Cache County School District

Policy Series 2000: Administration and District Planning

Policy No. 2040 P1

District Strategic Planning

District planning is a strategic process that aligns all school system functions with its core purpose, values, and vision for the future. The following foundational elements provide a cohesive framework to guide district prioritization, implementation, and accountability.

1. Mission Statement

The Mission Statement is a concise, enduring declaration of the district's core purpose—why the organization exists and who it serves. A well-crafted mission:

- Serves as a filter to distinguish what is essential from what is not.
- Communicates the services provided to students, staff, and the community.
- Signals intended direction and commitment across the organization.

The mission reflects the district's foundational cause, guiding daily actions and decisions. While the mission focuses on its present purpose, it complements the Vision Statement by articulating future aspirations.

2. Vision Statement

The Vision Statement defines what the district aspires to become in the future. It is ambitious yet realistic, providing direction for long-term planning. This statement serves as:

- A north star for aligning current and future initiatives.
- A reference point for evaluating progress and measuring success.

The Board of Education leads the development of both the Vision and Mission Statements, ensuring they are responsive to the needs of students, families, and the broader community.

3. District Values

District Values are the foundational beliefs and guiding principles that shape the culture and decision-making processes across the district. They serve as the organization's ethical and philosophical compass, informing strategic planning and day-to-day practices.

District Values play a vital role in district planning by:

- Grounding priorities and strategies in shared beliefs about education, equity, relationships, and service.
- Providing clarity when navigating complex decisions, trade-offs, or competing priorities.
- Strengthening coherence across initiatives by anchoring them in consistent principles.
- Reinforcing accountability by setting behavioral expectations for students, staff, and leadership.

Values are not simply aspirational—they are operational. They influence how priorities are developed, how implementation is approached, and how success is defined.

When properly integrated, District Values ensure that all planning efforts reflect the district's character and commitments, building trust and shared ownership among stakeholders.

4. Strategic Priorities, Objectives, and Strategies

The district's Strategic Priorities, Objectives, and Strategies translate its Vision and Mission into actionable plans. These components represent increasingly specific levels of planning:

- **Strategic Priorities** define broad outcomes aligned with the district's mission and vision. They are informed by comprehensive data analysis, including student performance, demographics, enrollment trends, facility needs, fiscal resources, and community input.

- **Objectives** break down each goal into measurable, time-bound steps. They specify actions, responsible personnel, deadlines, and required resources. Objectives can be short-term, medium-term, or long-term in nature.

- **Strategies** outline the approaches used to achieve objectives and goals. A single strategy may support multiple goals (e.g., a public engagement strategy can be applied to both academic achievement and community relations).

Variations in the use and structure of objectives and strategies are permissible to accommodate the unique needs and contexts of different goals. The Board grants the superintendent flexibility in structuring implementation plans, including action plans or other operational frameworks at the superintendent's discretion.

5. District Strategic Priorities and Implementation

District Priorities are collaboratively established by the Board of Education and senior district leadership. These priorities are the backbone of district efforts and are executed by the superintendent, administrators, faculty, and staff across all schools and departments.

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Superintendent Responsibilities:

- Lead the development and execution of implementation plans.
- Ensure district-wide participation in accomplishing district priorities.
- Require alignment and integration of priorities into all school and departmental plans.

Reporting and Accountability:

- At least annually, during a June Board study session, the superintendent will present a report summarizing:
    - Progress made over the past year
    - Priorities and planned initiatives for the upcoming year
- The district website will update the District Progress Report regularly and make it publicly available.
- Additional reports will be shared with the Board in compliance with state requirements or upon request.

6. School Improvement Plans (SIPs)

Each school within the district is responsible for creating and implementing a School Improvement Plan (SIP) that aligns with the district's and board's goals. These plans should reflect:

- The unique needs and contexts of each school.
- Consistent alignment with the district's mission, vision, values, and priorities.
- Accountability measures and clear implementation strategies.

Guidance on SIP development and implementation is provided under Policy 2060.

Legal References
Synopsis

Approved by District Administration: June, 12, 2025