



Sioux City Community School District's Focus on Academic Success

SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT:

*Believe...Achieve...Succeed...*The Sioux City Community School District exists to educate students to **believe** in their talents and skills, **achieve** academic excellence, and **succeed** in reaching their potential.

STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITY AREAS:

1. Student Achievement
2. Educational Facilities
3. Human Resources
4. Family, Staff and Community Engagement
5. Fiscal Accountability

FOCUS ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT:

The Sioux City Community School District is focused on higher levels of student achievement through a continuous improvement process that uses leadership at all levels of the organization to deliver:

- High quality professional development including the use of purposeful collaboration to focus on the implementation of systems of support and the Iowa Core throughout the district.
- A consistent focus on instructional methodology as a means of bringing about heightened student achievement. Instructional strategies will be strengthened through high quality professional development and instructional coaching to implement effective teaching practices that elicit high levels of student engagement in the classroom.
- The design and implementation of a balanced assessment system including common formative and summative assessments district-wide to measure the success of our students as they are assessed on what they know, understand and are able to do related to the content and skills in each subject area.
- Use of data to drive all decisions related to the engagement of student academic progress including, but not limited to, data gathered through electronic walk throughs, common formative and summative assessments, the Iowa Assessments, other classroom based assessments, use of technology in the classroom, data gathered through our technology software, and community and customer surveys.

CHARACTERISTICS OF AN EFFECTIVE SCHOOL:

- A school where all staff create a safe and secure learning climate, positive relationships with students, strong parent-school collaboration, and a collaborative professional learning community focused on student success.
- A school where staff members exhibit best practices in the classroom to reflect a common, consistent, and collective belief that all learners can and will achieve at high levels through a culture of learning.
- A school where there is significant growth in student achievement as measured over a multi-year trend and for cohort groups, to provide evidence of focus and drive to remain a school that is in strong standing as measured by the state and federal governments.
- A school that has a high percentage of average daily attendance, low dropout rate, and strength in the five-year average of enrollment.
- A school with efficient utilization of resources including the time dedicated to the academic achievement of students, as well as effective utilization of the dollars allocated to that building for success.
- A school with a positive perception as measured in the boundary area, as well as the community at large through parent engagement and student safety data.
- All staff members exhibit best practices with integrity, honesty, and follow-through with all stakeholders.