

An ESSA Guide to Strategic Planning, Shared Leadership, and Student Success

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Brief Description: Strategic planning and organizational development are ongoing processes that have specific stages distributed across the school year. Often tied to districts' annual budget cycles, strategic planning focuses on the staff and skills, materials and resources, instruction and intervention, and formative and summative evaluations needed to educate a diverse and often complex student body.

In the context of the new Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESSA), districts and schools will need to quickly understand the essential requirements of this legislation, and begin the strategic planning process—resulting in school, staff, and student success.

Embedded in these discussions will be ways to help districts and schools design and implement shared leadership processes. Significantly, a primary reason why many businesses succeed involves the fact that they “have the right people on the bus, in the right seats, doing the right things.” When districts and schools take a similar perspective, they become “successful businesses” in their own right.