

School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC)

April 8, 2025

Muscatine Schools Administration Center

2900 Mulberry Avenue - West Room

4:00 pm

Welcome & Introductions - Members Present: Clint Christopher, Matt Coss, Daphne Donald, Emillie Duran, Jennifer Fridley, Kira Holler, Tony Loconsole, Joelle McConnaha, Melissa Schumaker, Stephanie Torrance, Lindsey Phillips, Kandy Steel, Becky Wichers.

Math Curriculum Adoption: The district is currently in the process of adopting a new curriculum for math in grades 6 -12. Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, Joelle McConnaha reviewed the steps of curriculum adoption. Phase 4: *Pilot the Plan* is almost complete. The piloting phase is fast paced, with teachers learning the curriculum one day and teaching it the next. Teachers have some limited time for training and are supported by the Instructional Coaches. The committee discussed the adoption process including; hearing a lot of positive feedback from teachers and students, the curriculums have great resources, it's student centered, and brings the junior high and high school teachers together. The next two phases are; Phase 5: *Final Selection of Resources/Material* and Phase 6: *Implementation and Communication of District Adoption Plan*. The final curriculum selection will be presented at the May 12 School Board Meeting. The district will be looking at math curriculum for kindergarten through 5th grade students next year.

MCSD Vision Card: Superintendent Christopher explained how the district uses the Vision Card as a guideline to assess how we are doing and to help us to focus on our targets and goals. There are four sections; *On Track to Graduate*, *K-12 Standard Attainment*, *Core Instructional Practices*, and *Social Emotional Behavior System of Supports*. Superintendent Christopher shared that the high school graduation rate is up to 85.3%. The state has adjusted the way the graduation rate is calculated so there are only the last couple of years' graduation rates for comparison. The graduation rate is always calculated from the year before because graduation is held at the end of the year. The committee discussed the graduation rate and the Muscatine Center for Academic Performance (MCAP) alternative program, for students who are at-risk of not graduating. The program currently has eighteen seniors, all on-track to graduate. The committee looked at the Smart Goals for the K-12 Standard Attainment. The standard attainment includes; Formative Assessment System for Teachers (FAST) Testing scores, Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP), and American College Testing (ACT) Pre-ACT. Superintendent Christopher explained that the district has developed a walk-through tool for administrators to use when visiting classrooms that focuses on what we want to see in every classroom. The

committee also reviewed the Social Emotional Behavior and Support in the district with Superintendent Christopher. And reviewed the data trend lines for 2021-4024.

District Environment Committee: Superintendent Christopher reported that the District Environment Committee (DEC) continues to meet each month to review the Daily Desired Experiences' survey results. The committee discussed the priorities that the DEC has been working on, defining the priorities (Recognitions/Celebrations, Time for Collaboration, and Behavior Supports in the Classroom) and working to create indicators of success for each priority. Each building has representatives that attend the DEC meetings and report back to their buildings and to get feedback from staff in the buildings. The DEC has had a positive impact in giving staff a voice.

Announcements/Other Updates/Questions: There will be a Junior Reserve Officers Training Corp (JROTC) program at the high school next fall. Districts have to apply for the program through the Department Defense and it typically takes about two years. The district will need to hire a retired military officer to be an instructor for the program. MCSD has students going straight into the military after graduation. JROTC allows students to enlist at a higher level. There are only three other school districts in Iowa with a JROTC program. Superintendent Christopher discussed the declining enrollment and the State Supplemental Aid percentage.

Next meeting date: Fall 2025

Meeting Adjourned 5:00 p.m.

