



Grand Haven Area Public Schools

DRAFT-BOARD TEACHING & LEARNING MINUTES

June 9, 2025 - 12:00 p.m.

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

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

Absent: Cyndi Casemier

Also Present: Mary Jane Evink, Kristin Perkowski, Sara VanderZee, Cassady Krumm, Taylor Schriber, Andy Leonard

Audience: 1

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Instructional Services Update:

Andy Leonaord with Imagine Learning presented GHAPS with a District of Distinction Award for Imagine Learning in Twig Science, recognition was given to 21 districts out of 516. GHAPS was complimented for its rare, daily use of the program. Mary Jane Evink informed the committee that teachers feel Twig Science is of high interest and exciting to students, teachers appreciate its ease of use, and access to curriculum online helps with planning.

Benchmark Scores and Goals will be reported at the June 16th Board meeting.

Six applications were reviewed for the GHAPS Loutit Library Board Representative. Mary Jane Evink and Kristin Perkowski recommend Carol Sanchez, a retired business professor from GVSU and a resident of Ferrysburg. She has published over 100 articles and book chapters, used libraries as part of her research and instruction with students, and has experience with committees, projects and fundraising. The committee supported this recommendation while acknowledging the many years of service our current representative has graciously given the District.

Cassady Krumm provided a special education update. Currently, GHAPS services 826 students with IEPs, 262 with 504 Plans, and is the only area high school servicing SXI (Severe Multiple Impairment) with a full classroom of 10 students. Every building supports students with a resource room and access to a full team including an occupational therapist, physical therapist, speech-language pathologist, behavior coach, and psychologist. Mosaic Counseling is a great partner offering support at our high school, and research is being done to potentially include the elementary level. Thanks to a grant, Arbor Circle will be providing a counselor at Lakeshore Middle School starting next school year.

Mary Jane Evink provided the committee with Erica Kelly's update on Early Childhood. Much work has been done on licensing, developing work teams, and changing the library to meet the needs of early childhood with a strong focus

on literacy. Erica has also been working with ODC Network regarding landscaping and a summer training that will conclude with five teachers becoming Nature-Based Certified. Cassidy Krumm acknowledged Erica's proactive work to ensure the playground is accessible for our Early Childhood Special Education students. Mary Jane explained that our Communications Director is working on a video about nature based learning, and GHAPS will be meeting with the neighboring five home owners to provide them with a visual idea of the site plans.

Mary Jane Evink will be requesting two purchases at the June 16 Board meeting: The renewal of Big Ideas, a digital math program for grades 6-8, and Therapeutic Crisis Intervention Training (TCIS) through Cornell University. TCIS was successfully piloted at Mary A. White this year and will be a great help with student behaviors. Cornell University will train twenty (20) of our District's staff, who will then provide training to the rest of our staff including bus drivers, lunch & playground supervisors. The committee supported both purchases being brought to the full Board for approval on June 16th.

Taylor Schriber provided the committee with information on an annual MHSAA Membership Resolution that will be brought to the full Board for approval on June 16th.

Board President's Update:

After the July Board meeting, a schedule will be ready for pairs of trustees to offer listening sessions throughout the community. Popsicles on the Playground at Griffin Elementary and the first home football game were suggested as community event opportunities.

Superintendent's Update:

- We will be doing a 1st Reading of Thrun policies at Monday's Board meeting.
- Central's graduation went very well. Kristin was moved by the number of angel pins students were wearing to honor a lost loved one.
- The Strategic Plan will be presented at Monday's Board meeting.
- Thank you, Nichol and Marc, for joining the weekly Master Plan meetings with GMB.
- A reunification exercise with the Leadership Team will be held on June 19th.

The meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.