

**LONG RANGE NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

Long-range needs assessment enables the school district to analyze assessment data, get feedback from the community about its expectations of students and determines how well students are meeting student learning goals. The board shall conduct ongoing and in-depth needs assessment, soliciting information from business, labor, industry, higher education and community members, regarding their expectations for adequate student preparation as responsible citizens and successful wage earners.

In conjunction with the in-depth needs assessment of the school district, the board shall authorize the appointment of a committee, representing administrators, employees, parents, students and community members, to make recommendations and assist the board in determining the priorities of the school district in addition to the basic skills areas of the education program.

The district will conduct a needs assessment every five years to gain feedback from the community. This feedback will be utilized in determining the district's needs, reviewing the student learning goals, and setting the district's short and long range goals.

Community members will be involved in various committees throughout the year. All community members are kept abreast of the district's progress through the district newsletter and by reviewing the district's Annual Progress Report. These reports are made available in the schools and public libraries.

It shall be the responsibility of the Coordinator of School Improvement to ensure the school district community is informed of students' progress on state and locally determined indicators.

As a result of the board and committee's work, the board shall determine major educational needs and rank them in priority order; develop long-range goals and plans to meet the needs; establish and implement short-range and intermediate-range plans to meet the goals and to attain the desired levels of student performance; evaluate progress toward meeting the goals and maintain a record of progress under the plan that includes reports of student performance and results of school improvement projects; and annually report the school district's progress made under the plan to the committee, community and Iowa Department of Education.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Iowa Code §§ 21; 256.7; 280.12, .18 (1997).  
281 I.A.C. 12.3(3) 12.8(1)(b).

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