



**Anamosa Community School District
School Improvement Advisory Committee**

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

5:00-6:30 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: Cheri Broghammer, Brian Hurt, Aaron Schmidt, Ellen Recker, Darci Wagner, Jill Tjaden, Abe Tubbs, Erin Jenkins, Josh Bentley, Kendra Starkey, Aaron Zumbach, Kate Buchholtz, Linda Vaughn, Laura Secrist-Niklasen, Matt English, Courtney Pearson

Members Absent: Megan Rose, Brad/Allie Mormann, Kelley Meyer, Emily DeGroot, Darren Hanna

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Attendees went around the room and shared their name, career, and how they are affiliated with the school.
2. Purpose of SIAC
 - a. The purpose of SIAC was shared with all attendees
 - b. 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

- i. 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. Progress on Goals

- i. **Goal #1 To enhance the learning environment** by addressing identified weaknesses in Conditions for Learning survey results, leveraging strengths in staffing, and pursuing continuous improvement strategies to ensure a supportive, safe, and engaging environment for all students.

1. Added Positions:

School Therapist Family Connection

Specialists

Adding SRO

2. Restorative Practices

3. **72%** of our students report strengths in:

Self Management

Emotional Regulation

& Learning Strategies

- ii. **Goal #2 Reduce the chronic absenteeism rate** by the end of the school year through the implementation of a continuous, common strategy and enhanced engagement with families of students on free and reduced lunch to address barriers to attendance.

1. Reduced Chronic Absenteeism rates in the district by more than half from 24% to 10%!

2. F/R Lunch 30% to 16%!

3. IEP 33% to 13%!

- iii. **Goal #3 Increase academic proficiency in reading, math, and science** to at least 80% on ISASP assessments by the end of the school year through focused test preparation, targeted writing instruction, goal setting with students, and strengthening our universal tier.
 - 1. Preliminary results indicate that we have achieved the highest average proficiency level in all three core subjects over the past seven years.
 - 2. ELA - 70%
 - 3. Math - 73%
 - 4. Science - 73%

4. Future Ready with Career Trees

- a. Informational - Erin Jenkins introduced the seven career trees developed for the pathways we are providing our students with. Those trees include: Advanced Manufacturing, Agriculture, Construction Trades, Education, Healthcare & Human Services, Hospitality Events & Tourism, Marketing & Sales.
- b. Small group discussion: Each table discussed the following questions:
 - i. What do you think it means for a student to be “Future Ready”?
 - ii. How might the school make the Career Trees more visible, relevant, & actionable for students?
 - iii. What are ways our students can receive a “Future Ready” education? (ie: guest speakers, student internships, job shadows, elective courses...)
 - iv. What skills do you see as being most critical for students entering the workforce?
 - v. How can we continue to expand our partnerships with businesses to help students build their network?
- c. Share out
 - i. Each group chose a common theme to share.

1. Communicate with the larger community about what we are attempting to do and have student voice included in that sharing
2. Clarify how the Tree works - focus on the roots
3. Celebrate with businesses - Good for school and business partnerships
4. Time management, perseverance, collaboration, and having student identify their industry of interest early.

5. 4-day School Week

- a. Information - Erin Jenkins introduced new data and information regarding a 4-day school week. Data included Open enrollment having a average increase in the schools that went 4-day, a survey was presented from another school district that showed 85% approval of moving to a 4-day school week from parents.
- b. Small group discussion
 - i. What we love: mental health for students and teachers, allowing teachers time to prepare quality lessons, teacher retention
 - ii. What worries us: getting board approval, what to do with low SES population, having a 3-day break from learning each week.
 - iii. What we need to see to support it: more information about how it affects schools our size, board approval and transparency, a solid plan.

6. Adjourn