

Contact: Isobel Stevenson

Phone: (860) 586-2340

Email: [istevenson@ctschoolchange.org](mailto:istevenson@ctschoolchange.org)

Website: [www.ctschoolchange.org](http://www.ctschoolchange.org)

Date: February 25, 2019

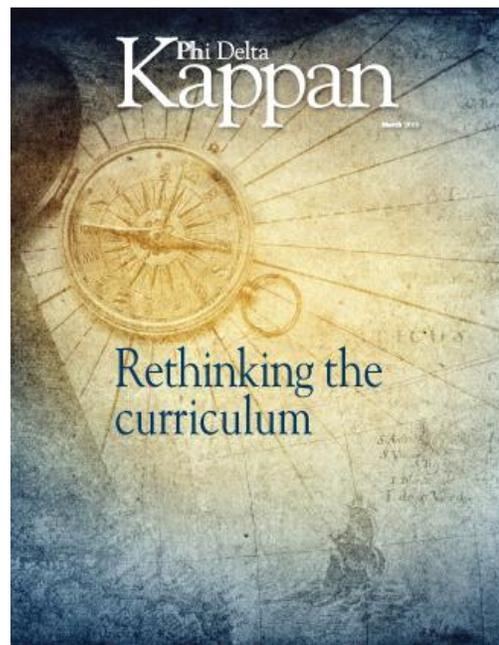
## STRATEGY AND PLANNING IN EDUCATION FEATURED IN *PHI DELTA KAPPAN*

The Connecticut Center for School Change is pleased to announce the publication of "An improvement plan is not enough — you need a strategy," by Isobel Stevenson, in the March 2019 issue of *Phi Delta Kappan*. The article discusses the difference between having a strategy and completing a plan, and why the latter is frequently mistaken for the former. To read the full article, [click here](#).

*"The way we currently engage in improvement planning, with the emphasis on generating an action plan, is antithetical to the idea of continuous improvement. The plan is a product that is supposed to be a proxy for a process, but an intense focus on creating the plan can itself distract from the details of how it will be implemented (or whether it will be implemented at all)."*

"Planning is about clarifying your thinking, surfacing and testing your assumptions, and finding the elusive through-line from your ideas to the experience and outcomes for children in real classrooms," explains Center Executive Director Richard Lemons. "Planning is about reimagining and reengineering—it is not about the completion of a document. The Center partners with districts, government agencies, and non-profits to do this critical work. I am so excited to see Isobel Stevenson's important article in this issue of *Kappan*."

Frances Rabinowitz, Executive Director of the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents, comments "CAPSS partnered with CCSC to develop our strategic plan, and I can testify to the hard thinking that it takes to think strategically, and to the fact that the product is not as important as the planning that goes into it. I recommend you give this article a close read. In it, Isobel does a great job of summarizing the tension between planning and writing a plan, and how we have let our need for a written product get in the way of taking the time to think deeply and strategically about how to improve outcomes for kids.



And if you would benefit from more direct support in leveraging your strategic planning process, consider registering for our Strategy Workshop in June. For more details [click here](#).