

## **Plainville Citizen Op-Ed, March 2013**

### **Plainville Community Schools: Strategic Plan**

Planning is a critical process that drives long term success and positive outcomes in our community of learning. The framework for planning in our school system, is the district's Strategic Plan, which was recently updated. The newly revised Strategic Plan for Plainville Community Schools was formally approved by the Board of Education at its February 11, 2013 meeting.

The updated plan is a culmination of several months' work by the Strategic Planning Committee comprised of parents, Board of Education members, district faculty, staff, administration, and members of the community. The Committee met regularly between September 2012 and January 2013 with facilitator Jonathan Costa, from Education Connection, who led the collaborative process of updating the district's former strategic plan. The current plan provides focus and direction for the Board, and guides the work of the administration, faculty, and staff. All components of the plan are designed to improve the quality of the education our students receive and the experiences they have in our schools.

Elements of the five year plan include a newly crafted mission statement – *“To provide rigorous and enriching experiences that prepare each student for success in a changing global society,”* belief statements, and three primary goals. Together with each goal are indicators of success, specific action steps, and expected outcomes. While the district's strategic plan framework has been updated, the primary focus of the school

district on students, teaching, and learning has remained the same, and the school district's 2013-14 budget is designed to meet the goals of the updated plan. All of the district's initiatives align with the new strategic plan, reflecting our collective district focus and serving as the roadmap for action over the next several years.

The school district administration will be offering a presentation later this spring to provide the community with additional details on the new strategic plan and the initiatives that can be expected as a result. To view the newly revised strategic plan, please visit the school district website home page at: [www.plainvilleschools.org](http://www.plainvilleschools.org) .