CONNECTING COLLEGE AND COMMUNITY

SFCC'S STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BECOMING THE NEXUS OF EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY

State Fair Community College

sfccmo.edu

ABOUT THE STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

Welcome to State Fair Community College's Strategic Plan. This plan is unordinary because we aspire to be extraordinary. Instead of consisting of tasks to be accomplished within a limited timeframe, this plan is built around long-term enhancements and futuristic visions. These visions for what SFCC can *become* inspire what we call Transformational Concepts.

Our guiding principles in developing this plan were Transformation and Foresight. We are striving to become more than just a place for education and training; we want to be an essential part of the communities we serve. Our goal is to bring opportunities to every individual in every corner of our service area, helping them and their communities be prosperous and reach their full potential. We want to connect students with high-quality jobs and provide employers with skilled workers who possess hands-on experience and essential personal skills for success. We placed a high emphasis on community values and input, recognizing that we serve a diverse region where the needs of one community may differ from another.

Our unique approach to strategic planning involved a team of over 30 college members who delved into trends, drivers, and challenges in our region and in higher education. The team also received guidance in strategic foresight to lift and expand our creative thinking about the future. This research and training led us to develop five possible futuristic scenarios for SFCC. We then gathered input from the community by holding 15 open forums throughout our service area and collecting feedback on these scenarios. Ultimately, with the input of over 200 individuals, four Transformational Concepts were selected, allowing us to truly and meaningfully connect the college and community.

COMMUNITY HUB

WORK, LEARN, THRIVE

SEAMLESS K–12 RELATIONSHIPS

COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

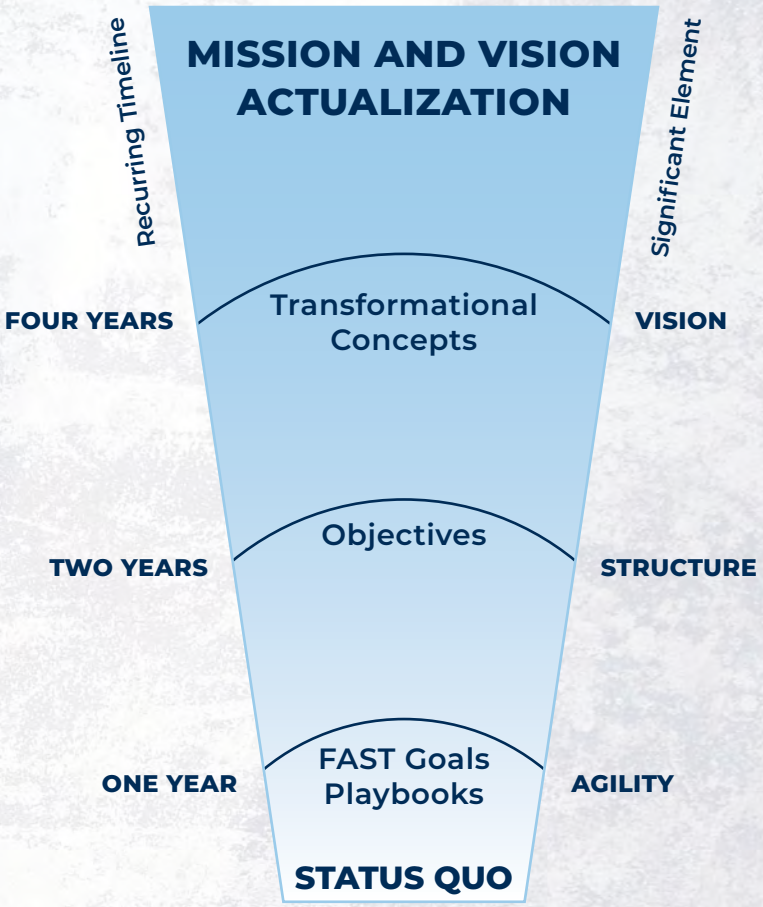
State Fair Community College

STRATEGIC PLANNING PERPETUUM

The purpose of strategic planning is to move SFCC from the status quo to actualization of its mission and vision. A well designed and integrated plan makes that movement deliberate and, therefore, more likely to succeed.

Significant elements of effective planning include vision (foresight to establish transformational concepts), structure to organize resources and maintain focus, and agility to respond to changing threats and opportunities.

Rather than adhering to predetermined start and end dates, this Strategic Planning Perpetuum employs a recurring timeline, allowing for agile actions and periodic reevaluation of transformational concepts and objectives.



CREDITS
Webb, A. (2019, July 30). *How to Do Strategic Planning Like a Futurist.* Harvard Business Review.

MISSION

State Fair Community College provides relevant and responsive learning experiences that empower our students and communities to prosper.

In support of this mission, SFCC will:

- Prepare our students to accomplish their goals in college transfer, career development, skill attainment, or lifelong learning through exemplary education and support services.
- Deliver educational programs that are accessible, affordable, and applicable to current and future career pathways.
- Provide a college experience that is student-centered and responsive to the needs of a diverse student body.
- Anticipate workforce development needs with forward-thinking solutions and innovative technology that meet and exceed industry standards.
- Collaborate with education, government, and business partners to advance the prosperity of individuals and communities in our region.
- Strengthen and enrich the intellectual, economic, and cultural vitality of the communities we serve.

VISION STATEMENT

State Fair Community College will be the communities' preferred choice, where students, faculty, and staff realize their confidence, passion, skills, and potential.

CORE VALUES

- **Student-Centeredness:** Purposeful decision-making, planning and resource allocation that promote the best interests of students.
- **Community:** A collaborative, supportive, and fun environment responsive to the populations we serve.
- **Personal Growth and Success:** Lifelong learning practices for the enrichment, wellbeing and betterment of our students and employees.
- **Respect:** A diverse and inclusive environment of trust, courtesy and open communication.
- **Integrity:** Ethical and honest behavior that recognizes the dignity and contributions of all individuals.
- **Excellence:** Continuous improvement and innovation to ensure programs, service and processes are effective, efficient and exceptional.

COMMUNITY HUB

State Fair Community College will become the trusted heart of the region—a place where people turn first for opportunity, connection, and solutions.

No longer just a college, SFCC will evolve into a vibrant community hub where education, public life, and community well-being converge. Its campuses will be open, welcoming spaces that reflect the needs of their communities. Events, festivals, and family programs will bring people together year-round. A teaching farm will provide public value while serving as learning spaces for students. Community members will feel a sense of belonging, making the college the first call for new ideas and collaborations.

Extended campuses will be critical engines of access, innovation, and community connection across the 14-county region. Each site will reflect its unique area, offering flexible programs, targeted workforce training, and strong relationships with local partners. They will serve as trusted hubs for advising and lifelong learning, reaching students who might not otherwise engage with higher education. With increased resources, these campuses will expand SFCC's impact far beyond Sedalia, linking every corner of the region to opportunity and support.

- A teaching farm offers a farm-to-table experience for the community.
- An event center and athletic fields are available for campus and public activities.
- Robust lifelong learning opportunities promote personal enrichment for all age groups.
- Students engage with local businesses, government, and arts groups in collaborative opportunities on real-world projects.
- Extended campus locations also serve as hubs, providing services and programming to meet regional needs throughout the service area.

"TRANSFORMATIONAL"

K–12 RELATIONSHIPS

SFCC will become an educational pipeline that extends from K–12 to college graduation by developing intentional, ongoing relationships with every school district in its 14-county region.

College representatives will be embedded in high schools, helping students navigate dual credit, career pathways, and the transition to higher education. Beginning as early as middle school, students will start to see college as both attainable and relevant to their lives. College students will staff homework labs, providing connection and tutoring for K–12 learners. Collaborative professional development for high school and college teachers, parent engagement strategies, and joint planning will ensure that the system is aligned and student-centered.

As a result, every high school graduate in the region will be connected to SFCC in meaningful ways—through coursework, mentorship, or a clear plan for college or career. These deep-rooted partnerships will make college a visible, expected, and supported part of every student's journey—reshaping aspirations and outcomes across the region.

- Seamless, progressive pathways guide students from grades 5–12 through post-secondary education with a robust initiative incorporating career exploration, college and career readiness programming, and sustained institutional support.
- K–12 teachers and SFCC faculty collaborate through structured partnerships to align curriculum, share pedagogy, and engage in ongoing professional development, creating a seamless, student-centered learning experience from K–12 to college.
- The main campus and extended campus locations provide engaging programs and camps, peer-supported homework labs staffed by SFCC students, and new initiatives for homeschool families.

"EVERY STUDENT. EVERY SCHOOL."

WORK, LEARN, THRIVE

SFCC will become a launchpad for a robust workforce, connecting students to high-quality jobs while equipping employers with workers that have both practical experience and crucial interpersonal skills.

Many SFCC students will participate in paid, work-based learning experiences that align with their programs of study. This "earn and learn" model will offer an important option for all students, who will benefit from gaining professional experience while in college—particularly in high-demand fields like allied health, skilled trades, and business. These opportunities will be offered through partnerships with regional employers and will be integrated into all programs. While not required for all students, the model will become a valued pathway for students to build confidence, explore careers, and connect education to real-world opportunities.

- SFCC offers all students opportunities to connect with the workforce through paid earn and learn programs.
- Essential skills are embedded in all course work and supplemented with core competency skill sessions preparing students for their next step.
- The college enhances student learning by embedding real-world experience into the curriculum and providing field-based alternatives to traditional classroom instruction.
- Digital portfolios record students' progress, micro-credentials, skill badges, and work-based experience.
- All students can earn a short-term credential or certificate within a year.

"WORK THAT PAYS OFF"

COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

By recognizing and responding to real-life circumstances of students across the region, SFCC will help more learners persist and complete their goals.

Across its campuses, the college will expand partnerships with local agencies to help students access essential services such as mental health and child care resources, food assistance, and emergency transportation. Partnerships with local organizations will strengthen access to services, especially for students balancing work, family, and school. Focused outreach to military families near Whiteman Air Force Base will ensure that programs and supports are accessible, flexible, and relevant to their needs. Academic programs will be designed and courses will be scheduled to meet the needs of students first, assuring that all students can earn valuable credentials in a timely way. Faculty and students will be actively engaged in interactive, career-relevant ways, regardless of where or how courses are delivered.

- SFCC provides access to educational resources for students to be successful as early as time of enrollment.
- SFCC systemically identifies needs and connects students with on-campus and community resources to overcome barriers.
- Faculty in all content areas and modalities engage with students using interactive, career-relevant methodologies.
- Classes are scheduled to align with students' needs and offered in multiple modalities and formats.

"REMOVING BARRIERS"

AN INSTITUTION TRANSFORMED

These powerful concepts will redefine what it means to be a community college.

SFCC will become fully woven into the fabric of all communities it services and a model of what higher education can be when it leads with purpose and possibility by being:

A PROVIDER OF EDUCATION

A TRUSTED PARTNER

A REGIONAL PROBLEM-SOLVER

A PLACE WHERE LIVES ARE CHANGED

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