



Southern Minnesota Education Consortium

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## News Release

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### **Southern Minnesota Education Consortium Board Officially Adopts Five Year Strategic Plan**

*The plan was developed with strong community participation.*

At their meeting on August 17, 2022, the SMEC Board formally adopted a new strategic plan that will guide the district for the next five years.

The process involved a number of ways for community stakeholder to be involved including Internal and External Surveys. Listening Sessions were held with community members, staff, and students. A Strategic Planning Committee made up of almost (25) stakeholders assisted in the development of the new plan. Gail Gilman, Director of Strategic Planning and Board Leadership with the Minnesota School Boards Association assisted in the development and facilitation of the planning process and provided guidance to the district throughout.

Connecting with community members during this process allowed for a greater understanding of the community and what role the school needs to play within the district. Students and Staff also took an active role during the development of the belief, mission, and vision statements. The plan is community inspired and community focused.

The new SMEC Strategic Plan provides a series of belief statements that will guide decision making in the district as well as a new mission statement and vision statement to update what Southern Minnesota Education Consortium stands for. The new mission statement for SMEC is *“committed to excellence through collaboration to help all students succeed.”* This mission statement will be updated throughout district materials to set a new course for SMEC.

A new Vision Statement was also adopted by the district, one that came directly from community members who served on the Strategic Planning Committee. *“A safe and caring learning environment which discovers, develops, and achieves the maximum potential of our students and staff”* is the new vision of the district which puts a focus directly on student achievement, which is one of the newly established focus areas for goals.

Focus areas for the Strategic Plan include:

- Student Achievement
- Staff Support & Culture
- Governance
- Facilities
- Communication/Marketing

Southern Minnesota Education Consortium will continue to provide updates on the details of the strategic plan as well as communicating benchmarks and achievements that are part of the plan. For more information and to review the strategic plan, visit [www.smec.k12.mn.us](http://www.smec.k12.mn.us).

Southern Minnesota Education Consortium  
(Alden-Conger, Glenville-Emmons, Grand Meadow, Kingsland, Leroy-Ostrander, Lyle, Southland)