



**South Winneshiek Community School District
School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC)**

December 21, 2016, 4:30 pm
District Board Room, Calmar

District Vision: The vision of the South Winneshiek School District, with shared responsibility of school, home, and community, is to provide the best teaching and learning environment while developing skills needed to develop life-long learners.

District Mission: The mission of the South Winneshiek Community School District program is to assist and ensure that every student achieves his/her level of educational excellence in the areas of academic, career, and social/emotional development through a collaborative partnership with students, family, educators, and community.

Agenda and Minutes

1. Roll Call-Members present: Sally Tieskoetter, Sara Schmitt, Nicole Wiltgen, Connie Euans, Jason Halverson, Gena Gesing, Steve Carnesi, Mary Kleve, Gretchen Devore, and Kris Einck

Members absent: Annie Sadler, Michelle Dietzenbach, and Clark Goltz
2. Introductions of committee members
 - a. Mr. Einck asked everyone to introduce themselves.
3. Review purpose of committee
 - a. Mr. Einck explained the role of the SIAC which is to meet the requirements of Iowa Code Section 280.12(2), the South Winneshiek School Board of Education appoints a School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC) with making

recommendations to the Board on an annual basis. Based on the committee members' analysis of the needs assessment data, they will make recommendations to the Board about the following components:

- Major educational needs
- Student learning goals
- Curriculum, assessment and instruction
- Long range and annual goals that include, but are not limited to, the state indicators that address reading, mathematics, and science achievement
- Desired levels of student performance.
- Progress toward meeting the goals set out in lines 2 through 5.
- Bullying and harassment prevention goals, programs, training, and other initiatives
- Any other issues which relate to school improvement

The School Improvement Advisory Committee membership consists of members representing students, parents, teachers, administrators, and representatives from the local community, which may include representatives of business, industry, labor, community agencies, high education, or other community constituents. This committee's task is to make decisions that impact students and create conditions that foster high academic achievement. The SIAC makes decisions based on the best interest of students aligned with the district's mission, vision, and beliefs. SIAC is also responsible to assess the attitudes and perceptions of our school population and encourage a positive school climate. Mr. Einck will ask the current members to suggest names of adults, especially males to help our gender balance. Mr. Einck will also

continue to recruit students to participate. The new members will be recommended for appointment to the SIAC at the February school board meeting.

4. Annual Progress Report (APR) - Gretchen Devore, Curriculum Coordinator went over some of our past data concerning student achievement and also visited about the new mandates such as the FAST testing and reading interventions we have implemented.
5. Iowa Assessments & Smarter Balanced Assessments - Gretchen Devore, Curriculum Coordinator, visited with the group about the new upcoming assessment that currently is going to be implemented in the spring of 2018. This new assessment will replace the Iowa Assessments. Below is an outline of what she discussed.

Smarter Balanced Assessment

Smarter Balanced is the next statewide achievement test students in 3rd – 11th grade will be required to complete. This test replaces the Iowa Assessments (ITBS/ITED) that schools used for many years. It is scheduled to be administered for the first time in the spring of 2018. This new assessment is completed on individual computers. Students will work through a series of questions focusing on reading and math skills. The students will respond by typing their answers. The test is not multiple choice. The Smarter Balanced Assessment is designed to help determine a student's readiness for a college and career environment. It will not be a comparable "score" to the current requirements.

South Winneshiek Student Achievement

South Winneshiek K-12 student achievement looks very positive. We are showing yearly growth in the areas of reading, math, and science. For example if you look at the last five years of 11th grade Iowa Assessment scores the average has been 83% proficiency in reading, 90% proficiency in math, and 86% proficiency in science. Remember to be considered proficient in the state of Iowa you must be above the 41 percentile. Again it's important to note that we will

be starting a new system of measuring academic achievement. The Smarter Balanced Assessment will have different “cut” scores than we use right now. All districts will need to work with the test company to understand and explain the results to teachers, students, parents, and community members.

6. 2016-2017 District Reading and Math Goals - Kris Einck, Superintendent

Reading Goal 2016-2017 School Year

We will continue to improve our student’s reading scores by Increasing the percentage of students at the proficient level in reading. The foundation for academic success is based on having good reading skills. We will continue our efforts to assist all of our students in becoming proficient readers by building their reading skills. As a parent(s), you can assist by reading to your children on a daily basis and providing your child with a time/place for them to complete homework and assist them in improving their academic skills.

Math Goal 2016-2017 School Year

We will continue to improve our student’s math scores by increasing the percentage of students at the proficient level in mathematics. We will do this by implementing math interventions and increasing student skill levels. As a parent(s), you can assist by providing your child with a time/place for them to complete homework and assist them in improving their academic skills

7. Miscellaneous:

- a. Discussion was held about how our scores and goals will be affected by the new Smarter Balanced assessment.
- b. There was conversation about making alcohol and drug awareness information more readily available to our students and the need to continually educate our students about making good choices that keep them safe and healthy.

- c. Also the need to educate our students about bullying and cheating in the classroom.
- 8. Schedule next meeting - Kris Einck, Superintendent, the next SIAC meeting will be Wednesday, April 26, 2017 at 4:30 pm in the district board room at the high school. Items to be discussed will include but are not limited to the 2017 Iowa Assessments results.
- 9. Adjourn