



School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC)

September 24, 2019

Grant Wood Elementary School

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE

Tracy Book	Kailey Fluegel	Debbie Miller	Steven Torgerud
Matt Brenot	Gary Goins	Jessica Roisen	Mary Wendel
Monisa Brown	Kerensa Good-Bloyd	Samantha Rottinghaus	Craig White
Tyler Chase	Michelle Hoppenjan	Jodie Stone	
Amber Dopler	Jonathan Ikoba	Amy Swearingen	Curt Pratt (guest)
Josh Fiedler	Richard Lynch	Michelle Tabares	Marty Beck (presenter)
Darlis Fite	Stephanie Maxwell	Tera Taylor	Celeste Miller (coordinator)

WELCOME

Celeste Miller, Director of Communications, welcomed SIAC members followed by the group introducing themselves.

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

Superintendent Raso was out of town and not able to attend and present the Superintendent's Update.

PRESENTATION - All Things Math

Marty Beck, Math Curriculum & Professional Development Teacher Leader

Learn about the district's math curriculum, philosophy and assessments from the K-2 foundation for math to alternative and advanced math opportunities for students.

Prior to the start of the meeting, Beck invited the group to work on a student worksheet of arrays - arrangement of objects in columns and rows to learn multiplication.

During her presentation, Beck talked to the group about the district's goal to help all students be successful in math, have a growth mindset (thinking of math in multiple ways) and not give up. She shared the Iowa Department of Education focus on ensuring students have a strong start in math at the preschool – 2nd grade levels and that all students have access to high quality math instruction. Beck also discussed that math can be perceived differently and how we can all learn from other perspectives in solving math problems. She shared that students need to see mistakes as an opportunity to grow their brain and the importance of challenging themselves. Math is also more social and collaborative in solving problems, even engaging in teaching content standards.

Elementary students started their year with a week of inspirational math focusing on the mindset that everyone can learn math. Kindergarten is focusing on counting collections in different ways, including arrays, to learn math in a deeper more meaningful way: ie., using patterns to help count objects demonstrated in the pre-meeting array worksheet.

Middle School is focused on number routines and meaningful tasks to help math become relevant and meaningful. Beck showed samples of 3-act tasks making math relatable using concrete visual representations

and exploring math abstractly: ie. the number of tiles around a circle and learning circumference, a 3-act video in the presentation.

High school is also using creative methods to teach math concepts. Algebra 1 students work in teams on challenging problems including a murder mystery. They also used NCAA basketball stats to learn about linear regression. Beck showed a video example and how the video related to charting and estimating.

Beck shared how much resources have advanced; she demonstrated the functionality of apps like [Desmos.com](https://www.desmos.com) which is so much more than a calculator and can help students view the relationship of variables and what changes mean to graphs.

[Math is Fun! Family math night](#) is coming up on Tuesday, Oct. 1 at Grant Wood Elementary School 5:30-7 pm. Beck invited the group to come and learn more about the different ways math is being creatively taught to students and how engaging students are finding it.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

- It's nice to learn why students are being taught differently and what they are learning.
- Would like more communication from teachers about math – resources to help students as well as help parents understand and would like to know what is expected of my students.
 - Although math work explained at conferences, parents would like some information and resources earlier.
 - Marty asked about interest in a Parent University class opportunity. There seemed to be more interest in access to online resources and communication from teachers regarding classroom work. One suggestion was access to resources and info related to curriculum being taught being available through parent portal.
- Would like to know what curriculum to expect as students get older.
- Discussion about homework.
 - Math homework not going home with elementary students. Would like students to practice what they know rather than risk engrain bad habits and retraining. Beck explained that games that involve math are a great way to help kids work on their skills.
 - Middle school students have time to work on their math practice during their math block.

RESOURCES

- [Iowa Content Standards - Math](#)

NEXT MEETINGS

Portrait of a Graduate & Future Ready

Jillian Dotson, Director of Curriculum & Haleigh Hoyt, Future Ready Coach

Tuesday, November 12

Bettendorf High School Commons - 3311 18th St.

Student Achievement

Jillian Dotson, Director of Curriculum

Tuesday, January 28

Mark Twain Elementary - 1620 Lincoln Rd.

School Finance 101

Brietta Collier, Director of Finance & Business Services

Tuesday, March 31

Herbert Hoover Elementary School Cafeteria - 3223 S. Hampton Dr.