



# ACI Input to the APS Strategic Plan

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- Strategic Plan background
  - Charge
  - Purpose
- Explore and gather input on goals and strategies related to:
  - Teaching and Learning
  - Whole Child
- Share and assess proposals as a group



# Strategic Plan Background



# The Charge

Develop a proposed Strategic Plan that focuses on students as the core priority



# The Charge



Provide input for the School Board on:

**Mission:** Our purpose as Arlington's public education system

**Vision:** What we aspire to achieve in the future

**Core Values:** Beliefs that frame our planning and decision making



# The Charge

The plan will include:

**Goals:** key areas where we will focus work and resources

**Strategies:** steps we intend to take to achieve the goals

**Objectives:** describe the timeline and measurable actions to achieve each strategy



# Strategic Planning What and Why?



“A deliberative, disciplined effort to produce fundamental decisions and actions that shape and guide what an organization is, what it does and why it does it” (Bryson, 2011).

Who and what are we? What do we do now? Why do we do it?

What do we want to be and do in the future, and why?

Where and how should we focus our work and resources?



# Goals and Strategies





**Goals:** Key areas where we will focus work and resources



## Current APS Strategic Plan Goals:

Goal 1: Challenge and Engage All Students

Goal 2: Eliminate Achievement Gaps

Goal 3: Recruit, Retain and Develop High Quality Staff

Goal 4: Provide Optimal Learning Environments

Goal 5: Meet the Needs of the Whole Child



## Example goals from other school divisions:

- Student Success-We commit to reaching, challenging, and preparing every student for success in school and life.
- Student-centered teaching and learning
- Improve teaching and learning and provide a strong academic program: Focus on learning, accountability and results.
- Develop knowledgeable critical thinkers, communicators, collaborators, creators, and contributors



# Activity-Goals

- In your group, review the proposed goal statements from the strategic planning steering committee.
- Jot down the phrases or sentences that stand out to you.
- Share at your table what you wrote and why.

Then...

- Write a goal or goals for the strategic plan around either Teaching and Learning or Whole Child
- Write your group's goal(s) on a poster
- Be ready to share your table's work with the group



**Strategies:** steps we intend to take to achieve the goals



## Current APS Strategies for Challenge and Engage all Students:

- ***Present high and clear expectations*** for all students and include a consistent guide for the evaluation of student work. Within this framework, APS ensures that a core set of standards-based concepts and competencies form the basis of what all students should learn.
- ***Create engaging and motivating educational program choices*** that prepare students to achieve college and career aspirations. These choices provide opportunities to: (1) explore, discover, and optimize their individual strengths; (2) recognize and help them overcome their weaknesses; and (3) be evaluated and benchmarked against the best educational systems nationally and internationally.
- ***Create an environment where all students feel challenged, supported, and accepted*** as they learn. Such an environment puts students first: their needs, abilities, interests, and learning styles are central when making decisions about what to learn and how to learn it. Students are active and responsible participants in their own learning.



## Current APS Strategies for Meet the Needs of the Whole Child:

- ***Increase developmental assets in students.*** External and internal developmental assets enhance all children, allowing them to thrive in their health, safety, relationships, long-term development, and academic pursuits.
- ***Strengthen family involvement.*** APS encourages family involvement and feedback systemically, at all levels of school and district operations, including policy and governance deliberations. Parents are given opportunities to promote the educational, social, and emotional growth of their children. Information and learning events are designed for parents and include strategies developed to reach out and assist them in advocacy and support of their children's education and growth.
- ***Strengthen parent, student, staff, and community partnerships.*** Parent, student, staff, and community members are active partners in district programs and governance. Partnership opportunities expand the ability of stakeholders to actively participate in the education of students, to help students effectively navigate the educational system, and to provide support for every student to learn and succeed.
- ***Promote, support, and expect strong relationships with students and parents,*** making them feel respected and appreciated.



## Example Strategies from other school divisions:

- Ensure equity of access to quality core instructional programs and resources for all students.
- Empower principals as collaborative instructional leaders to ensure fair and equitable student outcomes.
- Make instructional programming decisions by measuring the performance of all students, including special populations, to ensure all students meet or exceed local, state, and federal accountability standards
- Acquisition of knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary to understand personal health and wellness, manage emotions, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.
- Graduate students that have the knowledge and skills to qualify for and succeed in entry level job or credit-bearing postsecondary coursework without the need for remediation.





# Activity--Strategies

- In your group, choose one goal to write strategies for.
- Brainstorm the important parts of achieving that goal.

Then...

- Write 2-5 strategies for your identified goal.
- Work more on identifying the important ideas and less on wordsmithing.
- Write your group's strategies on a poster.
- Be ready to share your table's work with the group.



- Review everyone's work.
- Place dots next to goals and strategies that you support.
- Circle key words or phrases.



# Thank you!

The Strategic Planning Steering Committee appreciates your time and input.

