Technology Landscape Analysis & Element451 Implementation
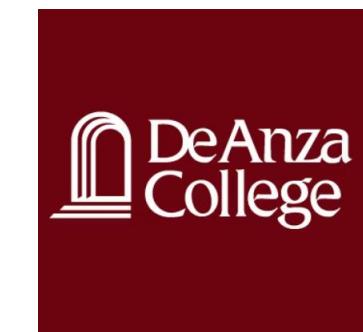
February 06, 2026

Mission Informed Planning Council (MIPC), Foothill College

Technology Landscape Analysis

An analysis of the district's technology ecosystem, infrastructure, and strategic opportunities for modernization and efficiency.

20+ department or division meetings held across the district to gather detailed insights and feedback, with responses consolidated to identify common themes, discrepancies, and specific functional uses, with the development of corresponding visual diagrams.

Goal 1: Eliminate Tool Sprawl

Align technology with Somos Uno philosophy through platform consolidation.

Goal 2: Unify Platforms

Shift from fragmented technology to multi-functional student-ready systems.
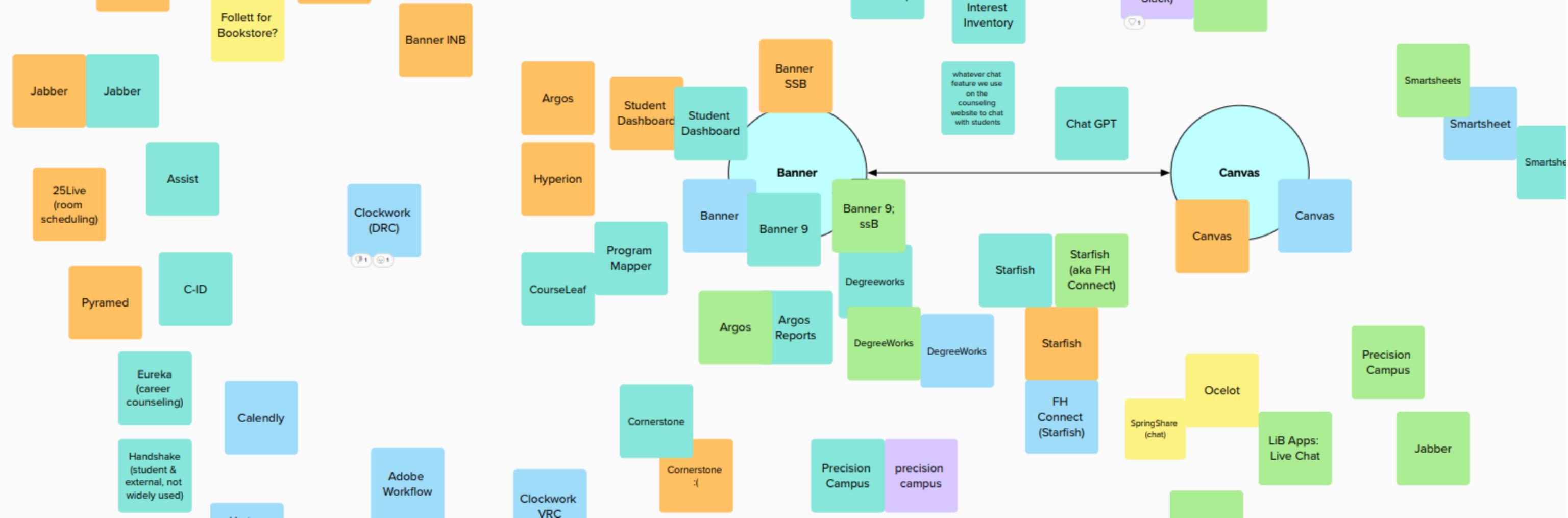
Stakeholder Insights & Initial Mapping

Initial mapping for Foothill College, De Anza College,
and Central Services revealed a complex ecosystem.

Highlights from Foothill College

Diverse Productivity Tools

Broad range of individually-installed tools, including but not limited to Calendly and Grammarly, as well as stand-alone platforms to enhance efficiency.

Cloud Collaboration Focus

Slack and Google Drive usage highlights shift from existing districtwide enterprise collaboration platforms.

Survey & Data Collection

Varied tools like Remark, Survey Gizmo, and Smartsheet for feedback and data tracking.

Engagement Platforms

Variety of platforms reflect individualized and departmental approaches to student engagement, yet the fragmentation of the holistic experience may be a barrier for students.
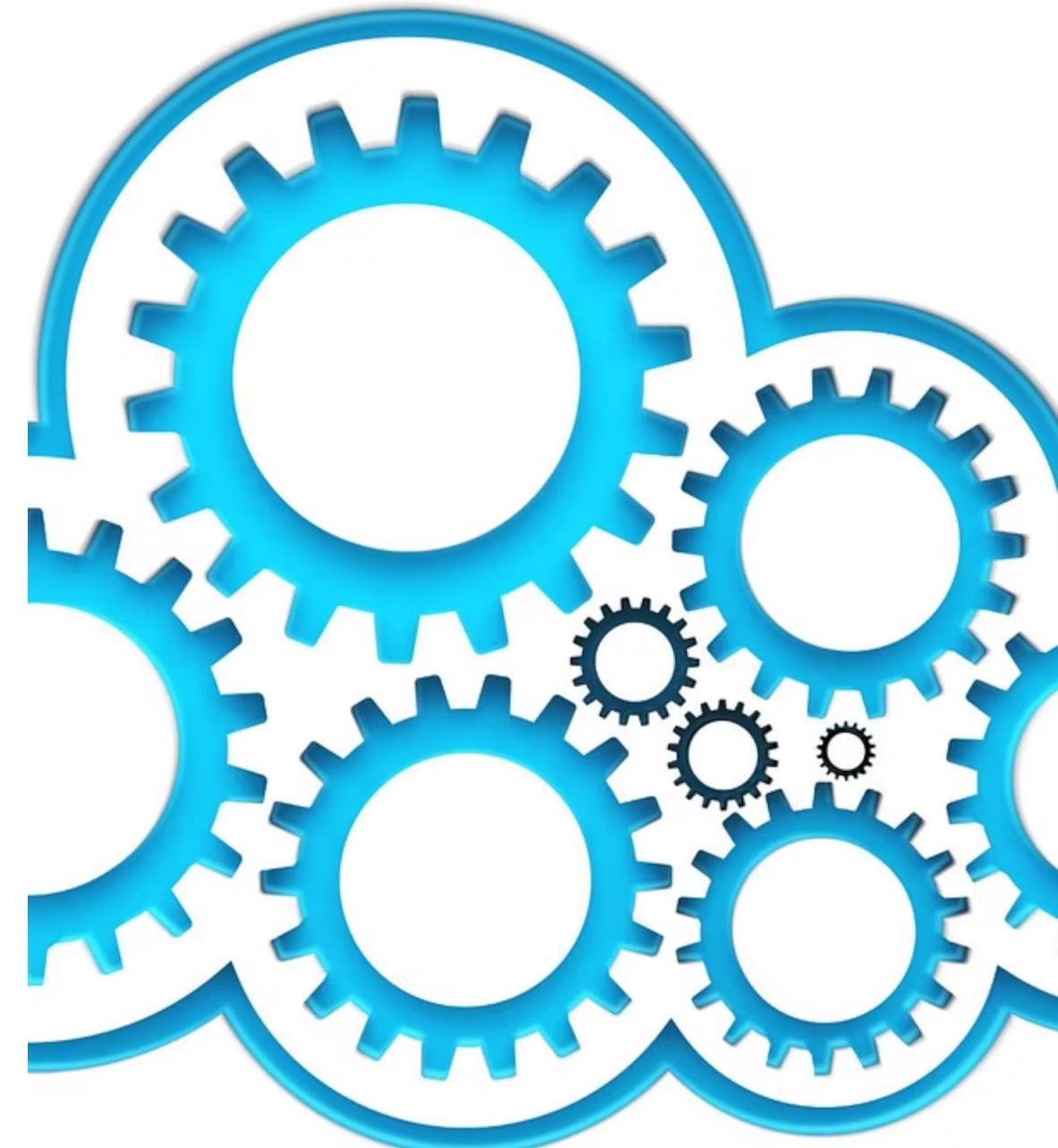
Foothill College Technology Map

Foothill College demonstrates diverse tool adoption with opportunities for alignment with districtwide efforts to support:

- Centralizing the use of multiple analytics tools to strengthen accessibility and data governance;

- Consolidation of distributed student services platforms;

- Increasing existing system integration and platform interoperability; and

- License consolidation, reducing redundancy and long-term costs.

FOOTHILL COLLEGE TECHNOLOGY MAP
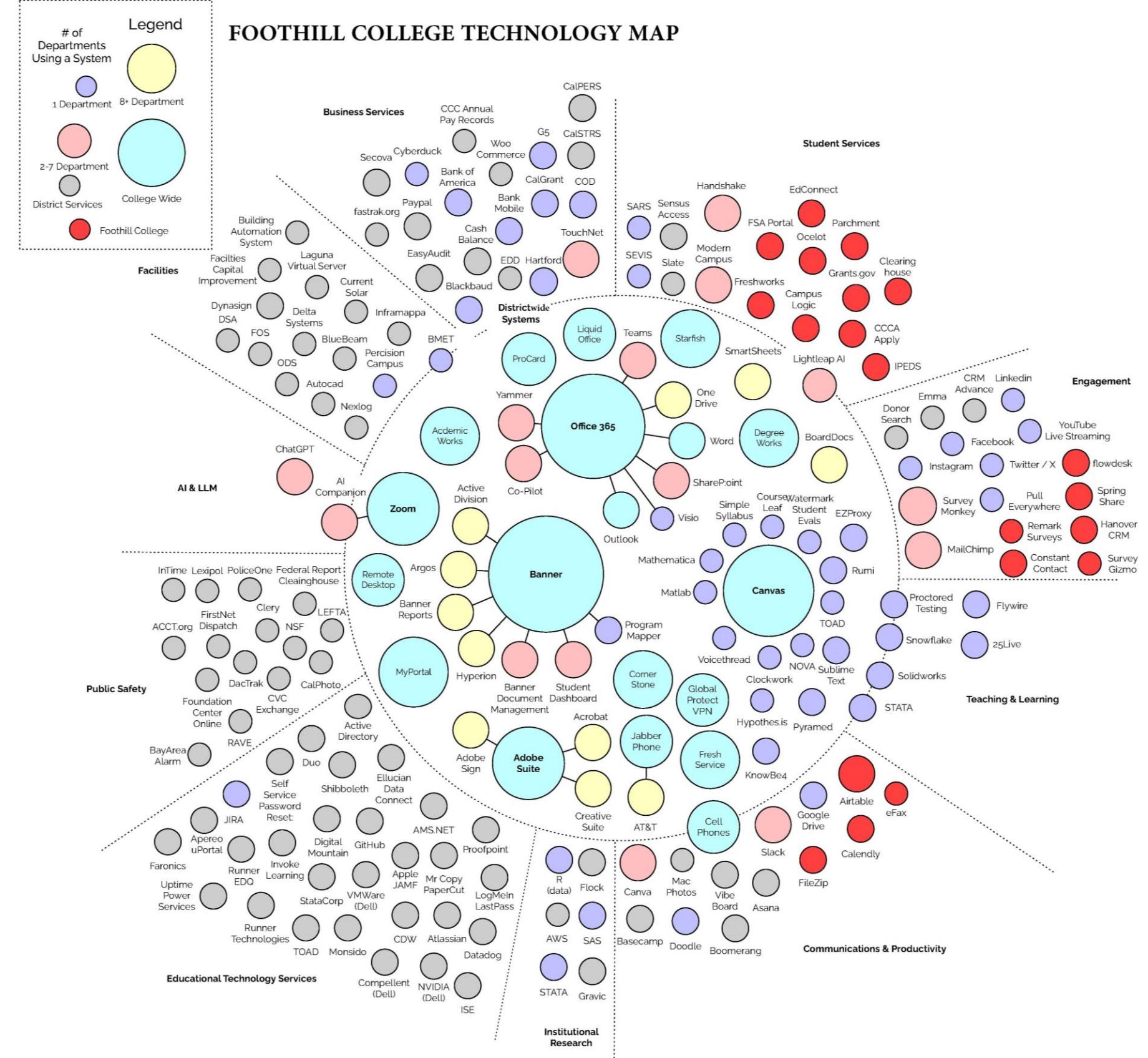
Unified CRM (Element451)

Platform Consolidation

Assess the use of Starfish, SARS, Smartsheets, SendGrid, Constant Contact, SurveyGizmo, etc., and determine possible replacement with a single, unified platform.

Centralized Operations

Centralizes outreach, engagement, and student engagement tracking in a single system.

Vision-Aligned Reporting

Added VAR module for lifecycle tracking across the entire student journey and to support VAR reporting to the state.

System Integration

Integration with Banner, chatbots, FreshService, Reimagined CCC Apply, and other planning tools creates added opportunities for seamless operations.