

School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC) Minutes

Thursday, November 14, 2019

5:30 PM

ELSC, Cedar B/C Conference Rooms

Members in attendance: John Rice, Noreen Bush, Sha Hall, Anna Patty, Tonia Smith, Ann Torbert, Doug Wall, Adam Zimmermann, Eric Christenson, Liz Birdsley, Michelle Kruse, and Daryl Spivey

SIAC Purpose

John Rice reiterated the purpose of SIAC for the group to ground SIAC for the meeting.

Strategic Plan

Superintendent Noreen Bush shared context for the CRCSD strategic plan and an overview of the four Focus Areas. SIAC wrote individual reflections on the strategic plan and shared feedback individually, amongst their table, and with the group.

Key feedback:

Positives: the graphical layout; the areas were the right one, although missing some clarity around the definitions and content; liked the High Reliability Schools framework; purpose statements were helpful; appreciated the focus on culture and family engagement

Suggested Improvements Needed: vocabulary was heavy with edu-speak and other jargon; in the Systems and Resources purpose statement, a question around the inclusion of the phrase “financial health”; could add a glossary of terms; need a simpler version; showing the “what” to “what” for grad rate goal; add retention to the workforce goals and discuss how we reward great performance; missing item around a customer-service orientation when you walk into a school; need for clarification with the public on the various graduation rates; should there be a retention policy, given the graduation rate?; remove “four year” from the grad goal; how could we be more proactive in pronouncing our excellent achievement, including Advanced Placement and Kirkwood Community courses; attendance goals for schools?; rewarding students for attendance; add attendance under “culture” focus area

ISASP Results

John Rice reviewed the 2018-2019 ISASP results.

Feedback: format of the test changed significantly; a parent letter needs more details about the change in item type and basic skills on the test and knowing that the test is untimed; manage expectations because of the change in the test and building a new baseline; a ways for parents to be part of the learning team and ways to work with their child’s school to partner in the child’s education; celebrate what’s going right in the building; reinforce with teachers during conferences and let parents know that they can get more information from their child’s schools; not a reflection of the teacher, but that this is a team effort; when the next tests are scheduled (testing window); special letter to third grade students; personal finance class with families?

Items for Next Meeting

Bullying prevention

High school career pathways

School boundaries

Family engagement +++

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM

Submitted by,

John Rice

SIAC Facilitator