



Fox Chapel Area
School District

Strategic Vision

A Framework of Collaboration
and Community

2023



#FCProud | #BetterTogether

A Message from Dr. Reljac

The Fox Chapel Area School District completed a strategic vision during the 2022-2023 school year.



*Dr. Mary Catherine Reljac
Superintendent*

The process was designed to foster reflection, collaboration, and imagination.

Elevating voices from multiple representatives

helped provide a more extensive picture of the desired culture and goals of the community so that the charted path is as representative as possible of what the community values for its school district.

Pennsylvania public school districts are required to complete a comprehensive plan every three years for the state Department of Education. The comprehensive plan is dictated by a consistent planning framework for all

entities that focuses on continuous improvement. The strategic vision informed FCASD's comprehensive plan.

The teams involved in the strategic/comprehensive plan process were varied and included multiple representatives from the school community.

Teams embraced nine characteristics that are strongly correlated to consistently high-performing educational institutions. These nine characteristics are Clear and Shared Focus; High Standards and Expectations; Effective Leadership; High Levels of Collaboration and Communication; Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Aligned with Standards; Frequent Monitoring of Teaching and Learning; Focused Professional Development; Supportive Learning Environment; and High Levels of Community and Parent Involvement.



Values

- ▶ **Respect:** Valuing self and others; caring for one's environment; and pride in positive actions
- ▶ **Responsibility:** Accountability; taking ownership of what you do; and listening and following through
- ▶ **Integrity:** Doing the right thing, even when no one is watching; being honest with self and others; and trustworthiness in thoughts, words, and actions

Project Timeline

November/December 2022

Finalized process with school board leadership
Announced process
Formulated committees

January 2023

Launched survey and analyzed results
Steering Committee met
Learning and Teaching Subcommittee met
Supports for Students Subcommittee met
Community Engagement Subcommittee met

February 2023

Shared survey results
Steering Committee and subcommittees met
Recruited and scheduled focus groups

March/April 2023

Implemented focus groups
Scheduled additional committee meetings as needed
Analyzed focus group information
Shaped strategic vision focus areas, general goals, and timelines
Drafted strategic vision communications package

May/June 2023

Shared focus group results and themes
Adjusted comprehensive/strategic vision website information
Developed strategic vision communications package
Began preparation for implementation



Moving Forward

The strategic vision will guide the district in developing measurable goals.

Mission and Vision

A Foundation for Success for All Students



Mission

The Fox Chapel Area School District exists to maximize learning, achievement, and growth through a focus on educating the whole student.

Vision

The Fox Chapel Area School District will engage students in a learning community that values belonging and focuses on the education of the whole student through four pillars for success:

- **Purpose:** Learning and teaching through inclusive, standards-aligned, and culturally responsive approaches that meet the needs of all students, while monitoring growth and success through a data-informed approach for continuous improvement
- **Passion:** Providing students with authentic learning experiences that motivate them to pursue their interests with a focus on educating the whole student
- **Care:** Fostering safe and supportive learning environments that value the diversity, individuality, social and emotional wellness, and belonging of all students
- **Community:** Partnering and collaborating with the community

Pillars to Success

Building a Future on Which We All Can Be Proud

Purpose

Learning and teaching through inclusive, standards-aligned, and culturally responsive approaches that meet the needs of all students, while monitoring growth and success through a data-informed approach for continuous improvement.

Our **Purpose** is our foundational building block, as it defines the most important element of our district – learning and teaching.

Success within our **Purpose** is ensuring that students are met with challenging curriculums and instruction that allow them to grow and succeed as learners through the use of data-informed and differentiated pedagogical practices to meet individual learning needs.

Passion

Providing students with authentic learning experiences that motivate them to pursue their interests with a focus on educating the whole student.

Our **Passion** pillar embodies the need to make learning exciting and relevant for students.

Cultivating **Passion** ensures that all students have access to meaningful instruction and experiences to support their academic, behavioral, social, and emotional development and interests.

Care

Fostering safe and supportive learning environments that value the diversity, individuality, social and emotional wellness, and belonging of all students.

Our **Care** pillar centers around the belief that school is a safe and welcoming environment for all students.

Care is found in the relationships that are developed, fostered, and maintained throughout a student's school experience and by nurturing trust and mutual respect through resources that support student wellness.

Community

Partnering and collaborating with the community.

Our **Community** pillar represents the importance of stakeholder engagement within our schools and student involvement in our larger community.

Community involvement and stakeholder engagement is key to the shared responsibility of student success. Use of clear communication and input is a valued part of our students' success.



Beliefs

We believe that:

- ▶ All students want to learn, are capable of learning, and share in the responsibility for their education.
- ▶ Contributing partners in the educational process include all district staff, students, families, and the community.
- ▶ Responsive schools take a leading role in promoting safety and wellness.
- ▶ Educators must be knowledgeable and current in their profession, discipline, and pedagogy.
- ▶ It is important for each member of the educational community to recognize and respect all forms of diversity.
- ▶ Effective schools are built upon integrity and foster respectful, inclusive, and dynamic environments.
- ▶ Schools of excellence have effective educational leaders.
- ▶ Fiscal decisions must effectively balance the educational needs of the students and the resources of the community.

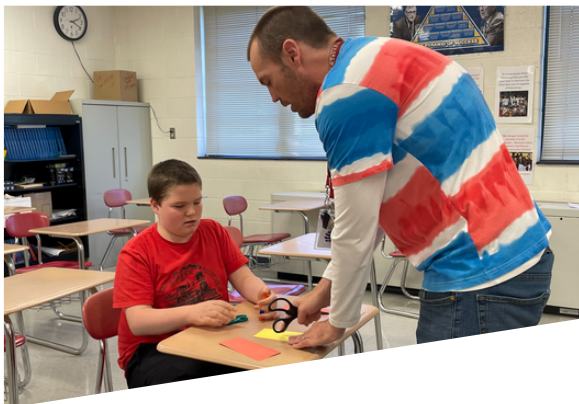
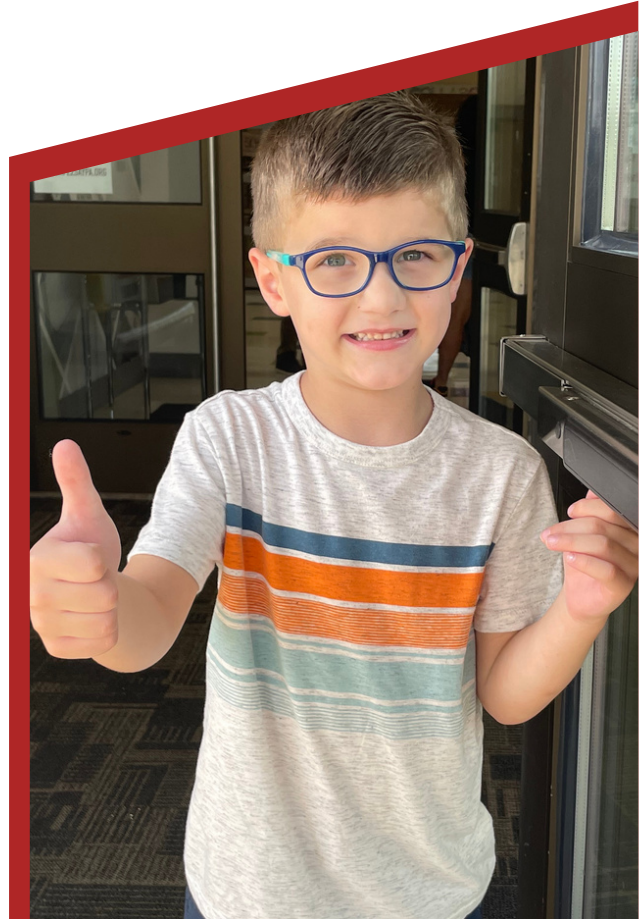
Next Steps

A Pathway to Forging Progress

The strategic vision is the framework that will guide the district in making informed decisions for the betterment of our students and community.

The four identified pillars (Purpose, Passion, Care, and Community) serve as our foundation for success and will be developed and monitored during implementation.

The district will regularly examine and report on the progress of the strategic vision, with the anticipation that changes and modifications may need to be made in order to best meet the future needs of our students and community.





FOX CHAPEL AREA
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Together We Can