

Community News

Achieving Excellence in Education

Strategic Planning: Setting goals to meet community priorities



Dear Neighbor,

After more than a year gathering input from community members, business leaders, public officials, parents and staff, we have developed a

strategic plan that directly responds to what we heard.

Our District Improvement Plan for the remainder of this year sets three main goals with objectives that address the priorities we heard:

- School Improvement
- Resources
- Relationships

Each goal has specific objectives that guide our work and support our mission of achieving excellence through high standards of teaching and learning.

You can find the plan in the Mission and Goals tab on our new Web site. This site – read more about it at right – is part of our goal to enhance relationships with our publics by making information about programs and student achievement more accessible.

Vision 2020 helped us evaluate what is working in our schools and plan for future needs and priorities. Thank you for your input. We'll keep you informed about our progress moving forward.

Sincerely,

Maryalice Russell, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Find information about McMinnville schools on updated District Web site: www.msd.k12.or.us

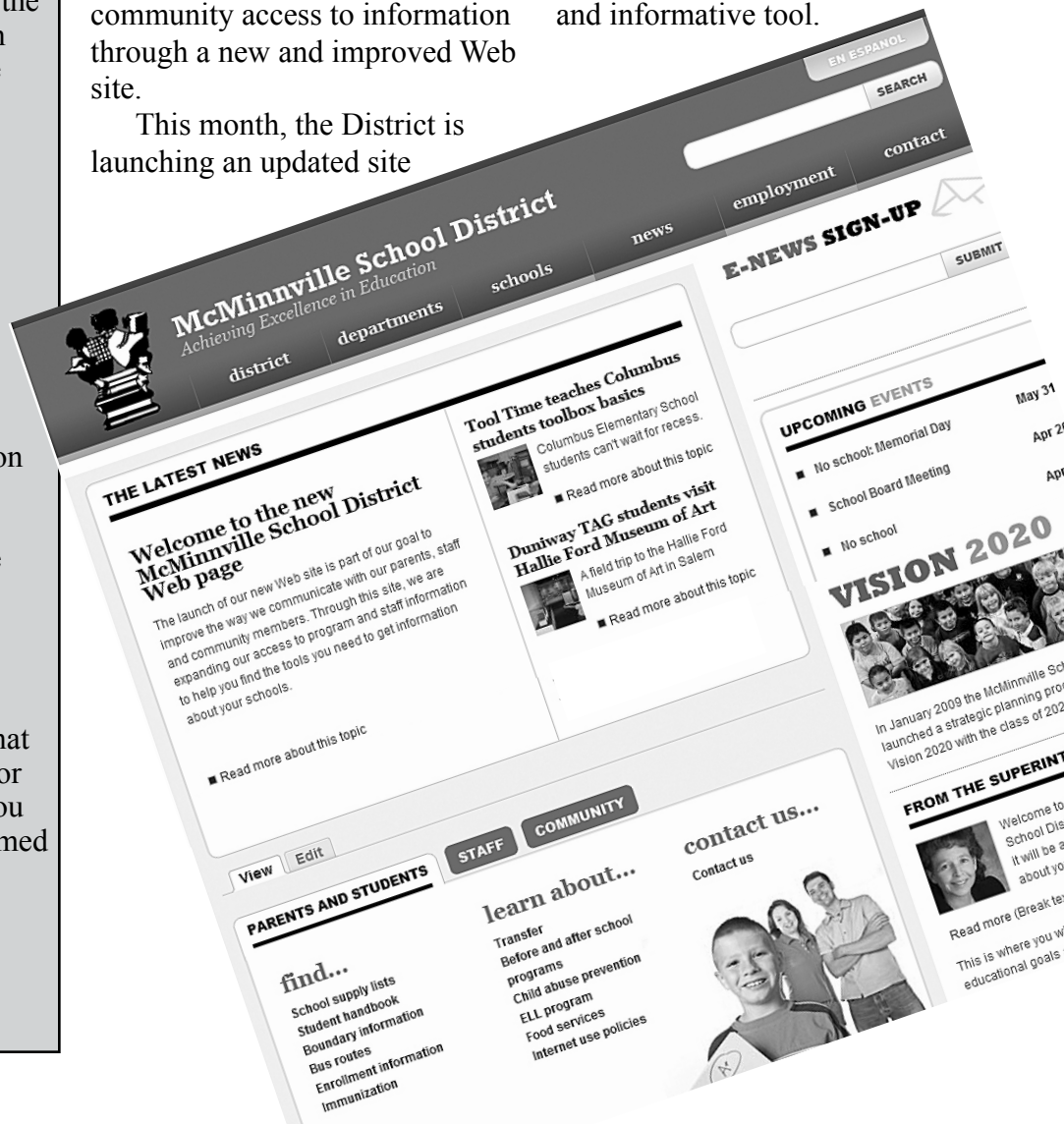
Input from the Vision 2020 process resulted in goals for operations and program improvements in the District (see p. 4). One goal was to focus on community relationships that enhance understanding of schools and programs.

The District has identified several ways to reach this goal. One way is to improve parent and community access to information through a new and improved Web site.

This month, the District is launching an updated site

with easier navigation, a search engine, and new content for departments and programs.

The Web is an important resource for families and community members and a valuable way to share information about student achievement in McMinnville schools. This dynamic site will continue to evolve to ensure that it is a useful and informative tool.



Budget process 2010-11: Cautious optimism for maintaining current school programs

McMinnville School District is in the middle of budgeting for the 2010-11 school year. State law defines the process local governments use in setting budgets. School boards must meet a June deadline for adopting a budget for the coming year. In most legislative years, the K-12 legislative budget is not known by the school budget deadline.

For this reason, schools are often faced with uncertainty about the funding they will have from the state as they set their budgets.

Reductions in 2009-10

Last year, school districts based budgets on potential funding scenarios as recommended by the Governor – they were forced to take their best guess about what the funding levels would be.

McMinnville Schools built a budget based on a \$5.8 billion state funding level – neither the top nor bottom of the recommended range. This level was less than the cost of rolling forward current programs and services in the District. To balance the budget at this funding level, the District identified \$5.5 million in implemented reductions.

Reductions were made in programs and staff, one-time funds were tapped, and staff concessions included a five-day pay reduction for all staff and cost-of-living and step freezes for classified, administrative and confidential staff.

Restoring budget cuts in 2010-11

This year, the District anticipates a higher funding level that would allow restoration of some educational programs and reinstatement of work calendars for employee groups next year.

In the coming months, the Budget Committee will review current services, anticipated funding and future projections. They will make a recommendation to the School Board in May.

Budget materials are on www.msd.k12.or.us

More information about the budget process, including meeting dates, agendas and minutes are posted on the District Web site: www.msd.k12.or.us.

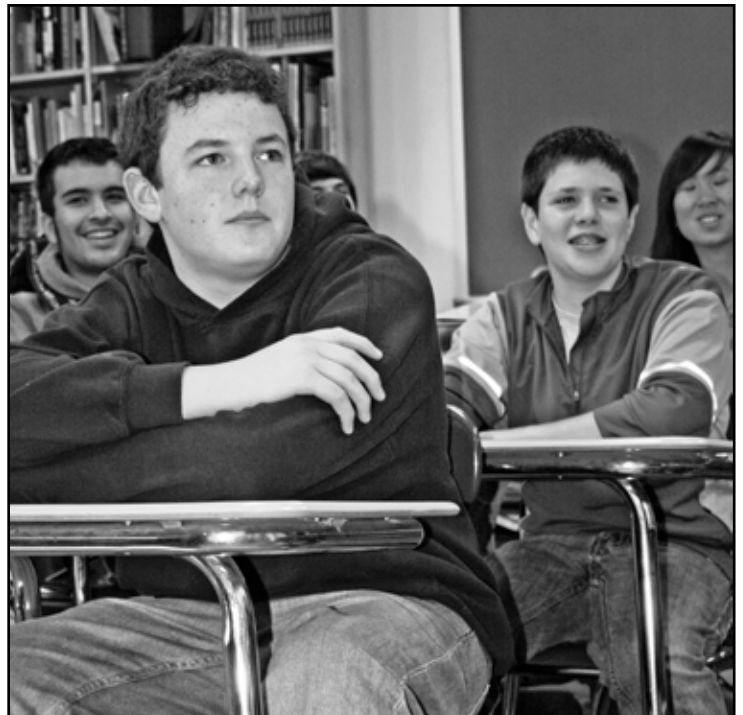
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERS

School Board:

Janis Braich
Kathy Cabe
Francis Charbonnier
Nicole Obrist
Stan Primozich
Tim Roberts
Larry Vollmer

Citizen Budget Committee Members:

Dale Tomlinson
Scott Gibson
Paul Haddeland
Brian Owen
Kathy Loving
Wesley Paul
Steven Patterson



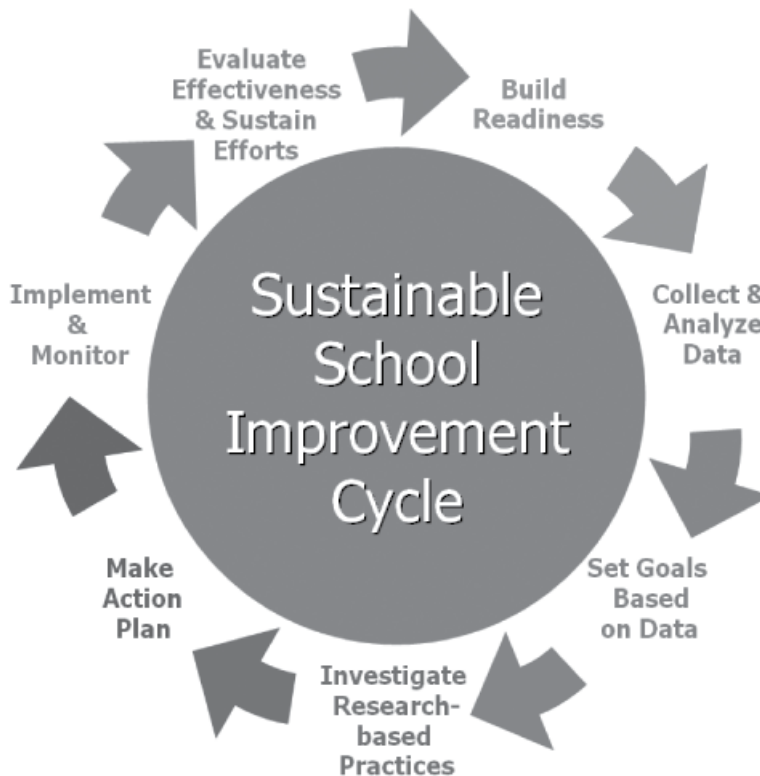
District and school improvement plans list successes, help staff set goals for improvement

A Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) communicates to educators, students and their families, business people, and community members, the process of measuring and achieving improvements in a school district's performance.

—Oregon Department of Education

Students aren't the only ones who undergo assessments to measure achievement. Schools and districts also review their progress each year to set new annual goals for improvement.

The Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) process is conducted at both the school and district level. District CIPs are submitted to the Oregon Department of Education for review to ensure that schools are



making progress meeting state benchmarks and meeting state and federal requirements.

School CIPs are used to identify school goals each year and develop action plans for reaching them.

Each school reviews data from the previous year, including assessment results, attendance rates, etc., to identify successes and challenges and define specific strategies to meet student needs. The plans also provide information about school climate and parent involvement.

To see the plans for McMinnville schools, visit the school pages on the District Web site. Plans for the 2009-10 school year are posted for each school: www.msd.k12.or.us.

Copies of the District CIP are available for review in the District Office and in school offices.



Read about great things happening in McMinnville schools.

Weekly news updates are posted on www.msd.k12.or.us.

Vision 2020 input process helps set education priorities



The Vision 2020 strategic planning process started last year and included dozens of forums and opportunities for input from a wide range of community members, parents and staff.

This process defined the educational priorities of our community and

will set the course for future District goals.

Based on this input, the following are the top three priorities and the District response for addressing them:

District priority: Post-secondary education and employment opportunities

District response:

- College Credit Now, Advanced Placement, pathway programs, and business partnerships
- Staff position to monitor and assist student enrollment in post-secondary program

District priority: Safe schools

District response:

- Design schools to incorporate safety features related to facility access and supervision.
- Monitor and enhance the work of school safety and

Effective Behavior and Instructional Support (EBIS) committees.

- Continue to decrease referrals for inappropriate student behaviors.
- Maintain and enhance focus on positive school climate.
- Evaluate effectiveness of current systems in place, including video surveillance program, crime prevention though environmental design, threat assessment program, safety drills, etc.

District priority: Well-rounded curriculum

District response:

- Maintain music, physical education and elective programs for students.
- Expand music and elective offerings in conjunction with core content intervention programs for students who struggle to meet benchmark as resources become available.
- Continue to build coursework rigor for all students.

The District is also responding to the following other areas that were identified during the input gathering process:

- Critical skills/educational excellence
- Community relations/student behavior/family involvement
- Technology

More information about Vision 2020, including the final report and background materials, is at: www.msd.k12.or.us.

For More Information

For more information about the McMinnville School District, please contact us:
Phone: 503.565.4000 • E-mail: info@msd.k12.or.us • Web: www.msd.k12.or.us



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