

How is Strategic Planning different from Operational Planning?

Strategic planning and operational planning are both important types of planning in school districts, but they differ in their focus, scope, and time horizon.

Strategic planning is a long-term planning process that involves defining an organization's mission, vision, beliefs, and strategic goals and objectives, and developing key performance objectives (KPIs) to measure progress towards achieving them. It is a high-level planning process that takes into account external factors such as market trends, competition, and technological developments, as well as internal factors such as organizational strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. The time horizon for strategic planning is typically 3 to 5 years or longer.

On the other hand, operational planning is a short-term planning process that involves the day-to-day activities and tasks required to achieve the strategic goals and performance objectives. It focuses on the implementation of strategies and tactics to achieve the goals and objectives defined in the strategic plan. Operational planning typically involves setting specific targets, timelines, and budgets for the implementation of specific projects or initiatives. The time horizon for operational planning is typically 1 year or less.

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What are the key components to a Strategic Plan?



MISSION

Defines why the organization exists and outlines how the organization is going to put into action its purpose.



VISION

What the future looks like if the organization is successful in achieving its mission.



BELIEFS

The organization's fundamental convictions, values, and character.



STRATEGIC GOALS OR GOAL AREAS

Highlight the key areas the organization must address as our work to achieve our mission.



PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

Describe the specific strategies within each strategic goal area that must be performed for the organization to achieve its desired results. Performance objectives, along with specific kpi's, will be used to determine progress towards overall strategic goal areas.



KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPI's)

A key performance indicator (KPI) is a quantifiable and measurable value that indicates how well an organization, team, or individual is achieving specific business objectives or goals. KPIs are used to monitor progress, identify areas of improvement, and inform decision-making.