Achievable</u>, <u>Realistic</u>, and <u>Timely</u>. Goals written in this way provide a clear picture of what is to be accomplished.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) - Research shows that students' social-emotional learning is critical to their success. Social-emotional learning includes understanding and managing your emotions, setting and achieving positive goals, feeling and showing empathy for others, establishing and maintaining positive relationships, and making responsible decisions (CASEL, http://www.casel.org, 2015).

Standards-based reporting - Standards-based reporting makes it clear *what* students are learning and *how well* they are learning. It shares information about student performance and growth related to specific outcomes.

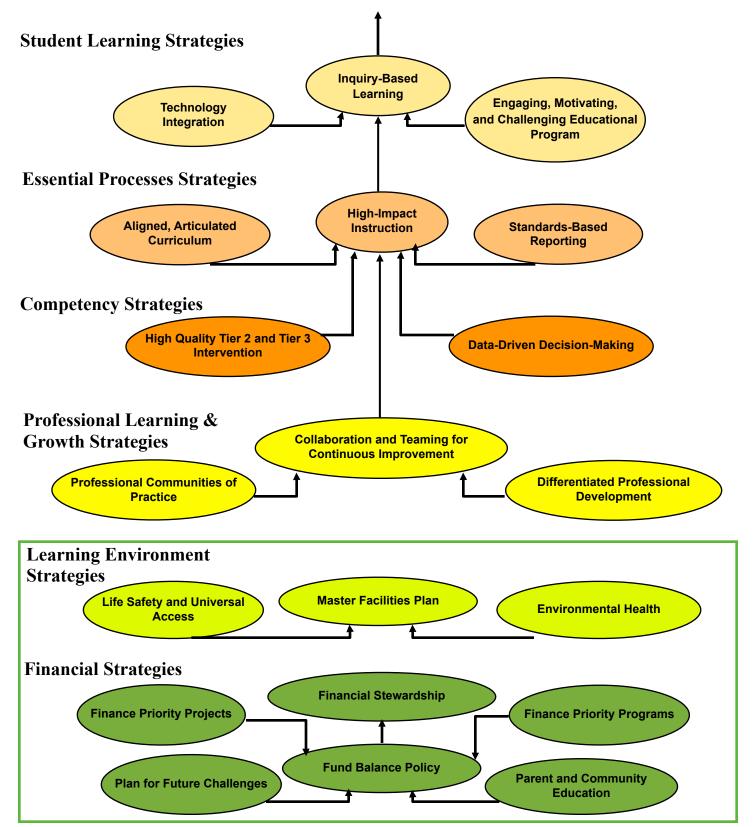
Strategic objective - A strategic objective is a goal. The District 64 Strategic Plan is organized around six strategic objectives. Underneath these broad goals, you can find the strategies, or actions, that we will take to achieve the goals. You will also find a description of desired outcomes and the measures we will use to show our progress.



District 64 Strategy Map

Mission: Inspire every child to discover, learn, achieve, and care.

Vision: Inspire all students to discover their strengths, embrace learning, achieve personal excellence, and demonstrate care. Students thrive in a rich, rigorous, and innovative curriculum delivered by highly qualified teachers. Each student learns and grows in a safe, nurturing environment. In collaboration with students, parents, teachers and the community, District 64 provides opportunities for each learner to investigate, be successful, be resilient, and become inspired and empowered as they contribute to our global society.



STRATEGY	MEASURE	BASELINE STATUS ANNUAL PERFORMANCE							TARGET		
JIRAILGI	MEASURE	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020
Strategic Objective Or Develop Students Who	ne: Master the 4C's - Communication	ı, Collat	oration	n, Creat	tivity,	and Cr	itical Tl	ninking			
A. Engaging, Motivating, and Challenging Educational Program	Learning Walks (non evaluative) - levels of student engagement (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										100%
	Spring/Spring analysis of PARCC achievement to benchmark districts in Reading (AVAILABLE FALL 2015)										+/-3 % pts
	Spring/Spring analysis of MAP achievement to high-performing benchmark districts in Reading				HP Norm						+1 > HP Norm
	Spring/Spring analysis of PARCC achievement to benchmark districts in Math (AVAILABLE FALL 2015)										+/-3 % pts
	Spring/Spring analysis of MAP achievement to high-performing benchmark districts in Math				HP Norm						+1 > HP Norm
	Student mastery of increasingly rigorous targets set for Educational Ends assessments										100%
	District 207 high school performance portfolio (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										
B. Inquiry-Based Learning	Minimum of two inquiry-based learning units at each grade-level (K-8) (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										18
	Student performance rubric for the 4 C's: communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										

C.Technology Integration	Learning Walks (non evaluative) - level of implementation (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)					100%
	Teacher self-reporting on BrightBytes questionnaire - Classroom Domain					Ex
	Grades 3-8 students self-reporting on BrightBytes questionnaire - Classroom Domain					Ex
	Survey to Parents regarding 1:1 Chromebook initiative (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)					

June 22, 2015 - Appendix 2

District 64 SCORECARD

CTDATECY	MEASURE	BASI	ELINE ST	ATUS		TARGET					
STRATEGY	MEASURE	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020
Strategic Objective Provide a Rigorous	Two: Education for All Students										
A. Aligned, Articulated Curriculum	% of Curriculum maps for each Core, Encore, and Elective course										100%
	% of documented and online unit plans that include common formative and summative assessments										100%
	Learning Walks (non evaluative) to determine student understanding of learning outcomes/goals										100%
B. High-Impact Instruction	Learning walks (non evaluative) - levels of student engagement										100%
	Spring/Spring analysis of PARCC achievement to benchmark districts in Reading (AVAILABLE FALL 2015)										+/-3 % pts
	Spring/Spring analysis of MAP achievement to high-performing benchmark districts in Reading				HP Norm						+1 > HP Norm
	Spring/Spring analysis of PARCC achievement to benchmark districts in Math (AVAILABLE FALL 2015)										+/-3 % pts
	Spring/Spring analysis of MAP achievement to high-performing benchmark districts in Math				HP Norm						+1 > HP Norm
	Student mastery of increasingly rigorous targets set for Educational Ends assessments										100%
	Social-Emotional Learning indicators (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										

	5 Essentials (5E) survey for students (grades 6-8) - Ambitious Instruction					5
	5 Essentials (5E) survey for students (grades 6-8) - Academic Personalism					5
C. Standards-Based Reporting	Stakeholder satisfaction survey to determine effectiveness of standards-based reporting (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)					
	Parent University exit slips (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)					
	Clear targets and current performance posted to Website dashboard annually (MAP, PARCC, subgroup performance, Educational Ends)					5

CTD ATECY	METCHE	BASI	ELINE ST	ATUS		AN	NUAL PE	RFORMA	NCE		TARGET
STRATEGY	MEASURE	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020
Strategic Objective Differentiate to Med	Three: et the Academic and Social/Emotion	al Healt	th Need	s of All	Studer	nts					
A. High-Quality Tier 2 and Tier 3 Intervention	Spring/Spring analysis of PARCC achievement to benchmark districts in Reading (AVAILABLE FALL 2015) Spring/Spring analysis of MAP achievement to high-performing benchmark districts in Reading				HP Norm						+/-3 % pts +1 > HP Norm
	Spring/Spring analysis of PARCC achievement to benchmark districts in Math (AVAILABLE FALL 2015) Spring/Spring analysis of MAP achievement to high-performing benchmark districts in Math				HP Norm						+/-3 % pts +1 > HP Norm
	Tier 2 and Tier 3 intervention participation rates for students with at-risk academic performance Special education students serviced in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)										100%
B. Data-Driven Decision-Making	Implementation rates of data-based decision-making guidelines by school (fidelity checklists) (UNDER DEVELOPMENT) PARCC student subgroup analysis for low socioeconomic status (SES) (AVAILABLE FALL 2015)										8
	MAP student subgroup analysis for low socioeconomic status (SES) (AVAILABLE FALL 2015) PARCC/DLM student subgroup analysis for Students with Disabilities (AVAILABLE FALL 2015)										

	MAP student subgroup analysis for Students with Disabilities (AVAILABLE FALL 2015)					
E	PARCC student subgroup analysis for English Learners (EL) (AVAILABLE FALL 2015)					
	MAP student subgroup analysis for English Learners (EL) (AVAILABLE FALL 2015)					

CTDATECY	MEASURE	BAS	ELINE ST	ATUS		TARGET					
STRATEGY	MEASURE	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020
Strategic Objective Coster Effective Coster	re Four: communities of Practice Through Pro	fession	al Deve	lopmer	nt and S	taff Sup	port				
A. Collaboration and Teaming for	5 Essentials survey data - Collaborative Teachers										5
Continuous Improvement	5 Essentials survey data - Effective Leaders										5
	District teacher satisfaction survey (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										
	District parent satisfaction survey (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										
	Percentage of School SMART goals achieved (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										
B. Professional Communities of	Participation rates in Communities of Practice										100%
Practice	Communities of Practice fast feedback ratings (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										
C. Differentiated Professional	Participation rates in professional development sequence										100%
Development	Learning Walks (non-evaluative) data - level of implementation (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										100%
	Coaching program satisfaction feedback (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										
	Number of instructional practice requests (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										
	Teachers self-reporting on BrightBytes questionnaire - Skills Domain										Ex

CTDATECY	MEASURE	BAS	ELINE ST	ATUS		TARGET					
STRATEGY	MEASURE	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020
Strategic Objective	Five:										
Provide Safe and Se	cure Learning Spaces to Support 21	st Centu	ıry Lear	ners							
A. Life Safety and Universal Access	Category A Health Life Safety Survey completion rate										100%
	% of facilities that are compliant with identified ADA accessibility priorities										100%
B. Master Facilities Plan	Annual Master Facilities Plan (includes Maintenance Plan) recommendations and funding information										5
C. Environmental Health	Student satisfaction with District facilities (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										90%
	Staff satisfaction with District facilities (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										90%
	Community satisfaction with District facilities (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										90%

CTDATECY	MEASURE	BASE	ELINE STA	ATUS		AN	NUAL PE	RFORMAI	NCE		TARGET
STRATEGY	MEASURE	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020
Strategic Objective S Maintain Fiscal Respo	ix: onsibility that Reflects a Commitr	nent to	Studer	nt Learr	ning and	d a Rich	n Variet	y of Pr	ograms	and Se	rvices
A. Financial Stewardship	Monthly financial reports and investment summaries										60
	Annual long-term staffing projections (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										5
	On-demand long-term financial projections model (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										On demand
	Annual financial audit (Unqualified Auditor Opinion)										5
B. Finance Priority Projects	Annual priority project list and financing options										5
	Rubric to assess how classrooms support 21st Century learning (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)										
C. Fund Balance Policy	Days of cash on hand at end of fiscal year										120 days
	Track progress continuously on Board extended referendum goal of 2020-21										On demand
D. Finance Priority Programs	Fund priorities recommended by Program Review Committees										100%
E. Plan for Future Challenges	Adequate space for student enrollment										100%
F. Parent and Community Education	Advisory committees include community volunteers										100%
	Annual updates on investments in student learning and financial challenges										5

District satisfaction survey (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)					100%
Website dashboard to communicate progress on all Strategic Plan metrics (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)					100%

Community-Informed Development of the 2020 Vision Strategic Plan

As reported to the Board on January 26, 2015, District 64 initiated a strategic planning process by convening a Steering Committee formed through a call for volunteers among all stakeholders. A diverse committee of 40 members was assembled from our schools and community to offer a wide representation of all stakeholders.

Officially convened on Saturday, February 7, the committee met for an intensive, half-day session under the leadership of Mr. Robert Ewy, our plan consultant. Mr. Ewy is currently a consultant in strategic planning, continuous improvement, and process management, assisting school districts that are serious about creating exceptional learning environments for students and satisfying professional working environments for staff. He was most recently the Director of Planning and Quality Programs for Community Consolidated School District 15. In this role, he was responsible for all aspects of organizational improvement, from the classroom to the boardroom. Mr. Ewy has been a teacher, a supervisor of statewide programs for the Colorado Department of Education, and a senior associate for a regional education laboratory. He is currently on the Board of Directors and has trained examiners for the Louisiana Quality Foundation. He is also authored or co-authored books published by the American Society for Quality, titled: *Charting Your Course, Lessons Learned During the Journey Toward Performance Excellence; Stakeholder-Driven Strategic Planning;* and *Process Management in Education*.

At the kick-off, the committee examined reports from Mr. Ewy outlining national and international trends in education, and a more detailed report from Superintendent Laurie Heinz on local and state challenges. From this work, the committee identified the most important trends and events that will create challenges to the quality of education and sustainability of District 64 over time

Based on this analysis, the committee moved out into the community in March to offer local residents opportunities to directly contribute their ideas and vision. Their open invitation to participate yielded more than 820 responses to a community survey about priorities for education in District 64. A space for extended comments also yielded many additional perspectives. In addition, committee members visited with many community and civic organizations to share information about the strategic planning process and invite stakeholders to contribute their ideas. Committee members also received input through their work and activities in the community, and through email and conversation.

Meeting on Thursday, March 26, the committee then reviewed the abundant survey responses and feedback from their outreach meetings. Committee members also shared their own research on educational trends and events, and heard an informative presentation from District 207 Superintendent Ken Wallace on the challenges facing the high school district. The committee reviewed the results of a District 64 system overview assessment conducted by the Consortium for Educational Change (CEC) to help benchmark District 64 against effective practices of other "high performing" districts. The committee then developed priorities for the strategic plan goals with Mr. Ewy.

In April, to provide an additional avenue for community input, the committee sponsored two preview sessions of the "working draft" of the plan goals led by Mr. Ewy. That input was used to inform the work of the Steering Committee at its Thursday, April 16 meeting. At that meeting, the committee reviewed a draft of the six strategic objectives and their rationales; discussed the guiding philosophy, vision and mission; and then conducted a SWOT analysis by identifying the District's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats.

The District's senior leadership team also worked in between committee meetings with guidance from Mr. Ewy to further craft objectives and outcomes.

The final meeting of the steering committee was conducted on Thursday, May 21, when we considered all of the information used to develop the draft strategic plan against the proposed plan and worked together to review the content. The committee also reviewed the strategy map showing how all the strategies fit together to support the achievement of the District's mission and vision. Mr. Ewy also explained the Balanced Scorecard and how it will help to track progress.

Although the committee's initial work is now completed, we anticipate reconvening our committee annually to conduct another environmental scan of our national and local educational landscape; review the strategies being used to reach our objectives; determine whether new or different measures might be utilized; and recommend any needed adjustments. In this way, we anticipate the plan will remain fresh and focused each year as we move toward 2020.