

LONG-RANGE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Long-range needs assessment enables the school district to analyze assessment data, get feedback from the community about its expectation of students and determine how well students are meeting student learning goals. The board will conduct ongoing and in-depth needs assessment, soliciting information from business, labor, industry, higher education and community members, regarding their expectations for adequate student preparation.

In conjunction with the in-depth needs assessment of the school district, the board will authorize the appointment of a committee, representing administrators, employees, parents, students and community members, to make recommendations and assist the board in determining the priorities of the school district in addition to the basic skills areas of the education program.

A School Improvement Advisory Committee has been established to provide input and feedback for the direction of school improvement on a biannual basis. This committee consists of a diverse group of people including the representatives of teachers, administrators, school board, parents, business people, service providers, school to work, area education, students and the superintendent. The Advisory Committee, through input from the School Improvement Team (SIT), will review data and progress towards established goals, and make recommendations and assist the board in determining the priorities of the school district in addition to the basic skills areas of the education program. Communication will be facilitated by having a SIT member attend each of the advisory committee meetings.

The duties of the School Improvement Advisory Committee are:

- Provide strategies, suggestions and constructive criticism of the School Improvement Process
- Share concerns, suggestions, and resources from the Anita community
- Participate in the 5-year and annual community needs assessment
- Promote School Improvement in the community

A School Improvement Team, (SIT) consisting of two teachers from each building level and all administrators, will determine the district focus with input and feedback from the advisory board. Teachers will either be elected (by staff) or selected (by administration) to represent all committees for two-year terms. Representatives, elected and selected, will rotate off the committee on alternate years, with an option to remain for two more years.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to ensure the school district community is informed of students' progress on state and locally determined indicators. The superintendent will report annually to the board about the means used to keep the community informed.

As a result of the board and committee's work, the board will determine major educational needs and rank them in priority order; develop long-range goals and plans to meet the educational needs; establish and implement short-range and intermediate-range plans to meet the goals and to attain the desired levels of student performance; evaluate progress toward meeting the goals and maintain a record of progress under the plan that includes reports of student performance and results of school improvement projects; and annually report the school district's progress made under the plan to the committee, community and Iowa Department of Education.

NOTE: This is a mandatory policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 21; 256.7; 280.12, .18 (2007).
281 I.A.C. 12.8(1)(b).

Cross Reference: 100 Mission and Educational Philosophy

Approved 10-19-09 Reviewed _____ Revised _____