



BIBB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE... FOR EVERY CHILD

# THE MACON MIRACLE

*Strategic Planning for  
Bibb County School District*

October 10, 2011  
Day Two

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## Introduction

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This is the second of two Strategic Planning summits for Bibb County Schools. The first Summit was vital to discovering the positive foundation of education and identifying what we want more of. By listening to our stories and searching for the best, we now have the data and information that will help us design the future that we want. The question is: What legacy do we want to leave behind?

In moving toward creating our shared vision, we will have three activities today:

1. Design a Strategic Proposal related to a key theme that emerged in Day 1 that is important to you.
2. Design a Strategic Proposal related to a *second* key theme that emerged in Day 1 that is important to you.
3. Propose immediate actions you can take that will have a positive impact on students tomorrow.

## Breaks and Lunch

We will have two breaks – one in the morning and one in the afternoon. One hour has been designated for lunch. Lunch will be set up in the same areas as the last Summit.

## Key Themes from Day 1

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*Additional Information is available on each table for these themes – **please leave the information sheet (on colored paper) at the table for the next group who will work on this theme.***

### 1. **Experiential and Relevant Learning**

- Making learning meaningful
- Broadening opportunities and understanding through experience
- Providing hands-on learning opportunities
- Making learning interactive and engaging
- Improving the learning environment
- Applying learning to real life/work experiences

### 2. **Student Focus**

- Including information about learning styles and levels
- Teaching the whole child
- Strengthening student potential

### 3. **Teacher Focus**

- Shifting our mindsets/habits—working collaboratively
- Incorporating varied teaching strategies

### 4. **Parents & Community**

- Parent and community involvement
- Support for parents & community
- Home environment

### 5. **Structure of the School**

- School choice
- Flexibility in calendar/hours
- Flexibility in learning
- Innovative/unique programming
- Global thinking
- Research and best practices
- Courses and subject matter

### 6. **Technology**

- Online classes
- Technology & global education
- Student-based technology
- State-of-the-Art technology
- Technology and school culture
- Social networking in classroom instruction

## Designing Strategic Proposals

### ***What is a Strategic Proposal?***

A Strategic Proposal is a positive, present tense statement about our future. It is a statement that bridges the best of “what is” with your own idea or intuition of “what can be”.

It is provocative, stretches the status quo, challenges common ideas or routines, and suggests real possibilities for the future of Bibb County Schools, students, teachers, parents and our community.

Elements of a Strategic Proposal:

- ✓ Positive
- ✓ Present-tense statement about a future desired state
- ✓ Bold and provocative—inspiring curiosity and interest
- ✓ Desirable—when anyone hears or reads this proposal they should be inspired and excited about making it happen
- ✓ 3-5 Key Concepts important to the proposal

### **Example of a Strategic Proposal**

**Theme:**

**Experiential and Relevant Learning**

**Strategic Proposal:**

Math is Macon! From K-12, students apply their growing mathematical knowledge and thinking strategies to daily living as well as to real community issues. As their skills and knowledge expand, they take on bigger and bigger community problems and we are astounded with their creativity and innovative capacity!

**Key Concepts:**

- ✓ Students identify daily living issues and concerns that are influenced (or could be) by mathematical knowledge and thinking.
- ✓ Community members help teachers by providing real life examples where school lessons apply.
- ✓ Real community problems are identified, and parents and community members create innovative strategies to get students excited about being involved in the solutions.
- ✓ Community members provide after school opportunities for students to apply classroom learning.
- ✓ Teachers collaborate and share ideas for hands-on learning in the classroom.

## Strategic Proposal 1

### Activity#1

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#### **Purpose:**

To create a Strategic Proposal that aligns with the themes that emerged from Day 1 and to create an innovative Bibb County School District that enables all students to flourish.

Each group will manage its own dialogue and time. We recommend each group select a...

- **DISCUSSION LEADER** – Manages the group task. Assures that each person who wants to speak is heard within time available.
- **TIMEKEEPER** – Keeps group aware of time left. Monitors and signals time remaining to person talking.
- **RECORDER/REPORTER** - Writes group's output on notepad, using speaker's words. May deliver report to larger group in allotted time. Writes group's Strategic Proposal on Data Form and enters data via smart phone or in the computer lab

Supplies at your table include:

- ✓ Chart paper—for capturing ideas and recording Strategic Proposals and key concepts to Report Out and post
- ✓ Information Summary from Day 1—for reference
- ✓ Data ID Forms—for collecting Strategic Proposals and key concepts for electronic entry

#### **Goal: Develop a Strategic Proposal for your key theme that:**

- ✓ Stretches, challenges, or interrupts “habits” or old ways of doing and thinking
- ✓ Grows out of examples (stories in the system) that illustrate the ideal as a real possibility
- ✓ Reflects your desired future
- ✓ Is stated in bold and positive terms and all verbs are in present tense (e.g., “Bibb County Schools are...” rather than “Bibb County Schools will be...”)

1. **Small Group - Check-in:** Introduce yourself to your small group and briefly recall a high point from Day 1 of the Summit. [20 minutes for the whole group]
2. **Brainstorm a Strategic Proposal:** Using the information from the first Summit (a summary of the report is on the table) and your own creativity, identify high-energy ideas related to your key theme. Capture these on chart paper. [15 minutes]

3. **Draft a Strategic Proposal:** Create a draft Strategic Proposal that ensures the success of every student. Make sure it is bold, thought provoking, present tense, and inspirational. [20 minutes]
4. **Identify Key Concepts for Success:** Identify 3-5 key concepts/ideas that are important to the success of this proposal. [10 minutes]
5. **Prepare for Presentation:** Recorder/Reporter—[5 minutes]
  - 1) Record your Strategic Proposal, key concepts, and table ID# on chart paper.
  - 2) Complete the data entry form with the same information (via smart phone or computer lab).
  - 3) Line up at the stage for your presentation. We will have as many presentations as time allows.

*Please be sure to complete the survey form. You may leave this with a Core Team member or take it to the data lab near the Arena.*

Post your group's Strategic Proposal to the wall before you leave. During lunch, we encourage you to walk around and look at the Strategic Proposals already posted.

## Strategic Proposal: Key Theme #2

### Activity #2

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#### Purpose:

To create a Strategic Proposal that aligns with the themes that emerged from Day 1 and to create an innovative Bibb County School District that enables all students to flourish.

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- **DISCUSSION LEADER** – Manages the group task. Assures that each person who wants to speak is heard within time available.
- **TIMEKEEPER** – Keeps group aware of time left. Monitors and signals time remaining to person talking.
- **RECORDER/REPORTER** - Writes group's output on notepad, using speaker's words. May deliver report to larger group in allotted time. Writes group's Strategic Proposal on Data Form and enters data via smart phone or in the computer lab

Supplies at your table include:

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- ✓ Information Summary from Day 1—for reference
- ✓ Data ID Forms—for Collecting Strategic Proposals and key concepts for electronic entry

#### Goal: Develop a Strategic Proposal for your key theme that:

- ✓ Stretches, challenges, or interrupts “habits” or old ways of doing and thinking
- ✓ Grows out of examples (stories in the system) that illustrate the ideal as a real possibility
- ✓ Reflects your desired future
- ✓ Is stated in bold and positive terms and all verbs are in present tense (e.g., “Bibb County Schools are...” rather than “Bibb County Schools will be...”)

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2. **Brainstorm a Strategic Proposal:** Using the information from the first Summit (a summary of the report is on the table) and your own creativity, identify high-energy ideas related to your key theme. Record these on chart paper. [10 minutes for the group]

3. **Draft a Strategic Proposal:** Create a draft Strategic Proposal that ensures the success of every student. Make sure it is bold, thought provoking, present tense, and inspirational. [10 minutes]
4. **Identify Key Concepts for Success:** Identify 3-5 key concepts/ideas that are important to the success of this proposal. [10 minutes]
5. **Prepare for Presentation:** Recorder/Reporter—[5 minutes]
  - 1) Record your Strategic Proposal, key concepts, and table ID# on chart paper.
  - 2) Complete the data entry form with the same information (via smart phone or computer lab).
  - 3) Line up at the stage for your presentation. We will have as many presentations as time allows.

*Please be sure to your group completes the survey form. You may leave this with a Core Team member or take it to the data lab near the Arena.*

*Post your Strategic Proposal to the wall before you leave. On your way to the Arena, we encourage you to walk around and look at the Strategic Proposals already posted.*

**~ Break and then return to the Arena to sit with your school, department or group as you did this morning~ please be in the arena by 2:20 p.m.**

**Macon Miracles**  
**Creating the Future We Want**  
**Activity #3 – Return to the Arena**

“If we all did what we are truly capable of, we would astonish ourselves.”  
~Thomas Edison

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**Purpose:**

To brainstorm “What legacy do we want to leave behind?” What might we begin to do tomorrow that will make a bigger difference than anything we have ever imagined in the past?

Each group will manage its own dialogue and time. We recommend each group select a...

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- **TIMEKEEPER** – Keeps group aware of time left. Monitors and signals time remaining to person talking.
- **RECORDER/REPORTER** - Writes group's output on notepad, using speaker's words. May deliver report to larger group in allotted time. Writes group's Strategic Proposal on Data form and enters data via smart phone or at the computer lab

**Goals:**

1. **Reflection:** With your school, department, or community, reflect together about the work you have done today around the six themes. What stands out as something you could get excited about doing for your school, department or organization that would have a significant positive impact on your students tomorrow, next week, and this year?
2. **Three Small Steps:** What three small actions or ideas could have a big impact?
3. **Three Bold Steps:** What three bold actions or ideas could have a significant impact?
4. **Complete this sentence (please note this is in present tense):** *In 2020, we are most proud of Bibb County Schools and our community because . . .*
5. **Collect the Possibilities:** Use the data entry form to collect the three small steps, three bold steps, and what your school, department or group will be most proud of. Only one form per school, department, or group needs to be submitted.

**6. Prepare for Presentation:** Recorder/Reporter

- 1) Record your group's possibilities on a flip chart paper or some other visual way.
- 2) Complete the data entry form with the same information (via smart phone or computer lab).
- 3) Line up at the stage for your groups presentation. We will have as many presentations as time allows.

*Please be sure to complete the survey form. You may leave this with a Core Team member or take it to the data lab near the Arena*

*Thank you for your time, energy and passion for Bibb Schools and the future of our students. To keep up-to-date about the Strategic Planning Process, please follow Bibb County Schools on Twitter or Facebook.*

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Want To Be Known For*

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