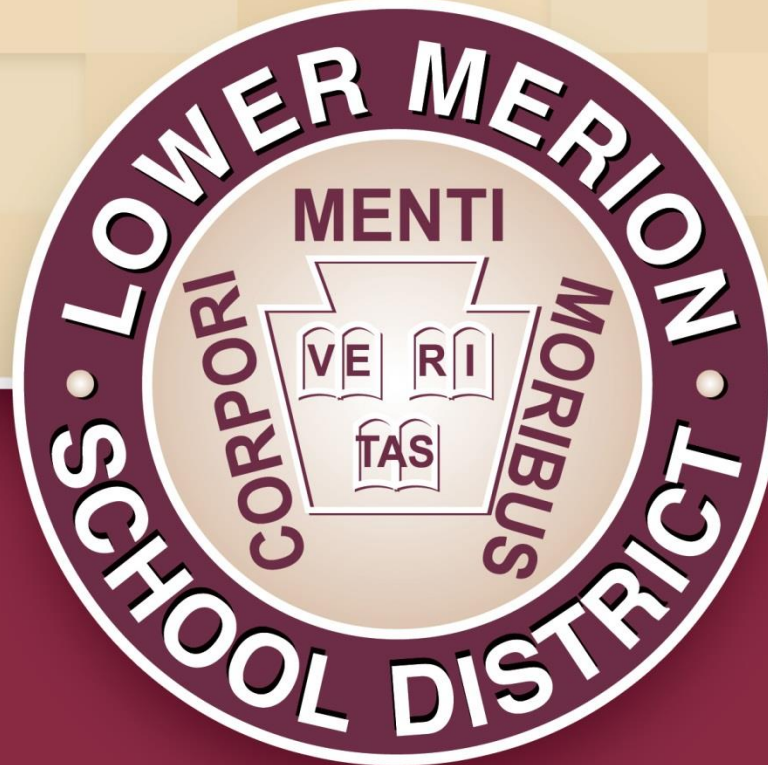


THE LOWER MERION SCHOOL DISTRICT
COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING
Interschool Council



March 11, 2014

LOWER MERION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Belief Statement



I believe we have the collective ability to provide and ensure that every student that passes through our hallways is equipped with the skills, attitudes and dispositions to be successful leaders in an increasingly competitive, diverse, and highly globalized work force.

Lower Merion School District Comprehensive Planning Leadership Team



Name	Title	Building
Dr. Wagner Marseille	Assistant Superintendent	District Administration Building
Dr. Dan Martino	Principal	Cynwyd Elementary
Ms. ShaVon Savage	Administrator of Special Student Programs	District Administration Building
Ms. Megan Shafer	Senior Director of Policy, Personnel and School Programs	District Administration Building
Dr. Joanna Wexler	Supervisor of Student Services	District Administration Building
Mr. Chris Hall	Principal	Welsh Valley Middle School
Mr. Doug Young	Director of Communications and Outreach	District Administration Building
Mr. Brian Cote	Supervisor of K-12 Data, Instructional Technology and Business	District Administration Building
Dr. Gerry Doria	Director of Elementary Education	District Administration Building
Mr. Scott Eveslage	Principal	Harriton High School
Ms. Gwen Nartowicz	Coordinator of Professional Learning and Gifted	District Administration Building

Steering Committee Meeting: May 5th & 15th 8:30AM-4PM: May 22th, 3:30PM-8PM – LMHS Library

Lower Merion School District MISSION STATEMENT



Committed to excellence and continuous improvement, the Lower Merion School District strives to ensure that all students achieve their highest level of critical thinking and creativity, that they value themselves and the diversity of others, and that they are knowledgeable, contributing citizens capable of excelling in a rapidly changing world.

This is accomplished by individuals engaging in innovative, active experiences tailored to the myriad ways of learning and in partnership with our community.

Lower Merion School District MISSION STATEMENT



Committed to **excellence** and **continuous improvement**, the Lower Merion School District strives to ensure that **all students** achieve their **highest level** of **critical thinking** and **creativity**, that they **value themselves** and the **diversity of others**, and that they are knowledgeable, **contributing citizens** capable of excelling in a **rapidly changing world**.

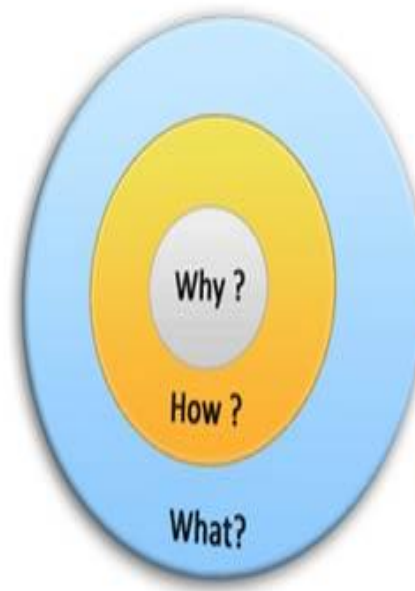
This is accomplished by individuals engaging in **innovative, active experiences** tailored to the **myriad ways of learning** and **in partnership** with our **community**.

What does it mean to be “Strategic”?

Why are we doing it?

What are we doing?

How are we doing it?



Why = The Purpose

What is your cause? What do you believe?

How = The Process

Specific actions taken to realize the Why.

What = The Result

What do you do? The result of Why. Proof.

What: 6 Habits of Strategic Thinkers



- 1. Anticipate—“peripheral vision”; 3+ moves ahead**
- 2. Challenge—question, reframe, dig to roots**
- 3. Interpret—steady amidst ambiguity; patterns from multiple data sources**
- 4. Decide—take a stand; balance speed and quality**
- 5. Align—engage stakeholders and divergent views**
- 6. Learn—failures and successes as resources; debrief; adjust**

Source: <http://www.inc.com/paul-schoemaker/6-Habits-of-Strategic-Thinkers.html>



Strategy—What?

“The set of actions an organization chooses to pursue in order to achieve its objectives. These deliberate actions are puzzle pieces that fit together to create a clear picture of how the people, activities and resources of an organization can work effectively to accomplish a collective purpose.”

BIG ROCKS

In your teams place all the objects in the cylinder (all the objects can fit inside the container but you are not allowed to manipulate the container nor the objects).



What did you learn?

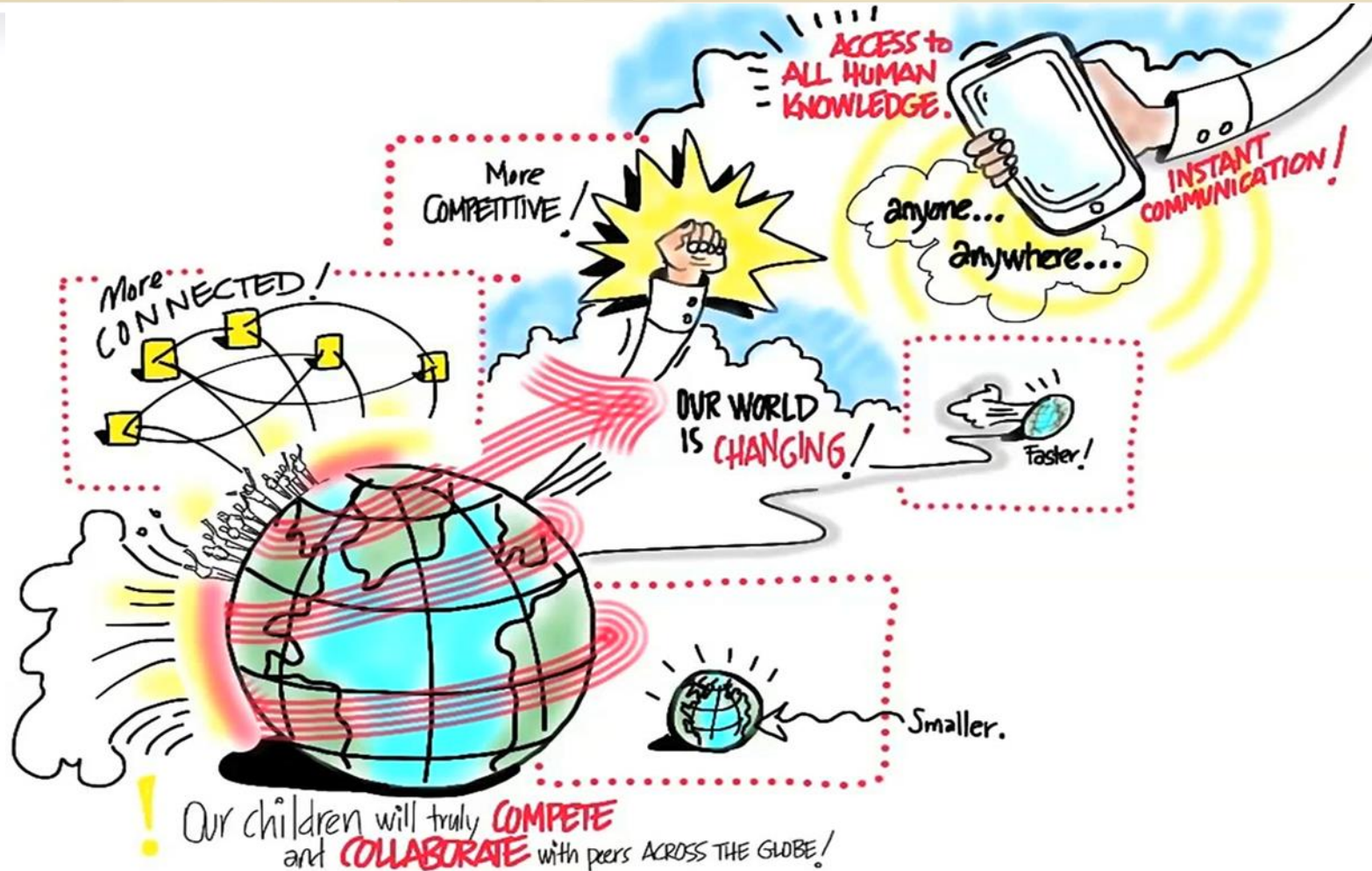
How was this activity connected to our collective thinking?

Lower Merion School District Comprehensive Planning



- Where does LMSD see itself 10 years from now?
- How can we leverage our collective passion, skills and expertise to prepare our students for the seen and unforeseen opportunities and challenges of an ever-changing global community?
- How do we ensure that our decisions are guided by our values, traditions and identity as we embrace change and foster innovation?

A New Design For Education





Share one takeaway with your elbow partner and its implications to
Lower Merion School District



RSA Paradigm Shift





Share one takeaway with your elbow partner and its implications to Lower Merion School District

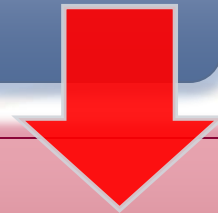


Key Questions:

From the lens of ISC, work in groups to develop answers to the following questions.



What should High School look like ten years from now?



What should a Lower Merion School District graduate look like (what are the skills, attitudes, and dispositions that we want for all students?)



What do we value as a district? And how do we hold on to our traditions while simultaneously embracing change?

SWOT

SWOT - Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats



Strengths What does the system do well? What unique system resources can you draw on? What do others see as the system's strengths?	Evidence

Weaknesses What could the system improve? Where does the system have fewer resources than others? What are others likely to see as weaknesses?	Evidence

Opportunities What opportunities are open to the system? What trends could you take advantage of? How can you turn your strengths into opportunities?	Evidence

Threats What threats could harm the system? What is your competition doing? What threats do the system's weaknesses expose you to?	Evidence

I don't know anybody's road who's been paved perfectly for them, there are no manuals, you don't know what life has in store for you.

"The road to success is always under construction."

**The road of life twists and turns and no two directions are ever the same. Yet our lessons come from the journey, not the destination.
Don Williams, Jr. (American Novelist and Poet, b.1968)**

For everything you have missed, you have gained something else, and for everything you gain, you lose something else.

Ralph Waldo Emerson quotes (American Poet, Lecturer and Essayist, 1803-1882)