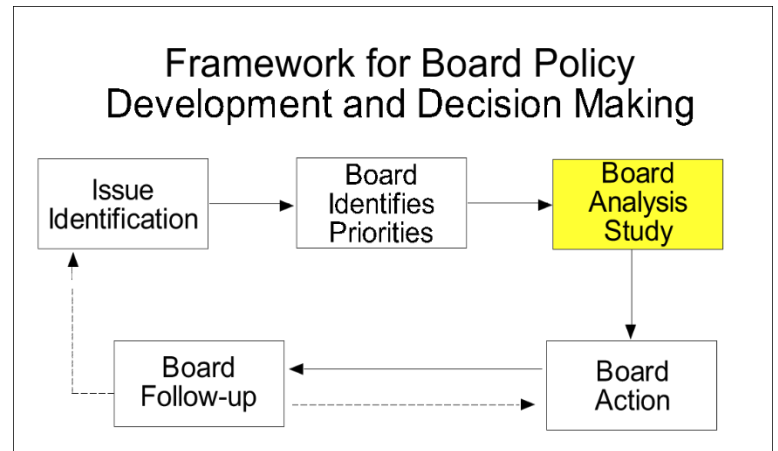


# Iowa State Board of Education

## Executive Summary

January 16, 2019



**Agenda Item:** Diagonal Community School District Compliance Update

**State Board Priorities:** All

**State Board Role/Authority:** Iowa Code 256.11

**Presenter(s):** Amy J. Williamson, Chief  
Bureau of School Improvement

**Attachment(s):** One

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the State Board hear and discuss this information.

**Background:** Diagonal Community School District received an on-site visit late in the 2017-2018 school year to determine compliance with state and federal education law and was subsequently provided with several citations and corrective actions, including several regarding accessibility of the school grounds. This is an update on the district's progress toward making the corrections.

# Diagonal Community School District

Corrective Action Status as of December 31, 2018

As of August 2018, Diagonal Community School District (CSD) had 34 uncorrected noncompliance items, eight of which were repeated citations. As of December 28, 2018, the following seven items remain uncorrected. The counseling items submitted were returned to the district with the suggestion they meet with the area education agency (AEA) school counselor consultant. The consultant is not available until sometime in January 2019. A plan has been submitted for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) corrections, but the actual corrections have not yet been made. Several of the ADA corrections are large items that require significant expenditures.

	Noncompliance Item	Description	Code	Citations	Due Date
1	Counseling Program	Counselor does not serve as a member of the instructional team for each attendance center.	Iowa Code 256.11 281—IAC 12.3(11)(a)	Citation: 1	5/17/19
2	Counseling Program	Program is not regularly reviewed and revised.	Iowa Code 256.11 281—IAC 12.3(11)(b)(1)	Citation: 1	5/17/19
3	Counseling Program	Lack individual student planning.	Iowa Code 256.11 281—IAC 12.3(11)(b)(2)	Citation: 1	5/17/19
4	Counseling Program	Lack of systemic support through management activities that establish, maintain, and enhance the total school counseling program.	Iowa Code 256.11 281—IAC 12.3(11)(b)(4)	Citation: 1	5/17/19
5	Teacher Evaluations	Did not implement evaluation procedures for all teachers.	Iowa Code 270.14 281—IAC 12.3(3)	Citation: 1	Schedule 9/30/18 On-site review 5/17/19
6	Counselor	Counseling services are provided to Diagonal CSD students by a part-time counselor and the high school principal.	Sections V.A and B; 34 C.F.R. §§100.3(a) and (b); 104.37(b), and 106.36.  Iowa Code 256.11	Citation: 1	5/17/19
7	ADA - Accessibility	At Diagonal CSD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Parking</li> <li>● Exterior Route of Travel (3)</li> <li>● Stairs</li> <li>● Entrances</li> <li>● Lobbies and Corridors</li> <li>● Toilet Rooms</li> </ul>	Section IV.N; 34C.F.R. §§104.21-104.23; 28 C.F.R. §§ 35.149-35.151	Citation: 1	11/30/18

In addition to the seven items above, a concern about Diagonal CSD's preschool program has come to the attention of Department of Education (Department) staff since the November 2018 State Board meeting.

It was brought to our attention by Green Hills AEA, the AEA that serves Diagonal CSD, that the district received an accreditation visit for their preschool program in September 2018 and did not meet accreditation standards. The district was using the accreditation standards of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Department staff notified the AEA consultant working with the district that the district may choose to use a different set of approved program standards, such as the Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards (IQPPS) or Head Start standards. The district's accreditation with NAEYC expires in March 2019 and is not in good standing since the September 2018 visit.

The AEA consultant has met with the Diagonal CSD principal and preschool teacher. As of December 27, 2018, the AEA reported reaching out to the district "numerous times" to determine whether the district will reapply to NAEYC or choose to follow different standards. The district cannot continue to operate a Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program without using approved standards, so this must be rectified by the end of March 2019.