

# *Red Oak School Improvement Advisory Council*

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## SIAC Meeting Notes and Summary

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### Monday, September 26, 2011 Meeting

SIAC members present: Gayle Allensworth, Elizabeth Dilley, Brett Eubank, Norma Fast, Tom Honeyman, Zach Lee, George Maher, Connie Mellott, Dan Miller, James Norris, Sandy Olson, Ann Petersen, Drue Powers, Charla Schmid, Terry Schmidt, Barb Sims, Roger Vial, and Randall Wilson.

SIAC members unable to attend: Kerry Aistrope, Rick & Nancy Behrens, Corey Blair, Peggy Craig, Connie Dentlinger, Leanne Fluckey, Edward & Mabel Grass, John Hewett, Chad & Sara Johnson, Hugo Lepe, Angela Montgomery, Randy Orme, Nate Perrien, Barb Ray, Marsha Sheldon, Jedd Sherman, Sarah Smith, Lisa Sonntag, and Jeff Spotts,

Other guests present: none

### Summary: SIAC Actions and Discussions . . .

- Supt. Terry Schmidt opened the meeting with a request for SIAC members to affirm their continued service to the council and asked for suggested names of council persons who can represent a broad span of the community's citizenry. As a result, 51 names were suggested by the members present!
- A review and discussion was conducted for the recently completed Iowa Department of Education Accreditation Program. Significant findings from the accreditation report were shown. Nearly 50% of the non-compliance notations involved solutions already in place. Other larger non-compliance issues involve expected work to seek a broad representation of community members on various advisory groups such as this SIAC and the mandated Career Technical Education advisory council. It was reported the school district must also complete additional work with its crisis management plan and security procedures; clearer articulation must occur for curriculum programs involving health education and career education; a district-wide student at-risk program must be written and followed; the School Improvement Advisory Council must file an annual report of recommendations to the Red Oak Board of Directors; and school district employees must be given additional training in working with diverse student populations.
- A review and discussion was conducted for the recently completed Iowa Department of Education Equity Compliance Program - a program never before audited in Red Oak. The results were categorized into two major groups. First, the school district must show evidence that it has implemented and managed all public notices of equal opportunity learning and employment. Secondly, the school district must be all inclusive with items found under the multi-cultural gender fair requirements. The district was also audited for compliance issues with accessibility to all school facilities. A corrective action plan must in place within 45 days. Some of the larger accessibility issues relate to doors/fixtures at the Webster Building and access to the basement level for all programs at Red Oak High School.
- Curriculum Director Barb Sims gave an overview of the Annual Student Progress Report, the designations for Schools in Need of Assistance, and a quick overview of the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan. This document guides the school district through all steps needed in the next five years to achieve desired learning and teaching goals. The Director's report found that all schools labeled as "Schools in Need of Assistance" have made substantial improvement. An area of middle level mathematics continues to surface as an area of concern. Middle School Principal Nate Perrien will report on his school's progress at the next SIAC meeting. Good questions and comments of concern were shared by various SIAC members.

- Technology Director Bob Deter gave a brief update about the planned one-to-one computer initiative under consideration by the Red Oak Board of Directors set to begin in the 2012 - 2013 school year.
- Red Oak Board Director Elizabeth Dilley reviewed the goals identified for the last twelve months and reported about the progress made.
- Red Oak Instructor Norma Fast explained her role as a Literacy (reading) Coach for the schools and reported on the progress made in the last six months. The Literacy Coach reported to the SIAC membership that Red Oak has a continuous learning model in place for kindergarten through grade eight for the first time in decades. Expectations are high that student achievement will grow significantly.
- Inman Primary School Principal and District Special Education Director Gayle Allensworth gave an overview of her new role auspiciously dubbed Leadership 2.0.
- SIAC Member Tom Honeyman reported on two upcoming concerts that will involve the Drake University Chamber Choir. The closest concert in Southwest Iowa will be performed on Sunday, October 9 at 4 pm in the Saint Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Atlantic.
- Remaining SIAC meeting dates for FY 12 are Monday, December 5, 6:30 pm; Monday, March 5, 6:30 pm; Tuesday, May 29, 6:30 pm (if needed)

### Future Agenda Planning:

- The next SIAC meeting will report on academic goals set and affirmed by the Board of Directors.
- The SIAC membership will discuss those areas of the district's academic programs that need strengthening and ways SIAC can assist in the articulation.
- The SIAC will consider new members to bring inclusion across all areas of the school district.
- SIAC will receive updated reports about changes in instructional scheduling for Red Oak High School; progress made for the anticipated one-to-one computer initiative; and a progress report on accreditation / equity improvement plans.

### Enclosures:

- \* Included is a current master list of all SIAC members. Please advise if a correction is needed.