

The Stark Education Partnership (SEP) was founded in 1989 to spark innovation in Stark County's educational community and support the educational system's pivot towards the future. SEP serves education, business, and community organizations in the Stark County region.

Over more than three decades in existence, SEP has evolved as needs have evolved, from a focus on teachers to a focus on building generations of successful individuals with roots in Stark County.

However, its role remains the same: SEP is a connector, a catalyst, a collaborator, and a researcher, passionately focused on improving outcomes of students and the community.

SEP is committed to impact. This includes using data to monitor progress, adjust, and celebrate success.

STRATEGIC PLAN– EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MISSION: Stark Education Partnership is a catalyst, engaging and collaborating with education, business, civic and community stakeholders to drive sustainable improvement and innovation to provide all students with education and career success.

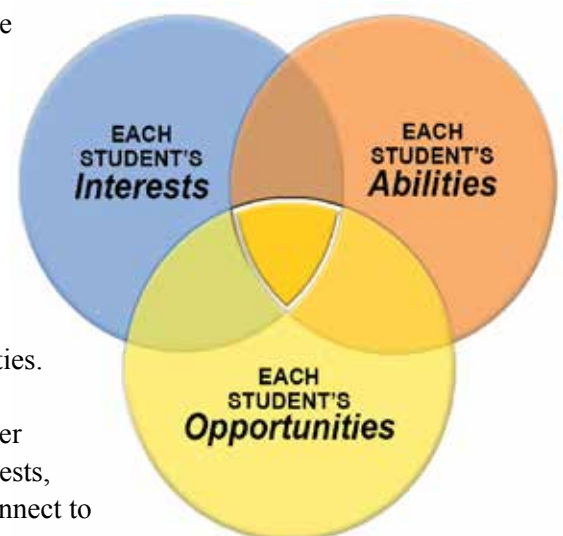
VISION: To build generations of successful individuals who fulfill their potential and grow roots in Stark County.

VALUES: *Respect* - SEP works with partners to ensure opportunities for all individuals in Stark County, recognizing value in diversity of ideas, cultures, and people. *Expertise* - SEP advances its mission and vision through research, data, and best practices. *Catalyst* - SEP accelerates the trajectory of new ideas and programs through research, support, and a space to incubate new initiatives. *Engagement* - SEP engages collaboratively with local employers, partner organizations, education entities, and the public to ensure our work is aligned and to achieve maximum impact. *Responsibility* - SEP is committed to the success of its strategies through identifying key performance indicators of success and aligning with the work of relevant partners. *Focus* - SEP diligently remains focused on strategies with the greatest potential for impact.

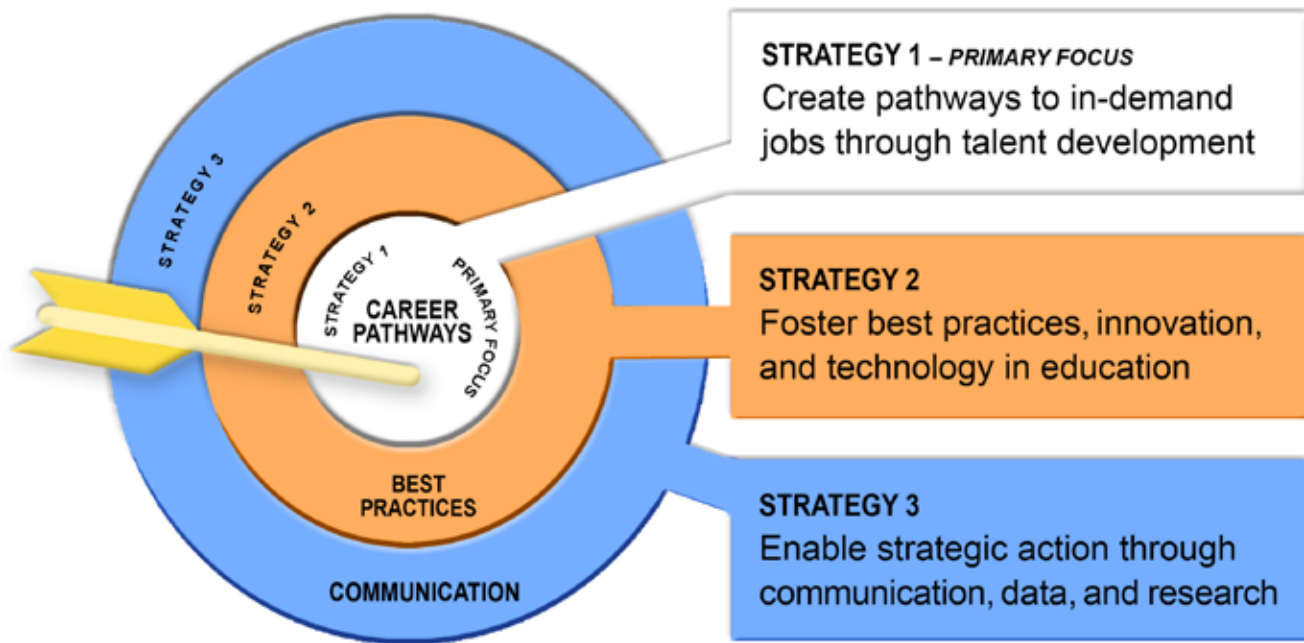
WORKING AT THE INTERSECTION:

Underlying all of SEP's work is a belief that individuals thrive, as does the community they are part of, when we create opportunities for an individual's interests and abilities to find their alignment with local career opportunities.

SEP's strategies work at the intersection of each student's interests, abilities, and opportunities. SEP looks to make an impact by ensuring individuals have a greater opportunity to identify their interests, develop in-demand skills, and connect to local job opportunities.



THREE STRATEGIES



STRATEGY ONE: SEP creates pathways to local opportunities by strengthening connections between education and workforce. Priorities include:

- Identifying workforce needs by routinely convening workforce leaders.
- Promoting awareness of local career pathways by fostering collaborations between employers and educators.
- Increasing student exposure to career opportunities.
- Growing the next generation of business leaders by fostering entrepreneurship.
- Supporting educator effectiveness.

STRATEGY TWO: SEP challenges and supports local educational leaders in continually advancing the system to better meet student and community needs. Priorities include:

- Communicating and encouraging research-based best practices in curriculum and instructional delivery.
- Supporting initiatives to reinforce the teacher pipeline.
- Strengthening seamless transitions for students across the educational continuum.
- Promoting best-in-class professional development opportunities.

STRATEGY THREE: SEP enhances the ability of organizations throughout Stark County to make timely decisions that move our community forward by providing actionable research and data. Priorities include:

- Discovering and communicating emerging best practices.
- Making community data more accessible and actionable.
- Providing evaluation support to assess impact.