



March 2018

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### Special points of interest:

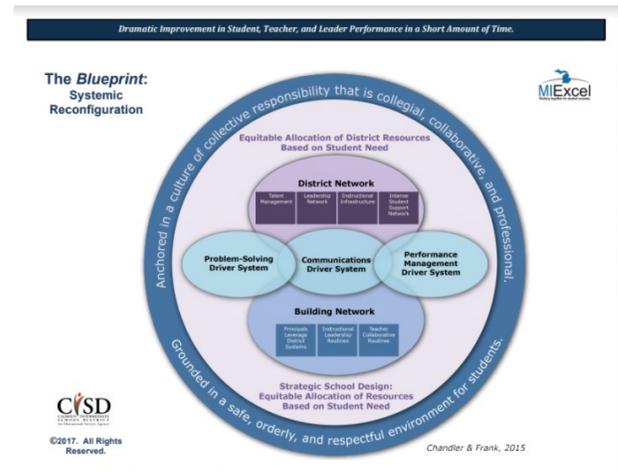
- The Blueprint is aligned with our Strategic Plan
- Administration will continue to conduct classroom walkthroughs.
- Do not forget to use Protocol B every time you look at data in your PLC's.

## What is The Blueprint?

In August 2016, SPSD embarked on a journey toward district improvement led by the Blueprint for Systemic Reconfiguration. Systemic reconfiguration purposefully disrupts current practice to create a new structure of coherent, aligned district and building systems to ensure success for all students (Chandler & Mohney, 2017). It is grounded in research and designed to create a stronger systemic focus on and support of high quality teaching and high levels of student learning. Watch out for dramatic student improvement as we align our systems to ensure that we are “Keeping Kids First”!

### What is the District Turnaround Network? (DTN)

The District Turnaround Network is comprised of key leaders in the district that work together to guide systemic reconfiguration and maintain the district's sense of urgency. The District Turnaround Network (DTN) meets twice a month to make critical decisions concerning the implementation of the Blueprint in SPSD. There are 4 principals ( a varied representation), a teacher leader, and all key central office people on our DTN.



## The Past: Where have we been?

Since 2016, we (the district) have been busy aligning systems and making the Blueprint come alive in our District. We have completed the Mechanical Level of the Blueprint that consists of a few major changes for the district. If you would like to read more about the Blueprint and what happens in each level, please check out the Blueprint link provided on the SPSD website. Here is a look at the past and the key initiatives that have come out of our work.

### The Mechanical Level

Communications Driver: One of the first systems we transformed is our Communication System. This system deals with how we communicate inside of and outside of the district. The DTN developed an email communication system and shared it with the district, as well as, our external partners. We also decided that we wanted all schools to greet incoming callers with our mantra, “ Keeping kids first, this is \_\_\_\_\_, how may we help you?”. This would ensure that all parents and community members, regardless of school, were greeted in a friendly manner! (See our letter in the Communications Driver section)

Problem Solving Driver: The Problem Solving Driver is the mechanism with which we analyze data and make key decisions for the district and the buildings. In 2016, we revamped our old PLC forms to include more in-depth analysis of data. We release Protocol A and B for PLC use district-wide. (See our protocols in the Problem Solving section)

Talent Management: The 1st floor of Talent Management deals with Recruitment, Hiring and Assignment of talent for SPSD. The DTN developed three key talent profiles: Turnaround Superintendent, Principal and Teacher. We also completed a survey of talent competencies within the district. (See our profiles in the Talent Management section)

Instructional Infrastructure: The 1st floor of Instructional Infrastructure deals with creating Visions of High Quality Instruction (VHQI) for teaching and learning in our district. The DTN along with the instructional Coaches developed these visions for all core subject areas. Sept. 2017, the district launched an electronic walkthrough tool to monitor teaching and learning, district-wide. Fall 2018, we will release the VHQI for Art, Music, Physical Education and other

## Present: What's New?

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**Intense Student Support Network:** This is the last section of the Mechanical Level. The 1st floor of this system deals with creating a vision of non-academic student support within SPSD. It addresses what we believe care and support should look like in our district. (See our vision in the Student Support Network section)

#### The Lobby Level

The DTN is feverishly working to get the Lobby Level up and running. This is where many of the pieces of the Blueprint begin to work together and come alive for building leaders and teachers. Here is what we are working on:

**Leadership Network:** The 1st floor of this system deals with establishing learning-focused partnerships between Central Office administrators and building principals to guide and direct the work of improving instruction within the organization. Key Central Office leaders will meet with their assigned building leaders on a weekly basis so that together they can maintain urgency and focus on instruction in the building.

**Performance Management:** This driver system enables the district to understand and respond to the quality of the Blueprint's installation on two distinct levels: (1) District level and (2) Building level. At the district level, the DTN reviews their implementation of the Blueprint on a monthly basis. At the building level, as the partnerships meet, they will review key data using the district performance management dashboard.

## District Updates: Important dates in the district?

- ⇒ March 26th—April 2nd: SPSD Spring Break  
(Students and Staff return April 3rd)
- ⇒ April 6th– End of 3rd Marking Period
- ⇒ April - May MSTEP Testing begins for grades 3-11
- ⇒ April 11-13 SAT, work keys and M-Step testing for High School