

## Potential Strategic Issues

Over the last several years Bank Street has conducted many internal reviews and been externally reviewed by several organizations, including our three accrediting agencies: the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), the New York State Association of Independent Schools (NYAIS), and the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSA). In addition, the School for Children has gone through a divisional strategic planning process and is currently implementing its strategic plan. From this body of work, and the ongoing work of the Cabinet and Trustees we have identified a set of questions which frame some strategic issues for Bank Street, issues which are important in facing the future and working successfully in a constantly changing environment.

<p><b><u>Our Place in the World</u></b> In what ways do we want to influence the world beyond Bank Street?  Do we want to leverage public policy? How would we do that? What changes would we have to make?  Should we be champions of progressive education? What does that mean?  In what parts of the larger world do we need to strengthen our reputation and brand recognition? How do we communicate more broadly? Towards what ends?</p>	<p><b><u>Diversity</u></b> What are the implications of the changing demographics -- city, state, and national --- for our programs?  How can we effectively recruit and retain the diverse student body and faculty necessary for implementation of our mission in a changing society?  What mix of students and faculty will best help Bank Street achieve its educational mission?</p>	<p><b><u>Assessment</u></b> Are we effectively documenting and assessing student opportunities for learning, student learning outcomes, and program quality?  What do we do? What do students learn? How do we know? What do we do with the data? How do we share that information in ways that are meaningful to potential students, parents, employers, funders and partners?</p>	<p><b><u>Knowledge Creation</u></b> How integral should knowledge creation/ generation be to Bank Street's mission?  Should we identify domains of scholarship where Bank Street can make a particular and significant contribution?  What are the options for supporting and fostering knowledge creation/ generation?</p>	<p><b><u>Resources</u></b> Are our current resources (people, time, space, and money) sufficient to continue to support the implementation of our mission?  What size and configurations allow us to meet our mission?  What options are available to us as an institution?  Are there organizational changes that would better enable Bank Street to achieve its goals?</p>	<p><b><u>Communication</u></b> In what ways can we improve internal communication structures and processes to make Bank Street more coherent and effective in carrying out its mission?</p>
<p><b><u>Partnerships</u></b> With whom should we collaborate? Are there strategic partnerships with other organizations (governmental, non-profit or for-profit) that could help us in addressing these issues?</p>					
<p style="text-align: center;">ENDNOTE</p> <p>While each of these questions may encompass other questions and issues we present them here at the most general level to avoid moving to recommendations before full exploration of the issues.</p>					