Macomb Christian Schools is an independent school of about 200 students from preschool-12th grade. Our students come from a variety of churches in the metro Detroit area.

Since the school had seen declining enrollment over the last several years, long-term planning had been put on hold in an effort to focus on short-term planning. The administration and board recognized the importance of having a strategic plan to clearly communicate the mission, vision, and goals of the school and to provide direction for the future of MCS.

**Project Summary**

Macomb Christian Schools
Warren, MI
Kristen Nelson, Administrator

**Project Results**

A Continuous School Improvement Plan team (comprised of various MCS stakeholders) was formed to develop the plan. The CSIP team surveyed the students, parents, and employees to help understand the perceived strengths and areas for improvement of MCS. They also looked at the strengths and areas for improvement that had been compiled through the completion of a self-study in preparation for a re-accreditation visit.

Over the last three years, MCS has worked very hard to change the culture of the school. We desire for MCS to be a “community of grace” where it is obvious to visitors that God is at work here and God is part of all of our actions and decisions. Continuing to change the culture of the school was going to be a top priority for the CSIP team.

The CSIP team was looking for common themes in the survey results to choose our target areas. Once the common themes were chosen, the CSIP team prioritized the areas for improvement and developed a strategic plan to help us work toward achieving them.

**What We Have Learned**

- Taking the time to analyze every aspect of the school and its programs is a big task, but it is necessary. People involved in the process must be willing to put their personal opinions aside and look at what is best for the school.
- There were some challenges and delays that we faced in trying to complete our strategic plan using the template required for our re-accreditation visit, so we learned to be flexible.
- Overall, this is a difficult yet rewarding task that provided many opportunities for growth for all involved.
- There is still much work to be done. We have a course, but now we must work hard, stay accountable, and continue to seek God’s direction for MCS.