#### **ESTABLISHING STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

Summer Planning Retreat | June 2021

#### The Process and Timeline of Development

The primary goal of our time together will be the affirmation of a clear set of strategic priorities for the system. These priorities and associated action items will guide our work in the coming academic year. The priorities were developed by gathering an extensive amount of feedback from a wide variety of stakeholders and vetted by the Board of Technical Education staff and technical college presidents.

#### February 2021

Staff considered the results of the stakeholder surveys and feedback from board members and technical college staff to develop initial drafts of strategic priority statements.

#### **June 2021**

The strategic priorities are cultivated to nearly final stages and used to structure conversations at the summer planning retreat.

#### **Throughout 2020**

Stakeholder feedback is collected and analyzed with support from the Lumina Foundation Grant.

# May 2021

Staff and presidents met in a planning retreat to further consider the draft strategic priority statements and provide feedback.

## **Strategic Priorities**

The four priority statements below will guide our conversations today and tomorrow. These statements will also serve to guide our priorities in the coming academic year.

- The technical college system will create the next generation of technically skilled professionals and learners for the state of South Dakota.
- The technical college system will include four high-performing institutions, with the facilities, faculty and staff, and resources necessary to accomplish their individual and shared missions.
- The technical college system will be of service to and engaged with the state of South Dakota, its communities, and industries.
- The technical college system will be supported by a state-level board and staff with the capacity needed to build and sustain an infrastructure to meet its goals and requirements.



#### **NEXT STEPS**

Discuss potential action items. Identify a top priority action item from each set. Consider a working plan around the action item.



## STRATEGIC PRIORITY ONE

The technical college system will create the next generation of technically skilled professionals and learners for the state of South Dakota.

## **Creating Context**

To gain a shared understanding of the current state, we have gathered system-level information on key outcomes (enrollment, retention, graduation) and other relevant data points from the Department of Education and the Lumina Foundation.

#### **Potential Action Items**

As we have spent time with this statement and considered how to achieve the intent, we have developed a short list of potential action items that could help the system make progress toward this priority.

- 1 Increase the number of adult learners participating in technical education in South Dakota.
- **2** Develop an intentional 9-14+ pathway program that leads to increased attainment.



#### SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

State of the System (slides)
Department of Education Enrollment Projections (handout)
Lumina Foundation *Stronger Nation* Report (handout)

#### TAKING PRIORITY TO ACTION

Now that we've articulated the priority and developed a short list of related action items. Consider which action item in which you'd like to dig deeper.

# **Strategic Priority One**

The technical college system will create the next generation of technically skilled professionals and learners for the state of South Dakota.

Potential Action Items

- 1. Increase the number of adult learners participating in technical education in South Dakota.
- 2. Develop an intentional 9-14+ pathway program that leads to increased attainment.

Which action item would you like the group to **discuss** more thoroughly? After you've decided, **consider the following questions** related to that action item.

What could be the impact of implementing this action item? Consider both positive and negative outcomes and system and local-level realities.
What barriers to progress might exist?

# **STARTING A WORK PLAN**

Now that we've established which action item to prioritize, let's consider other factors.

Action Item
Tasks In the coming year, what steps should we take to make progress on this action item?
Partners What agencies and organizations would make good partners in this work?
Budget Are there financial implications related to this action item?
<b>Progress</b> What metrics should we use to determine whether or not we're making progress?



#### STRATEGIC PRIORITY TWO

The technical college system will include four high-performing institutions, with the facilities, faculty and staff, and resources necessary to accomplish their individual and shared missions.

## **Creating Context**

To better understand how the four technical colleges in the system are supported, we have included a history of state appropriations and an analysis of student costs throughout our peer institution cohort.

## **Defining High-Performing**

The priority articulates the attributes that might impact an institution's ability to accomplish its mission. It might be valuable for the board to discuss how we would define the term high-performing and how it aligns with the recently approved criteria (board policy 303.1).

#### **Potential Action Items**

As we have spent time with this statement and considered how to achieve the intent, we have developed a short list of three action items that could help the system make progress toward this priority.

- **1** Explore opportunities for system-level efficiencies.
- 2 Examine state-level appropriations to ensure the system is distributing funds in the most equitable, effective, and efficient manner.
- **3** Develop a long-range master facilities plan.



#### SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

History of State Appropriations (handout) Peer Cohort Cost Comparison (handout)

#### TAKING PRIORITY TO ACTION

Now that we've articulated the priority and developed a short list of related action items. Consider which action item in which you'd like to dig deeper.

# **Strategic Priority Two**

The technical college system will include four high-performing institutions, with the facilities, faculty and staff, and resources necessary to accomplish their individual and shared missions.

#### **Potential Action Items**

- 1. Explore opportunities for system-level efficiencies.
- 2. Examine state-level appropriations to ensure the system is distributing funds in the most equitable, effective, and efficient manner.
- 3. Develop a long-range master facilities plan.

Which action item would you like the group to **discuss** more thoroughly? After you've decided, **consider the following questions** related to that action item.

What could be the impact of implementing this action item? Consider both positive and negative outcomes and system and local-level realities.	
What barriers to progress might exist?	

# **STARTING A WORK PLAN**

Now that we've established which action item to prioritize, let's consider other factors.

Action Item
<b>Tasks</b> In the coming year, what steps should we take to make progress on this action item?
Partners What agencies and organizations would make good partners in this work?
Budget Are there financial implications related to this action item?
Progress What metrics should we use to determine whether or not we're making progress?



## STRATEGIC PRIORITY THREE

The technical college system will be of service to and engaged with the state of South Dakota, its communities, and industries.

# **Creating Context**

As public institutions, it's important to better understand the potential impact the technical colleges can have on the state's ability to achieve its educational attainment and workforce development goals. There are opportunities to leverage relationships with other entities to better serve the state of South Dakota.

#### **Potential Action Items**

As we have spent time with this statement and considered how to achieve the intent, we have developed a short list of three action items that could help the system make progress toward this priority.

- **1** Develop a shared marketing and communications strategy.
- 2 Clarify and strengthen the relationship with local boards and advisory councils.
- 3 Leverage and expand existing relationships with state agencies and policymakers.



#### TAKING PRIORITY TO ACTION

Now that we've articulated the priority and developed a short list of related action items. Consider which action item in which you'd like to dig deeper.

# **Strategic Priority Three**

The technical college system will be of service to and engaged with the state of South Dakota, its communities, and industries.

#### **Potential Action Items**

- 1. Develop a shared marketing and communications strategy.
- 2. Clarify and strengthen the relationship with local boards and advisory councils.
- 3. Leverage and expand existing relationships with state agencies and policymakers.

Which action item would you like the group to **discuss** more thoroughly? After you've decided, **consider the following questions** related to that action item.

What could be the impact of implementing this action item? Consider both positive and negative outcomes and system and local-level realities.
What barriers to progress might exist?

# **STARTING A WORK PLAN**

Now that we've established which action item to prioritize, let's consider other factors.

Action Item
<b>Tasks</b> In the coming year, what steps should we take to make progress on this action item?
Partners What agencies and organizations would make good partners in this work?
Budget Are there financial implications related to this action item?
Progress What metrics should we use to determine whether or not we're making progress?