Project Summary

Messiah Lutheran Church recently completed a general strategic plan to help guide and unify our various ministries. My project develops a Strategic Improvement Plan that flows from the ministry wide plan with specific goals for Messiah School.

Messiah School is a ministry of Messiah Lutheran Church, serving families of over 300 Preschool through Fifth Grade students in Lincoln, Nebraska. Messiah is a major feeder school for Lincoln Lutheran Middle and Senior High School. Our customer base has traditionally been members of our own church. Messiah church and school have a strong symbiotic history, having been planted together as a mission site to the eastern edge of Lincoln in the early 1970s.

Project Results

Strategic Planning data was collected over the past 18 months via church surveys, school surveys, focus groups, demographic studies, and leadership development conferences.

**MISSION:** Invite - Equip - Send

**VISION:**

Messiah is committed to our core values of Christian discipleship and whole child development. We also celebrate excellence, 21st century learning skills, empowering successful parents, and stewardship development.

**GOALS:**

**EXCELLENCE:** We are the school of choice and excellent service to our community and Messiah families.

**PROGRAM:** Students experience a comprehensive 21st century educational program and facilities.

**PARENTS:** Parents experience success as they lead and serve their families.

**STEWARDSHIP:** We are good stewards of the gifts with which God has blessed us.

What We Have Learned

A strategic plan specific to school ministry provides a narrow focus that is easier to implement and celebrate than a ministry wide strategic plan.

Communications and planning have lost some focus at Messiah raising the value of this planning process. My tenure as Principal at Messiah School is two years—enough to build the relationships and trust needed to begin this important work.

The repetition of surveys over a period of time helped us to gauge our current successes and then build on that momentum. Detailed demographic studies are invaluable tools for focused growth.