

Strategic plan charts a course for district's future

The City School District of Albany Board of Education unanimously approved a comprehensive strategic plan in November that will guide the district's growth and progress in the years ahead.

The board's approval capped a year-long process that involved more than 70 volunteers from the school district and community.

The strategic plan will guide the development of all aspects of district operations, including curriculum, academic programs, instruction, communication, hiring, facilities and extracurricular activities.



The district already has begun the important work of prioritizing and implementing the work outlined by the seven action teams, 38 specific projects as sweeping as redesigning all aspects of Albany High School and as focused as establishing a new phone line to make information more accessible to the community.

“We are very appreciative of the thorough work our Strategic Planning Team and the members of our seven action teams have done to position the district for continued progress in the years to come,” said Superintendent Eva C. Joseph, Ed.D. “Building on our strengths and addressing our challenges head-on, we recognize that there is much we need to accomplish.

“We look forward to working together with our community to achieve these important goals.”

Implementation

The district implementation schedule takes into account a number of factors as it prioritizes the 38 action steps developed during the year-long process.

The schedule, which the Board of Education is evaluating, takes into account several criteria. It considers each action step's role in improving student achievement, the urgency and manageability of each step, available or anticipated resources, and congruence with ongoing work.

The schedule identifies strategies and action steps to be implemented over the next five years, identifies resources allocated to the plan and identifies the manager and staff that will be assigned to plan the implementation timeline and completion of each step.

Following approval by the board, the district's next steps will be to engage parents and community partners in shared roles and responsibilities in implementing the work. The district will conduct training on implementation practices, incorporate strategic budgeting and provide annual updates of progress in putting the strategic plan into action.