

Q. Why is WCCUSD writing a strategic plan now?

A. Because of the economic crisis of the last several years, all school districts, including ours, have spent most of our time lurching from funding crisis to funding crisis and making hard choices based on continual loss of funds. With the recent passage of Prop. 30 and an improving economic climate, it's time that we ensure first and foremost that we are doing all we can to prepare our students for college, career and life. We are going to engage the entire WCCUSD community over the next several months to develop this plan that will accomplish just that.

Q. What is the focus of the strategic plan?

A. The focus of the strategic plan will be to create a five-year vision for WCCUSD that ensures all of our students are prepared for college, career and life.

We want this process to result in a new plan that:

- Ensures all students have access to a quality education that prepares them for college, career and life in a globally competitive economy.
- Further closes the achievement gap between white and Asian students and their African-American and Latino peers.
- Has the input and support of a wide range of community members
- Aligns all of our important programs and efforts (STEM, College & Career Readiness, Common Core State Standards, Full Service Community Schools) in one plan
- Creates a pathway for implementation of the tools, strategies and technology of the 21st century.
- Leverages the assistance of philanthropic, social service and other community organizations to ensure that our students have access to all the resources and tools they need to be successful

Q. What is the strategic planning process?

A. WCCUSD is engaging in an unprecedented level of community engagement as the core of our strategic planning effort. Throughout April and May, we will host six public town hall meetings, one town hall with our teachers and one town hall with our classified employees. The town halls will provide participants the opportunity to shape the district's strategic direction.

Information gathered at the town halls will be used by the district and a diverse 17-member steering committee comprised of leaders of local education, community, business, and social service organizations to shape the plan and present it to the Board by the start of the 2013-2014 school year.

Q. How is the plan being paid for?

A. We are very grateful that the cost of producing this plan is being fully funded by a grant from Chevron.

Q. Who is involved in this process?

A. In short, everyone. WCCUSD is committed to making this an open, transparent and inclusive process that gives multiple opportunities for community members to participate and is led by a diverse 20-member steering committee comprised of leaders of local education, community, business, and social service organizations.

Q. How will the Board implement the strategic plan?

A. Following the months-long planning process, the Board will be presented with the strategic plan developed by the district staff with unparalleled input from the community. If the Board approves the plan, future decisions by the board should align with the plan's strategies and tactics, milestones will be identified and the district will continually keep the community informed about plan implementation, challenges and successes.