Next-Gen Mission, Vision, and Goals

Mission: *What is the reason the schoolship program exists?*
To inspire an understanding of the importance and current health of Lake Michigan.

Vision: *What would perfect success look like?*
Every student creates a lifelong connection to the Great Lakes that drives Great Lakes stewardship behavior.

Goal 1: *Why are we doing this program?*
To connect people to the Great Lakes.

Goal 2: *Why are we doing this program?*
To measure and monitor the health of Lake Michigan.

Goal 3: *Why are we doing this program?*
We want students to realize the health of the Great Lakes matters to them.

Objectives:
What exactly do we want to accomplish?

A personal connection is created when:

1. Students touch and directly experience components of the Great Lakes (fish, benthos, plankton, water)
2. Students participate in ship operations (anchor, sails, steering)
3. Students take part in Great Lakes research

Objectives:
What exactly do we want to accomplish?

Students will know that:

1. Physical, chemical, and biological components of the top, middle, and bottom of the lake need to be observed to determine ecosystem health.
2. Food web interactions describe an organism's role in an ecosystem.
3. Biodiversity is an important indicator of ecosystem health.
4. The role of a Great Lakes scientist is to measure and make sense of the health of the lakes. On the program, students are the scientists.

Objectives:
What exactly do we want to accomplish?

Students will understand that:

1. The health of the Great Lakes is directly tied to human well-being. The Great Lakes have economic, social, political, cultural, aesthetic, environmental, scientific, and historic value.
2. Humans have the capacity to improve the health of the Great Lakes, therefore we also have an ethical obligation to do so. Everyone has the power to act on behalf of the Great Lakes.