

**East Union Community School District
School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC) Minutes
Wednesday, May 4, 2011, 6:30 p.m.**

Dr. Vogel welcomed the group. Members introduced themselves. Attending from the community: Del Davenport, Leonard Feld, Hope Hall, Brenda Riemenschneider, Peggy Hardy, Kathy Lockard, Rick Paxton, Loretta Kelly, Ron Kelly, DyAnn Clark, Jan Pettit, Kathy Flam. Students attending: Amber Friend, Jordan Foote. Attending School Improvement Team Members: Jo Cook, Gail Thatcher, James Hardy, Lisa Peters, Joan Gordon, Jenn Kuster, Kit Mostek, Mark Weis, Pam Vogel.

The purpose of the School Advisory Committee was reviewed. The SIAC, by Iowa Code, is to meet at least annually to discuss student achievement data, help establish goals for the district, and discuss ways the school is focusing on school improvement.

The SIAC members then rotated through four different groups. These groups were 1) Iowa Core Curriculum- Mrs. Gordon and Dr. Vogel explained the rationale and elements of the Iowa Core and that this curriculum must be in place and taught in all Iowa classrooms. East Union teachers are aligning their instructional materials, books, and other resources with the new curriculum and are mapping curriculum in an online program; 2) 1:1 Laptops- Jordan Foote, Amber Friend, Mrs. Thatcher and Mrs. Peters demonstrated and explained how the computers are being used by high school students in their classes to prepare them with needed 21st Century skills; 3) Guided Reading- Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Kuster, and Mrs. Mostek shared the new reading program that has been successfully implemented at K-5 over the past year, as achievement data has shown growth for students; 4) The Structured Teaching Model- Mr. Hardy and Mr. Weis explained the model that teachers in grades 6-12 are using and is designed to help students be more independent learners and to work collaboratively with their peers to produce high quality student products.

At the end of the rotation through each of the groups, the SIAC members reconvened as one large group. Dr. Vogel shared the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills and Iowa Tests of Educational Development data with the members. It was explained how the district calculates the percentage of students who are proficient and the fact that our goal as educators is to continually increase, not only the number of students who are proficient each year, but to see that each student increases his or her individual scores. She explained that ITBS and ITED are only one measure and that the school district analyzes much additional student data, particularly related to reading comprehension, however, the ITBS and ITED are those assessment results which are sent to the Iowa Department of Education and shared with the federal Department of Education. Schools that are not making progress over time are placed on the "School in Need of Assistance (SINA) list.

Dr. Vogel asked SIAC members for questions. She stated that the district's goal has been "to improve the percentage of students proficient in reading, mathematics, and science each year". Dr. Vogel asked the community members if they could concur with this goal and the consensus from the members was that this was a goal with which they could agree. She explained that the minutes from SIAC are shared with the Board of Education at their next meeting and she would take the information from SIAC to the May meeting.

Dr. Vogel again thanked the members for their attendance and participation. Meeting concluded at 8:45 p.m.