

## **The Quest for Funding the Village Christian School Strategic Plan**

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[www.villagechristian.org](http://www.villagechristian.org)

Consultant: Don Distelberg

### **What I did:**

Village Christian School embarked on a strategic planning process which was completed in 2012-2013. In 2013-2014, I created a strategic financial plan with the assistance of the Van Lunen Fellowship and consultant Don Distelberg. This strategic financial plan was approved by the board of directors and led to the development of The Village Campaign. The Village Campaign is responsible for raising the funds to implement the plan.

The case for the Village Campaign will feature items from the strategic plan and their intended impact on the quality of schooling and student experience. The campaign will take place over the remaining three years of the five year strategic plan.

### **What did I learn?**

I learned the process of translating a strategic plan into a financial plan and then into a fundraising campaign. I have experience in creating fundraising campaigns, but not in the integration of the campaign with the strategic financial plan. I learned about the nuance of getting Initiative holders to think realistically about the cost of their plans. I learned how to use the leadership techniques from our fellowship to train my administrators to work together to come up with a comprehensive strategic financial plan. In the end, I benefitted from the wisdom of our professors, fellows, consultant and course literature to work through this process.

### **What difference did it make?**

In addition to developing a school changing campaign to fund our plan, I was able to save the school thousands of dollars by not hiring a consultant. The fellowship filled the knowledge gap and provided the structure I needed.