

Rethinking the State Board of Education's 'Strategic Vision'

SBE Meeting
Item K
19 June 2019

Recent Board discussions have prompted us to think more about *student wellness* as a vital concern in our schools today. By student 'wellness' we mean more than simply freedom from disease. We are equally concerned with students' social and emotional well-being.

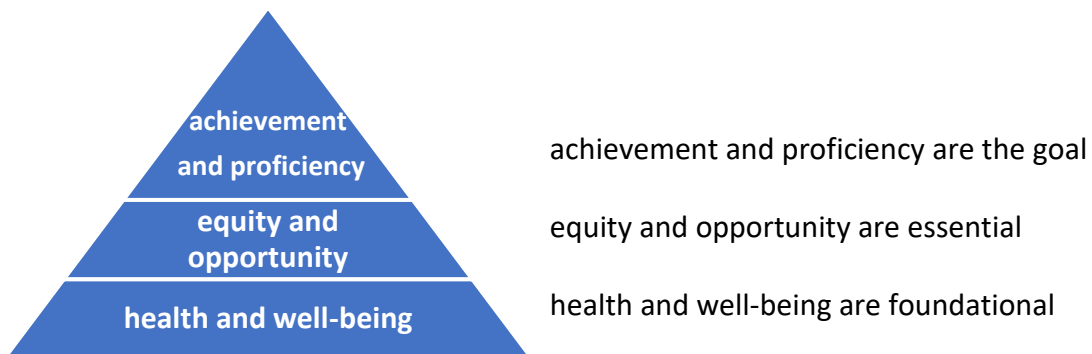
Increasingly, educators recognize that students' abilities to succeed in school – to take full advantage of learning opportunities and to achieve real proficiency – depend upon students' health and wellness, especially their social and emotional well-being.

In this sense, then, student well-being is the foundation for student learning and growth.

This thinking prompts us to reconsider how we frame the Board's 'Strategic Vision'. In the recent past we've spoken about striking a balance between 'equity', 'excellence', and 'efficiency'.

Going forward, we want to focus on what schools must provide for Vermont's children, as learners, and, in parallel but separately, to make more efficient and sustainable the system that delivers the services our students need.

In this view, student-centered learning must assure for each and every student:



Correspondingly, our educational system – staff, programs, and facilities – must be **sustainable**.

To be *sustainable*, our educational system must be **efficient**.

To be *efficient*, our educational system must be **effective** and **economical**.

John Carroll