



Grand Haven Area Public Schools

DRAFT-BOARD TEACHING & LEARNING MINUTES

May 12, 2025 12:00 p.m.

Education Service Center, 1415 S Beechtree St., Grand Haven, MI - Boardroom

Attendees: Nichol Stack, President
Carl Treutler, Trustee
Marc Eickholt, Vice President (sub for Cyndi Casemier)

Absent: Cyndi Casemier, Trustee
Kristin Perkowski, Superintendent

Guests: Mary Jane Evink, Executive Director of Instructional Services
Sara VanderZee, Executive Administrative Assistant
Katie Ingram, Lakeshore Middle School Instructional Coach
Elaine Zomberg, White Pines Special Education Teacher
Robyn Decker, OAISD Math Consultant

Audience: 1

Public Comment: None

Call to order at 12:00 p.m.

Instructional Services Update:

Robyn Decker, OAISD Math Consultant, explained a partnership with GHAPS through a professional learning grant. Fifteen PK through 12th grade special education teachers participated in this project focused on teaching math to their contained classroom students. Teacher Elaine Zomberg reported seeing huge academic growth in students, improved behavior, and student engagement while enjoying number corners. Mary Jane Evink noted this might be the first time special education teachers are using modified general education curriculum.

Mary Jane Evink shared results from several perception and climate surveys. The District's Continuous Improvement Teams will review the results and provide feedback which will be used for determining next year's goals.

Mary Jane Evink requested support for the purchase of decodable books to be used for kindergarten through second grade with financial help from outside resources. No general fund dollars will be used. The committee supported this request being brought to the full Board for approval.

Katie Ingram explained vocabulary practice is often low among Lakeshore students, based on assessments, and reported that it isn't included in our current curriculum. CommonLit, a free open source 7th & 8th grade ELA curriculum that includes vocabulary, was used this year in both grades for one unit per quarter. Teachers and students felt it was rigorous and would work well along with our current book club unit. The committee supported this request being brought to the full Board for approval.

Board President's Update

The committee discussed the process of determining the District's Loutit Library Representative. The recommendation to the full Board is to use an application process with the stipulation that the person must live within the District. Staff will be encouraged to apply and the application will be posted internally as well as on Facebook and in the Tribune. The Superintendent will select an applicant to recommend to the Board for approval.

Board listening sessions were discussed with plans to offer varying days and times, allowing Board members to sign up based on their availability. Two members will attend the sessions with focused questions, some background information on the topic, and a chain-of-command sheet related to the topic.

President Stack informed Board members to watch for an email with information from OAISD Board Candidate, Rick Dernberger. President Stack reported that MASB will be contacting Sara regarding details on the Academic Achievement workshop, as discussed at the Board's April Retreat meeting.

Adjourned at 1:16 p.m.