

REACH HIGHER *Together*

30,000+ insights from **7,500+** GVSU community members

You told us what matters to you.

Earlier this year, a group of 100 leaders from all corners of the University engaged with Lakers across campus to gather thoughts and feedback on the challenges and opportunities facing GVSU. The data collected informs current strategic planning.

The top 10 themes that emerged...

1. **Well-being as infrastructure.** Make well-being central to our success.
2. **Education that equips.** Link learning with real-world skills and mentorship for career agility.
3. **Equity in action.** Advance inclusion as a shared opportunity with clear practices.
4. **Flexibility by design.** Offer adaptable learning and work modules that meet diverse needs.
5. **Strength in partnership.** Amplify impact through cross-sector collaboration.
6. **Sustainability everywhere.** Further embed sustainability across the institution.
7. **Transparency and trust.** Build shared leadership and inclusive decision-making.
8. **Social impact.** Support holistic, equitable systems that advance community well-being.
9. **Laker for a lifetime.** Activate alumni as mentors, partners, and champions.
10. **Breaking of silos.** Create shared budgets and hubs that fuel interdisciplinary innovation.

... showed us where we can reach higher.

Today's pressures of ...

- Rising costs and debt
- Changes in student readiness
- A volatile national conversation

Have given rise to needs for...

- Proactive mental health support
- Increased digital and tech fluency
- Transparent communication
- Increased access and removal of barriers beyond tuition
- Education for learners who work and workers who learn

And opened the door for GVSU to lead by...

- Expanding flexible and stackable learning pathways
- Partnering with industries to innovate learning opportunities
- Embedding AI expertise and ethics across the university
- Integrating climate literacy and eco-conscious practices
- Maintaining our commitment to academic excellence

Reach Higher Together with us.

In 2020, we developed a five-year strategic plan to position the university in an evolving educational climate. In 2025, GVSU now looks ahead to reshape and amplify that plan – **Reach Higher Together**. Developed through a collaborative approach involving input from across the Laker community, Reach Higher Together will distill the University's path forward for the next several years. The work on Reach Higher Together continues in fall 2025, and the plan will launch in early 2026.

Follow along at GVSU.edu/reachhighertogether