

# *Methacton School District*

## *Strategic Plan*

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*ANNUAL UPDATE  
FOR BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
APRIL 2019*

# Agenda

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Process

Accomplishments

Plan Forward

High Level Focus for 2019-2020

# High Level Process

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- In 2016, more than 100 parents, teachers, students, administrators, & community leaders came together to assist the district with planning
- The plan – through 2022 – is divided into five focus areas
- Update provided annually each April
- Conducted mid point review process September 2018
- Presented revisions to plan and new progress tracking mechanism in November 2018

# Major Accomplishments

## FOCUS AREA 1

Student Growth & Achievement/Staff Professional Development & Growth/Pupil Services/Educational Technology

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MSD Whole Child Resource Guide for staff and families will be available before the start of next school term

Established STEM focus forward

- Re-investment in High School STEM offerings
- Common Language (4 C's)
- Professional Development (STEM Certification)
- Teacher in the Work Place

Completed Comprehensive School Counselor Chapter 339 Plan

Extensive work completed on use of new data tool Link-it and progress towards protocols and process to best leverage data and information to make strategic instructional decisions

[PROGRESS CHART](#)

# Major Accomplishments

## FOCUS AREA 1

Student Growth & Achievement/Staff Professional Development & Growth/Pupil Services/Educational Technology

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### **Professional Development Opportunities including:**

**Inclusion Training Best Practices in Including all students-** Skyview Select teachers Presented by Erin Barry, MCIU

**Gifted- The Other Special Ed.- (K-12)- All welcome** Presented by Patty McGinnis, Arcola

**Woes of O's- Supporting Diverse Learners in the Classroom-** (K-12) All Welcome Presented by Zanthia Reddish, Arcola

**Inclusion and Visible Growth-How Universal Design and Visible Growth strategies can benefit all students and why inclusion matters.** (K-12) All Welcome Presented by Tim Murch, K-4 Special Education Supervisor

**Differentiated Instruction- Best practices for making your instruction work for all of your students.** (K-12) All Welcome  
Erin Barry, MCIU

**OT Strategies for anyone in your Classroom-** (K-12) All Welcome Colleen Marshall, OT Worcester

[PROGRESS CHART](#)

# Major Accomplishments

## FOCUS AREA 2

Communications and Community Relations

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### Delivered consistent and relevant building and district communications

- Newsletters – all buildings/district messages
- Community Conversations
- Showcasing the Pride of Methacton

### Leveraged communication tools/mediums

- S'mores, PowerSchool, and School Messenger

### Making Methacton School District of choice

- Began conversations with area realtors to provide relevant information important for prospective buyers
- Assessing the Methacton messaging strategy associated with conveying the brand

[PROGRESS CHART](#)

# Major Accomplishments

## FOCUS AREA 3

Safety/Operational Technology/Facilities/Infrastructure

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### Safety/security audits completed for all district schools

- Incorporating into Master Facilities Plan where appropriate
- Professional development on Run, Hide, Fight, Safe to Say, as well as other security and safety matters addressed through ERT building teams
- In process of upgrading video surveillance and phone systems (Summer 2019)
- Added Armed Assailant training in cooperation with the State and LP police departments

Evaluating potential of Rachel's Challenge as a district-wide kindness program to better address bullying and positive school climate.

Continue with year 2 of Master Facilities plan to address facilities needs across the district (\$5M-\$7M in projects)

[PROGRESS CHART](#)

# Major Accomplishments

## FOCUS AREA 4

District Operations/Financial Management/Human Resources

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Scheduling at Arcola was reviewed and recommendations proposed for the start of the 2019-2020 school term

- Strengthen core and supplemental instruction by providing flexible opportunities for students
- Increase access to World Language
- More discussion is to occur in the 19-20 SY

Early stages of implementation of Stronge Hiring Process

- Improve the effectiveness and consistency in hiring practices
- Aligning process with laws, policies, and procedures that are parallel with the District mission
- Enables schools to find the best employees more effectively and efficiently by improving the validity of selection criteria

Continued work on updating Job Descriptions across all employee groups

- Helps communicate expectations
- Comply with law and labor agreements
- Opportunities for performance feedback

[PROGRESS CHART](#)

# Major Accomplishments

## FOCUS AREA 5

Co-Curricular/Extra-Curricular Activities, and Athletics

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### Activities Handbook

The writing and adoption of the Activities Handbook culminates with an evaluation process of activities k-12 working towards strategic objective 2 in this focus area.

Optimize available student opportunities by ensuring that relevant and diversified offerings, funding, costs, and structure of the co-curricular and extra-curricular programming are aligned and consistent across buildings and levels as appropriate to meet the expectations and participation interests of students by end of 2nd quarter 2019.

PROGRESS CHART

# Plan Forward

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Continued developing differentiated instructional practices

Provide PD on student behavior & classroom management strategies

Provide leadership opportunities for teachers and administrators

Create Future Teacher Explorers program

Develop educator in workplace & student mentorship opportunities with focus on career readiness

Continue developing our “Showcasing the Pride of Methacton” video series

Gather feedback on our communications efforts over the past few years

Produce guidelines/institute practices to better share/maintain content on website and other media

# Plan Forward

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Focus on a well communicated Methacton brand

Continue to explore Rachel's Challenge as a kindness program to address bullying

Continue exploring scheduling improvements at Arcola and High School

Deploy and analyze employee satisfaction survey and communicate results

Deploy the Stronge hiring protocol to provide consistent and reliable means of hiring

Continue working with the Education Foundation to develop targeted funding areas

Explore activity bus transportation options integrate into budget for 2020-2021

# High Level Focus for 2019-2020 SY

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Create a pathway to full day kindergarten and deliver recommendation for Board of School Directors consideration in October 2019 for implementation of full day kindergarten at the start of 2020-2021 SY.

Deliver a plan with associated funding to reinvest in the High School STEM offerings.

Complete pilot of Reach program, review results, and prepare recommendations for the Board of School Directors consideration within the 2020-2021 budgetary process.

Provide PD for the administrative and teaching staff as we increase efforts for more inclusive and differentiated practices.