



Anamosa Community School District School Improvement Advisory Committee

April 9, 2024

5:00-6:00 PM @ Anamosa Central Office

District Vision: Rooted in Excellence, Ready for the Future

District Mission: To provide all students with educational opportunities to learn and achieve in a rapidly changing global society.

Members Present: Cortney Pearson, Laura Secrist-Niklasen, Ellen Recker, Jolyn Kennedy, Darren Hanna, Erin Jenkins, Josh Bentley, Annette Wheeler, Elyse Broghammer, Cheri Broghammer, Matt English, Darci Wagner

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Each member introduced themselves and said how they were connected to the school

2. Purpose of SIAC

- a. Erin explained the purpose of SIAC and that it is:

Purpose of the committee is to make recommendations for school improvement to the Board about the following components

1. Major educational needs
 2. Student learning goals
 3. Long range goals that include, but are not limited to, the state indicators that address reading, mathematics and science achievement
 4. Bullying and harassment prevention goals

3. School Improvement

- a. 5-Year Strategic Plan - Erin shared the 5-year strategic plan with the committee and how it was developed with data from ISASP, Conditions for Learning, Post-Secondary Reports, Iowa School Performance Profile, and Chronic Absenteeism reports. The four big rocks on the plan cover Culture, Workforce, MTSS, and Future Ready.
- b. Data Exploration
 - i. Teams broke off to explore data from one topic ELA, math, science, chronic absenteeism, conditions for learning, and post-secondary reports.
 - ii. Teams discussed strengths, weaknesses, questions, and ideas for improvement
 - iii. Teams shared out to the whole group what they discussed.
 - 1. Conditions for learning - strengths were student to student relationships and adult to student relationships in the elementary. HS increased in percentage for boundaries and expectations. Weaknesses include: Emotional Safety being below avg and student to student relationships below average in the HS. Questions: How can we support our students within each area? What are the reasons our kids don't feel emotionally safe? Ideas include: PBIS supports for our students and building stronger relationships with families.
 - 2. Chronic Absenteeism - Strengths: Parents are aware, tight knit school, we know who's missing. Weaknesses: Students with IEP's and F/R lunch demographics have the highest rates of absenteeism. Questions: What is the correlation between student grades and absenteeism. Ideas for improvement: Incentivize attendance, peer to peer tutoring, showing more visuals and the impact CA has on students.

3. ELA - Strengths: Went from 61%-69% overall, 5 grades are above 72%, 3 other grades are in line with state avg, 10th is above state avg.
Weaknesses: 5th & 9th are at 58%, 4 grades are below 70%, A class went down from 67% to 58% We are not at 80%. Questions: What was the cause of the large jumps in some classes? How can we sustain this growth and get to 80%. Ideas for improvement: Continue implementation of new ELA curriculum, keep alignment of standards with state testing, continue to align interventions and strengthen MTSS, strengthen teacher knowledge of Science of Reading
4. Math & Science - Strengths: Showing improvement in both subject areas overall.
Weaknesses: reaching and sustaining 80%.
Needing a stronger start with our 5th graders in science. Questions: Is there consistent growth 3rd-11th? Are we doing the right thing by providing fewer minutes of sci instead through 6th grade? Ideas for improvement: Send practice work home, prepare for the time when FOSS science kits are no longer an option.
5. Post-Secondary - Strengths: Current trend looks better 96% projected instead of 90%. Weaknesses: Buy-in from students and parents, enrollment, attendance, post-secondary interest. Questions: What % of non-graduates are 5-year and drop-outs? What options of support to keep kids moving do we need to continue to explore? Ideas for improvement: Visual Freshmen communication, Explain Kirkwood opportunities (in-house, course fair, career fair), More education on work-place learning

4. Priorities/Recommendations

- a. Identify the greatest areas of need
 - i. Greatest areas of need selected by the committee include: conditions for learning, chronic absenteeism, and ELA
- b. Recommendations for improvement
 - i. The committee came up with the following recommendations.

5. Adjourn

Recommendations for the school board from the SIAC Committee:

- 1. Plan for district-wide implementation/refinement of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
- 2. Prioritize relationships with families through our new positions at the middle school and high school.
- 3. Address chronic absenteeism by providing peer-to-peer tutoring, incentivizing attendance, and bringing more visuals into our awareness campaign.
- 4. Continue to prioritize 80% proficiency on all benchmarks
- 5. Strengthen our multi-tier system of support and align interventions in ELA, provide training opportunities for teachers in the science of reading, and continue our K-6 ELA curriculum while aligning standards to state testing.