



STRATEGIC PLANNING

Create a focused plan that drives your district's daily work to achieve results



District Management Group
Helping Schools and Students Thrive

Create a Focused Strategic Plan for Results

Distill vision and mission into concrete actions to achieve measurable goals

District Management Group's approach is based on extensive research coupled with our experience working with dozens of districts to put powerful strategic plans into practice. As districts strive to raise achievement in the face of ever-mounting challenges, it is more important than ever to have a dynamic strategic plan – one that drives action toward the district's goals. We believe less is more: the most powerful strategic plans are not lengthy documents with a long list of initiatives, but rather are concise plans based on a theory of action to drive improvement. We work with you to hone a powerful theory of action and then identify a short list of priorities and measurable goals that guide the work of the district.

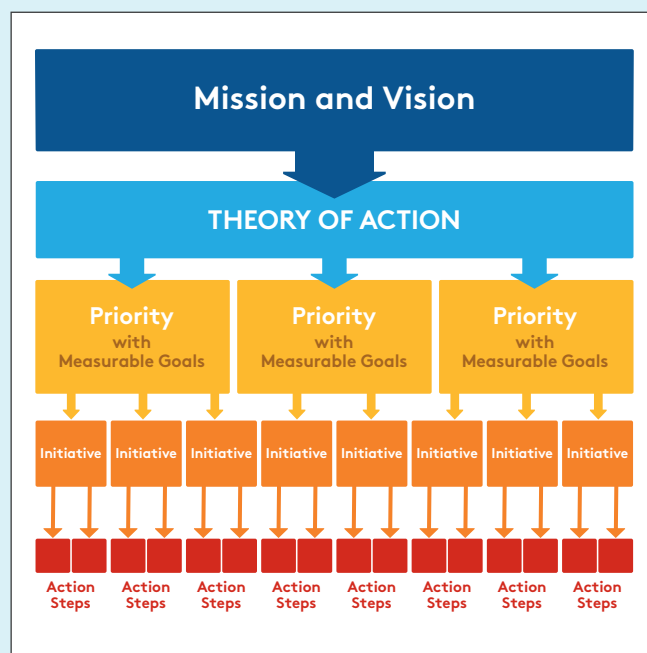
The most powerful strategic plans are not lengthy documents but rather are concise plans focused on a small set of the most important priorities to drive improvement.

Because the support of stakeholders is essential to success, our strategic planning process includes a **two-step community engagement** process to build understanding among stakeholders and community members. We solicit input from key stakeholders early in the process; once the plan is drafted, a series of community engagement meetings are held to solicit feedback, reaction, and ensure that key concerns have not been overlooked. This two-step approach helps build understanding and support for both the plan itself and the work ahead.

KEY BENEFITS

- An **in-depth analysis** of your district's strengths and needs ensures that the most pressing challenges are correctly identified
- Identifying a small set of **key priorities** focuses your district's work
- **Measurable goals** are set so that objectives are clear and progress can be tracked
- The **two-step community engagement** process builds understanding and support
- Clearly defining your district's strategic objectives drives an **alignment of resources**

DISTRICT MANAGEMENT GROUP'S STRATEGIC PLANNING DESIGN FRAMEWORK





DMGroup's approach is to create a focused plan that will drive the daily work of your district

DMGroup will partner with your district to create an actionable plan using our field-proven methodology

Conduct a Needs Assessment to Provide Focus and Build Common Understanding

We begin by conducting a comprehensive assessment, gathering both quantitative information (in-district, regional, and state data) as well as qualitative input from the community. Our needs assessment provides a shared understanding from which to launch the planning process.

Codify your District's Theory of Action to Guide Efforts

We work with you to develop a Theory of Action, the fundamental set of core beliefs about the drivers of long-term success. Developing an authentic, cogent theory of action requires the district to reflect deeply on the context needed to successfully address the root causes of its challenges. Once developed, your Theory of Action will guide prioritization of goals, initiatives, and activities.

Define a Short List of Strategic Priorities and Measurable Goals

We then help you distill a lengthy list of priorities down to a short, actionable list—five or six broad thematic areas that will propel the district to achieve its vision and mission. For each of these priorities, measurable goals are articulated so success is defined and progress can be tracked.

Build Understanding and Support with our Two-step Community Engagement Process

Input is solicited from key stakeholders early in the process; once the plan is drafted, we help the district to facilitate a series of broader community engagement meetings, which provide essential insight into different perspectives, identify issues that may have been overlooked, and create an opportunity for feedback and reaction. This **two-step community engagement** process helps create deeper understanding of district needs as well as the trade-offs at hand.

Once your strategic plan has been developed, DMGroup can help you translate the plan into well-defined initiatives and action steps. [Contact us at 877-362-3500](tel:877-362-3500) to learn more about this optional add-on service.



There isn't a board meeting that goes by where we aren't talking about how we are addressing our strategic plan. We are always referring back to our strategic plan. DMGroup's approach helped us craft a strategic plan that drives our district's work.

– Brian Maher

Superintendent

Sioux Falls School District, Sioux Falls (SD)



District Management Group

Helping Schools and Students Thrive

District Management Group was founded in 2004 on the belief that management techniques combined with educational best practices are key to addressing the challenges facing American public schools. Our focus is on partnering with school districts to achieve measurable and sustainable improvement in student outcomes, operational efficiency, and resource allocation to help schools and students to thrive.

Contact us for more information

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