

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.

Every 5 years, the Board will conduct an in-depth needs assignment, soliciting information from district stakeholders regarding their expectations for student preparation.

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.

The district will provide ongoing opportunities for local feedback on long-range district needs through the committee appointed above. The district will utilize a variety of means to solicit feedback to include, but not limited to: graduate surveys, School to Work employer surveys, state university grade reports of freshman enrollees from the district, ACT scores and accompanying needs assessment data, and periodic special topic surveys. In addition to these opportunities, the monthly meetings of the Board of Directors will provide a time for public comment and input, and staff will be encouraged to actively seek informal information from the local community.

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. Boards should add their local process in the third paragraph.

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

Cross Reference: 101 Educational Philosophy of the School District
200 Legal Status of the Board of Directors
208 Committees of the Board of Directors
603.1 Basic Instruction Program
801.1 Buildings and Sites Long Range Planning
801.2 Buildings and Sites Surveys

Approved 1/16/1989

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Revised _____