



HS YEAR END REPORT

2022-2023

Summary

The 2022-2023 school year was full of growth and new beginnings at Spirit Lake High School. The overall health and safety of our students and staff remained at the forefront and student engagement of our student body was our indicator of success.

We started the year with two new faces on our staff. Mrs. Coy (Level II Special Ed) and Ms. Eekhoff (Counselor) quickly grew into their roles and added enormous value and reliability. The changes made to our Life Skills schedule was a success and our staff developed and delivered unique learning opportunities for all classes. The types of skills our students learned during our Life Skill programming sets them apart from other students who are entering college or the workforce. We've taken the time to equip our students with knowledge and skills in areas that have to do with life after high school!

With new programming like our Life Skills curriculum and Unified PE, we are keeping a close eye on our achievement data as we don't want it to slip. Our key areas of focus are ACT scores, graduation rates, and behavior incidents. Our staff and school board should feel overwhelming joy when focusing on these key data points as we remain strong in all areas. The amount of major behavior incidents administration deals with has decreased significantly over the past four years. We have seen an increase in student mental health issues but irrational behavior isn't an issue in our halls. The addition of another guidance counselor and higher levels of mental health services are obviously helping out students and families. Our ACT scores remain above state averages and our graduation rates have remained high while facing enormous challenges.

As we look forward to 2023-2024, we are ultra focused on improving our Life Skill programming and daily attendance. Our main indicator of success is student engagement and student feedback. These two indicators, along with our teacher input, ultimately led to a shift in our schedule for our upcoming school year. We believe that our students will continue to soak up the information being delivered during our week-long seminars.

Enrollment - Behavior - Attendance

Student Enrollment Data:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Ending Enrollment</u>	<u>Count Day</u>
9th grade	97 students	95 students
10th grade	116 students	108 students
11th grade	107 students	102 students
12th grade	132 students	130 students
Total	452 students	435 students

Behavior Issues:

Each year poses different behavioral challenges and we do our best to grow and learn from them. We don't use suspensions or detentions as a one size fits all solution when students make poor decisions. The conversations we have with students and families go a long way when it comes to building strong relationships after behavior issues. Poor social media relationships and conversations continue to cause issues in our school setting. We had one physical incident this year and two major safety events that occurred on school grounds.

One of them included a look-a-like gun that was stolen and the other event occurred over snapchat and other social media applications.

Attendance:

The majority of our student body don't have attendance issues and that's why SLHS will have attendance percentages in the low to mid 90's. We are constantly chasing the 5% of students who have poor attendance and those rates of 60% drop our averages. The average daily attendance (ADA) percentages for the 2020-2021 school year are listed below.

9th: 90.55%
10th: 91.78%
11th: 89.96%
12th: 90.91%
Total: 90.84%

Our attendance rates are comparable to last years numbers but down from the previous five years. Our administrative team and our teachers will continue to work towards engaging students and having meaningful conversations with them about their learning. We want to make sure our students are leaving SLHS understanding the importance of showing up everyday to learn. We found success in meeting with the students and parents once we witnessed a negative trend with attendance(5, 8, 12) . Mr. Bolluyt did a fantastic job meeting with students and parents and keeping them up to speed with the follow through by the student. We are putting measures in place to guarantee better forms of communication around attendance and we anticipate more engagement and better attendance rates in the future!

GRADUATION DATA

Four Year Cohort Graduation Data:

SLHS cohort ending 2021-2022:	92.20%	State average: 89.9%
SLHS cohort ending 2020-2021:	93.62%	State average: 90.2%
SLHS cohort ending 2019-2020:	96.90%	State average: 91.8%
SLHS cohort ending 2018-2019:	95.50%	State average: 91.6%
SLHS cohort ending 2017-2018:	91.60%	State average: 91.4%

Each year there are multiple factors that can cause this number to rise or fall, including transitional planning and/or placement, alternative students who do not graduate with their graduating class, students who dropout of high school to pursue a high school equivalency (due to outside factors, placement in treatment facilities or they do not make it in public school). Although many end up finishing their education and receive a diploma, if they do not earn a diploma in the “expected” graduation year, it negatively impacts our graduation rate.

Five Year Dropout Data

The numbers below demonstrate the Spirit Lake Community School District dropouts and dropout percentage during the last five years:

12 dropouts in the 2021-2022 school year-	2.12%	State average: 2.12%
4 dropouts in the 2020-2021 school year-	.71%	State average: 1.97%
3 dropouts in the 2019-2020 school year -	.50 %	State average: 1.5%
7 dropouts in the 2018-2019 school year -	1.23%	State average: 1.79%
7 dropouts in the 2017-2018 school year -	1.17%	State average: 2.7%
5 dropouts in the 2016-2017 school year -	1.13%	State average: 2.8%

Yearly, we have a number of interventions in place to help serve the at-risk students including advisor-advisee, structured study hall, peer tutors and alternative programming. When issues arise, we do the best we can at SLHS to hold individual meetings with students and parents to discuss options and try to find the “best fit” model that we are able to provide within Spirit Lake Community Schools. Ultimately, in any given year we have circumstances that negatively impact our dropout rate. We were unable to get our 12 dropouts to buy into the multiple pathways to gain a diploma from Spirit Lake.

Building Goals 22-23

Building Goal:

In order to foster communication and collaboration (among staff) at SLHS, we will intentionally build team teaching opportunities (J-Term, Combo Courses, Life Skills Seminars) and time for teachers to collaborate during the school day (Common Time, Building Leadership Team) and professional development.

Achieved! The HS teachers intentionally found time to build unique opportunities for our students during the 22-23 school year. Our staff created multiple new J-Term courses, new rich Life Skills units, and a blend of combo courses. Our staff took it upon themselves to collaborate outside of normally scheduled planning opportunities.

Teaching and Learning Goal:

Spirit Lake High School, in partnership with the entire community, will focus on teaching students how to become lifelong learners through impactful learning experiences that promote responsibility, communication, initiative, and perseverance.

Achieved! Our staff partnered with the entire community to build new J-Term courses and to improve our Life Skills curriculum.

Achievement Goal:

Spirit Lake High School will increase the percentage of students who graduate in four years to 95% and 97% for students who graduate in five years. If we accomplish this goal, it means we have personalized educational experiences and worked through hardships with our students at SLHS.

Year	4 Year Grad Rate	5 Year Grad Rate
2017-2018	91.6%	92.5%
2018-2019	95.5%	95.5%
2019-2020	96.9%	96.9%
2020-2021	93.62%	97.87%
2021-2022	92.2	

Met: 5 year graduation rate 97.87%>97%

Not met: 4 year graduation rate 92.2%<95%