

**Starmont School Improvement Advisory Committee  
Recommendations to the Board of Education  
April 2017**

Strengths of Starmont Schools

- Starmont facilities are conducive for the use of technology to enhance student learning.
- Safety.
- Academic standards are clear and rigorous.
- Overall there are more positive than negative feedback.
- Responders are proud to be a part of Starmont.
- There is good academic support with adequate resources.
- Communication is strong between teachers and parents.
- Administration listens to parent concerns.

Goal

Improve communication with the community.

Action Plan

- Better utilization of local newspapers. Put at least one positive thing about Starmont in the papers each week – both a short article with student names and a picture from each building each week. Once per month put an article in the Edgewood, Oelwein, Elkader, and Winthrop newspapers. Once per month administrators write a meaty article for the paper. Pay a staff member a stipend to organize this project. Have a class take this on as a project.
- Have a conversation with the local papers about putting our newsletter in the paper.
- Consider what other schools are doing to improve communication especially in terms of the newspapers.
- Consider an electronic sign outside that advertises school events and information.
- Reconvene the Communication/PR Committee