



NCSSM Strategic Plan

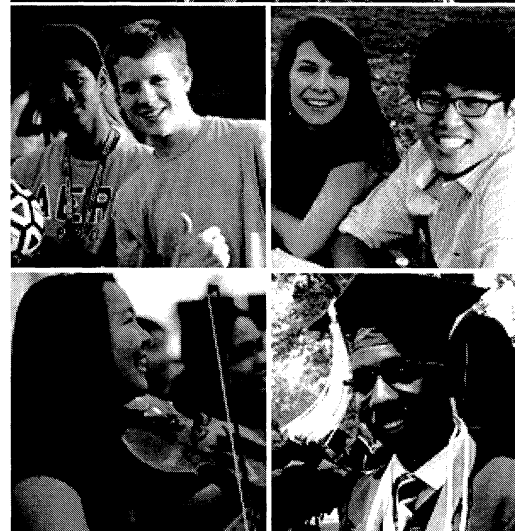
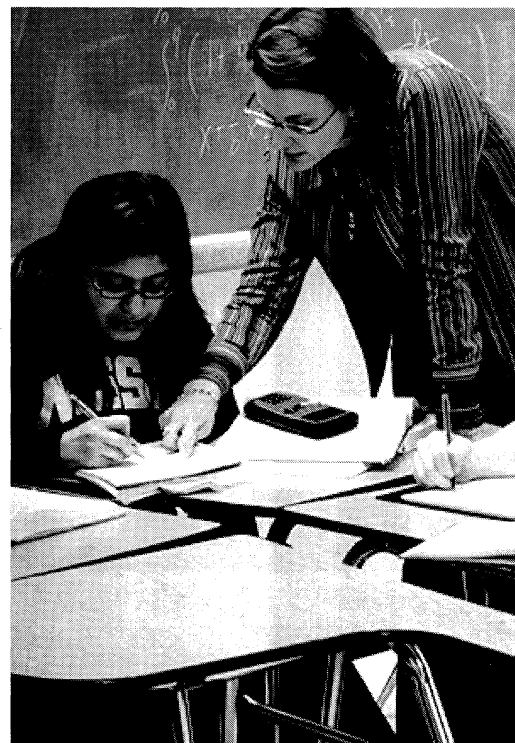
Planning our future. Building on success.

2012 - 2017

About the Strategic Plan:

NCSSM has created a bold plan to *accept the greater challenge*. The Strategic Plan serves as a road map for the School to achieve its educational goals over the next five years by defining what it seeks to achieve and how it will measure success in each area. It provides both direction and fluidity. And because it was developed through consensus by stakeholders, the Strategic Plan is inclusive and has broad support.

With the help from students, parents, alumni, employees, boards, friends and collaborators, NCSSM will achieve its goals and continue to build on the successes of the past 32 years. NCSSM is poised to undertake great challenges, push the limits of what's possible and provide even more opportunities through world-class STEM education.



NCSSM Mission:

The mission of the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics, an intellectually stimulating, diverse and collaborative community, is to:

- educate academically talented students to become state, national and global leaders in science, technology, engineering and mathematics,
- advance public education in North Carolina,
- and inspire innovation for the betterment of humankind,

through challenging residential and virtual programs driven by instructional excellence and the excitement of discovery.

Beliefs: NCSSM's fundamental values and non-negotiable principles

NCSSM believes that:

- Our greatest resource is the capability and creative capacity of the human mind.
- Everyone is unique and has intrinsic value.
- Diversity enriches and strengthens lives and communities.
- Embracing challenges inspires excellence.
- Individuals have choices and are responsible for their actions.
- Service to others builds and strengthens our community.
- Environmental stewardship and resource sustainability are everyone's responsibility.
- Anyone can achieve full potential with effort, opportunity and support.
- Personal fulfillment and professional success require a passion for learning throughout life.
- Collaboration fosters learning, innovation and community.
- Adhering to high ethical standards is essential for a community to function and flourish.
- A nurturing living and learning environment develops the well-being of the whole person.
- Quality public education is essential to a free, democratic society.
- Science and mathematics education stimulates innovation and invention and is critical to the well-being of our state, nation and the world.

Parameters: The boundaries within which NCSSM will accomplish its mission

- The best interest of students will always be given the highest priority in decision-making.
- As we strive to achieve our mission, we will preserve the integrity and quality of our residential program.
- The scope of our program will always include learning in the humanities and social sciences, extracurricular activities and service.
- Programs and services should be consistent with the Strategic Plan, and the benefits clearly justify cost.
- We will always provide safe, secure and supportive environments for living and learning.

Objectives: Goals that NCSSM will achieve through the Strategic Plan

These objectives reflect specific, demonstrable and measurable results that exceed our present capacity and will allow us to address the critical issues we face. The goal is to accomplish these four objectives over the next five years.

- Have each residential student develop and be engaged in a real-world learning experience.
- Annually increase the percentage of graduates who are actively engaged in STEM-related fields.
- Develop collaborative partnerships with a majority of school districts in each congressional district in North Carolina in order to provide high-quality educational content and services to teachers and students.
- Engage 1,000,000 students and 100,000 teachers through NCSSM products or services over the next five years.

