

# SIAC Meeting Minutes

**School Improvement Advisory Committee  
February 13, 2012  
6:30pm – 8:00pm @ Lincoln Media Center**

## Agenda

- District good news/highlights (6:30-6:40)
  - Building and district reports
  
- Discussion about Truancy/attendance Policy- (6:40-7:40)
  - Small group discussion
  
  - Gather feedback
    - Unapproved planned vacations-wording confusing change to pre-approved planned vacations
    - How does this affect final exams?
    - Educate community on expectations community (should there be communication between school and work)?
    - Liked the loss of drivers license under 18 idea
    - Certain # of tardies = 1 unexcused
    - Personally notify previous chronic attendance students about changes
    - How to communicate this well-explicitly spelled out (citations)
    - 5 unexcused absences vs. 5 -7 unexcused/excused absences
    - Notification stronger as absences increase
    - Negative consequences: law says you can't deduct points for someone who is not in class

- Positive consequences: law says you can have students earn participation points
- Clear and brief guidelines
- Less absences is better
- Differences between elementary through 8<sup>th</sup> grade and high school
- Mediation positive
- Difficult to clarify between excused or unexcused for K-5
- What would maximum number of days absent per year be:
  - 12 days per year
    - in order to participate in extra-curricular activity must be in attendance for the full day
  - 10-15 days per year more for
  - 4-5 unexcused per year K-12
  - 8 K-12
  - 3 unexcused absences, excused absences (only Dr. notes, or funerals) no limit @ elementary level
  - separate and clear definition of excused or unexcused absences.

All of the discussion will be taken into consideration when continuing to develop/update the truancy/attendance policy.

- Social Media Policy update (7:40-7:45)
- Bullying and Harassment update (7:45-7:50)
- Final Questions/Discussion items (7:50-8:00)
- Next meeting focus and date:
  - Iowa Assessment and Iowa NCLB waiver for March