

ORGANIZATION-WIDE RISK ASSESSMENT



CLIENT: Portland Public Schools

PROJECT: District-Wide Risk Assessment

SERVICE: Risk Assessment

PROJECT COST: \$44,265

PROJECT TIMELINE:
February 2016 – April 2016

COMPLETION DATE: April 2016

■ BACKGROUND

A District-wide risk assessment was conducted to identify the business and support operational programs, their components, activities, overlapping areas, and specific internal and external functions that currently pose the greatest level of risk to Portland Public Schools. The risk assessment allowed an objective determination of topics to develop an annual audit plan for the Audit Committee, with the goal to meet PPS's defined mission, goals and objectives.

■ CHALLENGE

Every organization faces a variety of risks from internal and external sources. Analyzing these risks, while considering the likelihood of occurrence and impact on the organization, establishes a basis for determining how they should be managed.

■ SOLUTION

The District-wide operational and business services risk assessment included the following primary areas:

1. Determining the relevant operational elements
2. Identifying pertinent risks
3. Analyzing each based on the significance of the risk and exposure associated with the activity and the likelihood of the risk occurring
4. Determining a "score" that defines the degree of risk associated with each element.

■ SO WHAT

The District-wide operational and business services risk assessment was designed to review the 12 relevant operational elements based on the significance of the risks associated with specific activities and the likelihood of those risks occurring. Our interviews and document review for each element identified 32 activities/ areas that we believed pose the most risk to PPS. These risks were segregated into those areas that have a specific impact on all District functions and those specific to a service area or program.

Although Portland Public Schools had established various processes to mitigate risk in specific areas, the assessment identified multiple areas that posed the most current risk to the District.