



# Mission, vision and student achievement

## *Action steps*

Creating vision requires widespread involvement among community stakeholders, especially those whose lives will be influenced and shaped by the vision. This includes: residents without children in the district, businesses, social agencies, government agencies, community advocates, faith based organizations, parents, employees and students. Without genuine involvement and substantial discussion, the commitment necessary on the part of those who are charged to achieve the vision, will be lacking at best. Properly handled, a vision created by the community and district leadership will direct board and staff action and will gain community commitment to improving student achievement. This generates support for getting resources — financial and human capital to make the vision a reality.

### **Vision action steps**

- As a united board team, embrace the belief that all children can learn and achieve at higher levels.
- Ensure the involvement of a broad base of stakeholders in creating the vision for the district.
- Find out what families, learners and educators want from public education and their aspirations for the district's graduates.
- Identify clearly and collaboratively what success looks like.
- Support the district's vision publicly and through board decisions. Ensure that every board decision considers the academic and social needs of students and the district's efforts to realize its vision.
- Conduct a board self-assessment to determine the status of the board's governance practices with respect to advancing student achievement.
- Commit to training so that all board members have a better understanding of the importance of the five key works of school boards critical to improving student achievement.
- Approve comprehensive strategic plans to move the district's students to higher achievement levels.
- Adopt policies needed to support improvement initiatives.
- Allocate funding for and alignment of the resources needed to advance student achievement.
- Monitor progress toward district goals and supporting the superintendent in efforts to make changes aimed at improved district performance.
- Ensure clear, concise, and easily understood communications about all facets of the district's emphasis on advancing student achievement and student learning opportunities.
- Build community support for student achievement as the district's main priority by advocating with a variety of groups, including public officials, parents, media and business and community leaders.

