



MOUNT HOLLY TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT EDUCATIONAL STRATEGY

Vision 2021

June 2016

What We Believe

VISION

Every student will have an excellent educational experience.

MISSION

We cultivate the capacity for lifelong learning, the creativity for innovation, and the curiosity for exploration.

VALUES

We pursue excellence through perseverance, integrity, collaboration, and inspiration.

Strategy

- ✓ **One District, One Community**
- ✓ **College and Career Readiness**
- ✓ **Learning Environment**
- ✓ **Character Education**
- ✓ **Sustainable Practices**

THE FUTURE IS NOW

Strategic Planning is one of the most important processes that any organization undergoes. The Mount Holly Township School District has completed its five year **Educational Strategy** to safeguard the school community's interests. The strategic plan establishes a vision for the future and defines clear goals and objectives. Most importantly, it serves as a compass for how the Board of Education will lead the school community through an ever changing educational landscape.

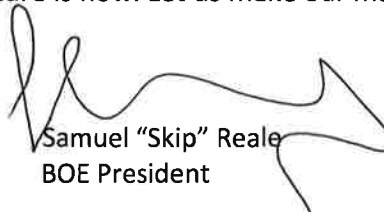
Today, the Mount Holly Public School District is better positioned to seize the opportunities set before us and to improve its position in the local, regional, and global educational arena as a high performing school district. The strategic planning panel declares that:

- We are a Board of Education that pledges to serve the community and make a difference in the life of every student who enters our schools,
- We are innovative leaders who pursue excellence through research-based best practices,
- We are dedicated and highly qualified educators,
- We are passionate and committed parents,
- We ensure that school security is a top priority, and
- We continue to maintain a fiscally responsible and educational rich budget.

Any successful strategy to ensure that students and their families possess the college mindset and the career skill set to meet the demands of the next decades must begin with an undeniable truth - the Mount Holly Public School District needs to position itself to be a model school district of achievement in the 21st century. The question is never whether we must improve, but how we lead the improvement effort.

To succeed, we must draw upon the power of our example by committing to our vision, cultivating our mission, and acting in line with our values. We need to embrace our exceptional roles and responsibilities as leaders in the community at a time when our unique contributions and capabilities are needed most, and when the choices we make today can mean greater prosperity for our children and their families for generations to come. The future is now. Let us make our mark.


James E. DiDonato
Superintendent


Samuel "Skip" Reale
BOE President

The Educational Strategy is a five year strategic plan, beginning July 2016 and ending June 2021. To learn more about the strategic planning process or to get the full strategic plan, please visit our website at www.mtholly.k12.nj.us.

Strategic Meeting #1 (January 19, 2016)

We identified the strengths of the Mount Holly Schools and collaborated to construct mission and value statements.

Strategic Meeting #2 (February 23, 2016)

We collaborated to construct a vision for Mount Holly Schools and we developed a series of consensus statements.

Strategic Meeting #3 (March 15, 2016)

We identified key strategies, programs, and resources to meet the visionary goals and we constructed a roadmap for the steering committees.

*** 80 total participants attended meetings 1-3.**

Mission, Vision, Value Committee Meetings (February and March, 2016)

We developed shared values, a 21st century mission statement, and a unified vision.

Steering Committee Meetings (April 2016)

5 steering committees were developed to define each imperative through a goal statement (strategy), objective statements (strategic intent), and the environment needed to meet the goals and objectives.

*** 50 total participants attended the committee meetings.**

Thank you for your commitment to the students' success in the MHTPSD!

STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUS AREAS (2016-2021)

ONE DISTRICT, ONE COMMUNITY

If we cultivate a collaborative educational experience, then our students will be inspired to have pride in themselves, their school, and their community.

- ❑ We will unite one district through curriculum, spirit, and support.
- ❑ We will connect school and community by building relationships and providing service opportunities.
- ❑ We will embrace diversity by creating a positive environment that fosters acceptance for all.

COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

If we build a mindset for high expectations through student-driven learning and innovative programs, then our students will be prepared for college and a career of their choosing.

- ❑ We will use all available measures of data to facilitate a student's individualized plan for academic success in preparation for college and career.
- ❑ We will create Individual Student-Driven Plans in grades Pre-K-8 to ensure all students develop goals to help encourage positive future developments in a college and/or career setting.
- ❑ We will integrate innovative practices that promote an understanding of the connection between educational experience, individual passion, and real world careers.

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

If the learning environment is supportive and productive, and if the learning environment promotes independence and self-motivation, then the students will have an excellent individualized educational experience.

- ❑ We will implement differentiated instruction in order to promote creative thinking and close the achievement gap.
- ❑ We will promote and provide life skills classes and more extracurricular activities district-wide, based on students' needs and interests.
- ❑ We will incorporate the philosophies of Growth Mindset in order to support the social and emotional needs of students.
- ❑ We will improve the classroom and school settings by moving toward a nontraditional learning environment.

CHARACTER EDUCATION

If we provide the tools and the resources to be upstanding students and citizens, then students will contribute to a positive and respectful school culture.

- ❑ We will eliminate bullying from our schools by teaching tolerance and embracing diversity.
- ❑ We will expect students to take responsibility for themselves and hold them accountable for their words and actions.
- ❑ We will implement a district-wide character education curriculum.
- ❑ We will provide opportunities for students to positively contribute to their community.

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

If we focus our efforts on sustainable practices for people, planet, and the prosperity of all, then students will be aware of sustainability issues and contribute to the construction of sustainable societies.

- ❑ We will improve health and wellness of students and staff.
- ❑ We will improve health and wellness through integration into the curriculum.
- ❑ We will reduce our carbon footprint through sustainability.
- ❑ We will educate students to have a caring commitment for their future.
- ❑ We will raise awareness of sustainability through service learning projects and other educational practices.