

Strategic Plan Summary



A Message From the Superintendent

Strategic planning engages representatives from key stakeholder groups in a planning model which allows decisions to be guided by reasoned analysis instead of intuition. Changes in strategy are necessary for three reasons:

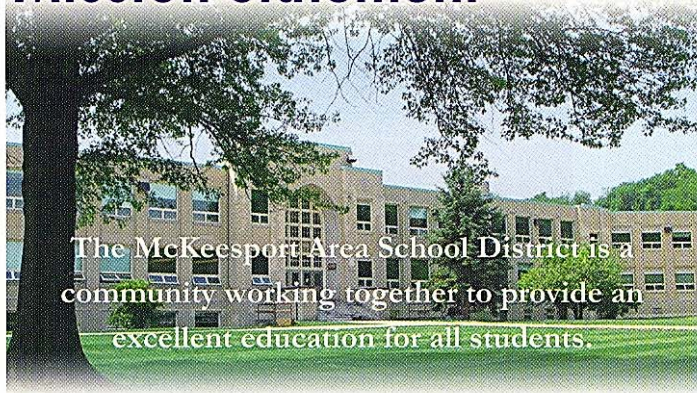
- ◆ To improve student performance.
- ◆ To remain competitive in the current environment.
- ◆ To use resources effectively.

This initiative provides a process to create a shared vision and develop action plans to implement the vision. Strategic planning builds a foundation for the implementation of strategic actions. Schools are pulled in many directions, and often lose sight of their goals. Planning focuses schools as they “*Reach for Excellence.*”

The strategic planning process provided the McKeesport Area School District with a decision making tool to develop a systemic reform. I would like to commend the many stakeholders for their dedication to this process. Their efforts have created a map for the district to follow for the next six years!

Dr. Shirley A. Golofski
MASD Superintendent

Mission Statement



Vision

The vision of the McKeesport Area School District is to create a learning environment which provides students an opportunity to maximize their potential and achieve success.

We will actively engage all students in a rigorous curriculum that: *teaches* the application of academic skills and concepts; *nurtures* individual interests and talents; *inspires* intellectual curiosity; *develops* integrity and personal responsibility; *encourages* a global perspective; *promotes* technology; *embraces* diversity; and *prepares* students to become citizens capable of improving the world in which they live.

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Goals

The McKeesport Area School District's educational and organizational goals aim to improve student achievement. The goals of the strategic plan were developed by the district's planning committee to meet the requirements set by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

• MATHEMATICS AND READING

Description: Increase the number of students proficient in reading and mathematics as measured by the annual state-wide PSSA assessments. This expectation will increase accordingly with the guidelines of No Child Left Behind.

Strategies:

- ◆ Increase rigor in the curriculum.
- ◆ Provide quality comprehensive professional development.
- ◆ Provide extended learning activities.
- ◆ Use student achievement data to make instructional decisions.

• EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

Description: McKeesport Area School District will increase educational options at each level by 50%.

Strategies:

- ◆ Provide educational choice to meet individual need.
- ◆ Monitor student academic progress and survey student interests to develop career pathways.

• HEALTH AND SAFETY

Description: Reduce the number of discipline referrals by 20% to provide a healthy and safe learning environment.

Strategies:

- ◆ Incorporate technology to improve communications.
- ◆ Provide quality comprehensive professional development.
- ◆ Analyze and re-allocate human resources.
- ◆ Collaborate with food service contractors to promote nutrition and student health.



"I have participated in the strategic plan development over the years and have always found it to be a valuable process. The input from parents, community members and district staff creates an ownership in the plan. We all are buying into it and will do what we can to make it work. It's a collaboration of our knowledge, education and experience."

- LuEthe Nesbit

Strategic Planning Committee - Community Member

Goals

• TECHNOLOGY

Description: Facilitate a user-friendly, technologically advanced environment for all stakeholders with the intent of improving student achievement as related to published district educational goals.

Strategies:

- ◆ Expand the use and knowledge of existing and future technology to facilitate effective and efficient use of time and resources to compete in a global society.
- ◆ Integrate technology to enrich the educational environment for students, staff, parents and the community.
- ◆ Broaden existing technology and curriculum options.
- ◆ Provide comprehensive professional development and training options.

“The strategic planning process is very important to set a course for planning and goals for the next six years. I am impressed with the number of people who participated throughout the entire process.”

- Barbara Stevenson
Strategic Planning Committee -
MASD Board Member

• FOUR-YEAR GRADUATION RATE

(For districts and schools that graduate seniors)

Description: Graduation rate will meet an 80% threshold and/or show growth.

Strategies:

- ◆ Develop small learning communities.
- ◆ Provide quality comprehensive professional development.
- ◆ Analyze and re-allocate human resources.

“I feel it is a highly effective plan that will add to the success of the district. I was honored to be selected for the committee and survived the strategic planning process!”

-Austin Davis
Strategic Planning Committee -
11th Grade Student

• STUDENT ATTENDANCE

(For any school that does not graduate seniors)

Description: Student attendance will meet a 90% threshold and/or show growth.

Strategies:

- ◆ Develop programs to promote positive reinforcement of prompt regular attendance.
- ◆ Update attendance policy to improve student attendance.

• STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN STATE ASSESSMENTS

Description: At least 95% of eligible students will participate in required state-wide assessments.

Strategies:

- ◆ Increase overall awareness of the importance of taking and completing the PSSA exams.
- ◆ Broaden parent and community support.

Strategic Planning Committee

Name	Affiliation	Membership Category	Appointed By
Alice Saxon	Francis McClure	Elementary School Teacher	Patricia Maksin
Andrea Abrams	George Washington	Building Principal	Administrators
Austin Davis	Student	Student	Harry Bauman
Barbara Stevenson	Board Member	Board Member	School Board
David Burge	Student	Student	Harry Bauman
Debra Link	Parent	Parent	PTA Council
Diane Easley	Cornell	Elementary School Teacher	Patricia Maksin
Gary Lorenzi	Cornell	Elementary School Teacher	Patricia Maksin
Harry Bauman	High School	Building Principal	Administrators
Jane Coughenour	Principal	Building Principal	Shirley Golofski
Janet Brinkman	Cornell	Elementary School Teacher	Patricia Maksin
Janet Sardon	Administration	Central Office Administrator	Shirley Golofski
JoAnne Meekins	Community	Community Representative	Shirley Golofski
Karen Andrews	Community	Community Representative	Shirley Golofski
Karen Chapman	Founders' Hall	Building Principal	Administrators
Kathy Kenny	High School	Secondary School Teacher	Patricia Maksin
Laura Bowser	High School	Secondary School Teacher	Patricia Maksin
Lonnie Carey	Administration	Central Office Administrator	Shirley Golofski
Lori Andrews	Founders' Hall	Secondary School Teacher	Patricia Maksin
LuEthel Nesbit	Community	Community Representative	Shirley Golofski
Marcie Barry	High School	Secondary School Teacher	Patricia Maksin
Mark Holtzman	School Board	Board Member	School Board
Melissa Hale	George Washington	Elementary School Teacher	Patricia Maksin
Michael Brinkos	Administration	Central Office Administrator	Shirley Golofski
Michael Matta	Administration	Central Office Administrator	Administrators
Michelle Cottone	Parent	Parent	PTA Council
Monica Hancharik	Business Partner	Business Representative	Shirley Golofski
Patricia Maksin	Cornell	Elementary School Teacher	Patricia Maksin
Paul Shelly	Community	Community Representative	Shirley Golofski
Paula Robinson	White Oak	Special Education Representative	Patricia Maksin
Ralph Brinkman	Founders' Hall	Secondary School Teacher	Patricia Maksin
Ray Beard	High School	Secondary School Teacher	Patricia Maksin
Shirley Golofski	Administration	Central Office Administrator	Patrick Risha
Sonia Lapinsky	Community	Community Representative	Shirley Golofski
Susan Olsen	Community	Community Representative	Shirley Golofski
Terry Kisan	Parent	Parent	PTA Council
Tim Kunes	High School	Secondary School Teacher	Patricia Maksin
Tina Lieberum	High School	Secondary School Teacher	Patricia Maksin
Wendy Wakefield	Centennial	Elementary School Teacher	Patricia Maksin

The McKeesport Area School District would like to thank those who have participated in the strategic planning process.

Your time, knowledge and dedication have made this process a success which will benefit our students, staff and community.



MCKEESPORT AREA
School District

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