

Sustaining and Enhancing Quality Education: Strategic Directions 2009-2011



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This document serves as a framework to guide major planning initiatives for Mission Public Schools for the next three years. Our Strategic Directions reflect our core purpose of ensuring success for every child, acknowledge the scope and breadth of a sustainability framework, and recognize the importance of building community capacity to make this happen.

These Strategic Directions support the type of public school system we envision for the future; best illustrated by our Graduate Profile. They are an expression of outcomes that will be grounded by research yet encourage innovation and create opportunities to ensure student success.

Our Strategic Directions are essential aspects of what constitutes a responsive, values-based public school system and to varying degrees they are interrelated. Strategic Directions are broad strategies that support the achievement of more than one of our anticipated outcomes.

The Board of Education performs a catalytic and leadership role in shaping and supporting the work of Mission Public Schools. Our Strategic Directions honor the invaluable contributions made by individual employees, formal education partners and the broader community and we invite all to share in the pursuit of our future success.

We cannot do it alone. Inherent in our Strategic Directions is the notion that everyone can contribute to sustaining and enhancing a high performing public school system. Individuals, groups, voluntary organizations, and governments all have a stake in the future of children in Mission. Their actions, commitments, investments and creativity are critical to achieving our collective goals.

Strategic Directions are about setting priorities – priorities to guide choices. Strategic Directions provide a context for considering priorities around programs and services and around resource allocations. The considerations outlined within our Strategic Directions reflect a set of choices and strategies that the Board of Education deems important but are not ranked in any particular order.

Strategic Direction 1 **Ensuring Success for Every Child**

We believe that public education is the key to enabling students to become leaders and socially responsible global citizens. Student learning is the central focus of our collective efforts.

Goals and Objectives

- Broaden access to quality programs that encourage career exploration and prepare students for post-secondary success.
- Support the effective application of technology to student learning.
- Focus greater support for our most vulnerable learners.
- Embrace opportunities for students that embody the values of equity and social justice and develop the necessary skills for global citizenry.
- Enhance the development of literacy throughout the curriculum.
- Develop partnerships that increase opportunities for early learning.

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- Promote a greater appreciation for the importance of healthy living.
- Encourage a deeper understanding of the need for environmental stewardship.

Strategic Direction 2 **Sustaining Quality Education**

Success in Mission Public Schools, both for our students and our employees alike, is contagious and should to be regularly celebrated. Our ability to sustain this success will be based upon the decisions we make now to assure that financial, human, and physical resources are available into the future.

Goals and Objectives

- Optimize the use of government funding by examining the efficacy of our programs and operations.
- Celebrate the success of all employees and ensure their connection to our core organizational purpose.
- Continue our inclusive and transparent approach to objectives-based decision making, project planning and implementation.
- Regularly communicate plans to solidify our facilities, transportation, and technology infrastructure.
- Solidify our reputation as an outstanding employer by maintaining a comprehensive workforce plan that celebrates the success of all employees, ensures their connection to our core organizational purpose, and builds succession for all aspects of leadership.
- Examine ways in which school and district business can encourage and reflect sustainable environmental practices.

Strategic Direction 3 **Strengthening Community Connections**

Mission Public Schools values the relationships it has developed with its formal education partners and the community. We respect our partnership with parents in supporting learning and the contribution of our students and staff to the greater community. Mission is a diverse and inclusive community that works hard together to support the development of our children and our neighborhoods.

Goals and Objectives

- Ensure the long-term viability of existing community partnerships that support literacy, early learning and vulnerable students.
- Explore opportunities for the further integration of services that support child and family development in schools and neighborhoods.
- Build on our commitment to collaborate with key stakeholders to improve literacy within our community.
- Involve more students in the decision making process.
- Create connections with service clubs and community organizations that deepen appreciation for the critical importance of public education to a just and democratic society.