

DRAFT Minutes of the Board Teaching & Learning Committee Meeting

January 5, 2026 – 12:00 PM

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Stack at 12:01 p.m.

Members Present: Casemier, Stack, Holt (sub)

Members Absent:

Also Present: Mary Jane Evink, Kristin Perkowski, Sara VanderZee, Sarah Elliott and 1 member of the audience

II. Public Comment

none

III. Instructional Services**A. GHAPS McKinney Vento Program**

Sarah Elliott, GHAPS Student Success Coordinator, shared information about the McKinney Vento Program, a federal law that protects the educational rights of students, preschool through 12th grade, who are experiencing housing instability. Sarah works with families to determine which school district is best when a family is experiencing unstable housing. She also works hard to help prevent families from being evicted and refers them to other organizations when housing or additional needs arise. McKinney Vento is supported with a small federal grant, used to help families with expenses like student fees, winter gear, or gas cards for transportation to school, if needed. The Instructional Services Department works to secure additional funding through grants. Currently, GHAPS has over 200 identified McKinney Vento students which is expected to increase as the year progresses.

B. Dr. Martin Luther King Day Activities

Mary Jane Evink shared plans for lessons and volunteer opportunities in honor of the upcoming Dr. Martin Luther King Day. A food drive will also be held with decorated lunch bags, showing the recipients that people care.

C. ODC Network Unplugged Series

Mary Jane will be emailing staff and students information on the Unplugged Series, offered by the Outdoor Discovery Center.

IV. Board President's Update

President Stack shared that the master plan and future bond timeline will be revisited at Monday's Board meeting, after hearing the Epic MRA results at last month's meeting. Some elements around pay in the Superintendent's contract will be reviewed. She also reminded trustees that it's the Organizational Meeting with the Election of Officers and approval of the regular meeting schedule.

The committee discussed pros and cons of having all Board meetings at the ESC rather than at various buildings. There was consensus to continue with a hybrid plan. It was suggested to include more student/staff involvement at meetings rather than a school improvement.

V. Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Perkowski reported that applications are being received for Trustee Treutler's vacant seat. The application is available on the District's website.

VI. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m.