



Board of Trustees
Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

11:30 a.m.

Lincoln Center and TEAMS

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Trustees: *Others:*

Jenny Murnane Butcher, Trustee
Siobhan Hathhorn, Trustee

Candice Delvaux, Executive Assistant
Taylor Lassiter, Communications Specialist
Jane Shawn, HEA President
Rex Weltz, Superintendent
Dr. Justine Alberts, Assistant
Superintendent PreK-5
Dr. Kaitlyn Hess, Data and Federal
Programs Director
Gary Myers, Director of Educational
Technology
Lona Carter, Student Health Services
& Special Education Director
Jeremy Slead, PEAK Educator
Todd Verrill, Facilities Director
Christina Sieminski, PEAK Educator
Allie Keleti, CTE Specialist/Career
Counselor
Keri Mizell, Human Resources
Director
Several members of the public

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 11:31 a.m. by Trustee Jenny Murnane Butcher.

II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no general public comment.

III. REVIEW OF AGENDA

No changes were requested to the agenda.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The committee reviewed and accepted the minutes from the March 11, 2026, Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting.

V. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

A. Plucker Report on Gifted Education

Dr. Justine Alberts provided an update on the Plucker Report regarding the District's advanced services/gifted education programming. She noted that the external review conducted by Dr. Plucker was submitted in April and includes an overview of program strengths, areas for continued development, and recommendations. Dr. Alberts summarized that the report reflects overall positive findings regarding instructional rigor and program impact, while also identifying areas for further exploration, including service delivery structures, equity considerations, and potential enhancements to identification practices. The Board was informed that the report will be presented in greater detail at a future meeting, along with additional discussion of findings and recommendations. Dr. Alberts addressed questions from the Teaching and Learning Committee regarding the information presented.

B. Career and Technical Education Updates

Dr. Kaitlyn Hess, Data and Federal Programs Director, and Allie Keleti, CTE Specialist and Career Counselor, provided Career and Technical Education Updates. The update included information on ongoing work related to a gap analysis and needs assessment of current CTE offerings, as well as alignment with emerging state-level changes, including future ready funding structures, expanded work-based learning opportunities, and the transition from career pathways to career clusters. Staff highlighted efforts to strengthen alignment between secondary coursework and postsecondary and industry opportunities, including increased collaboration with Helena College and development of prerequisites and dual enrollment options. The Board engaged in discussion regarding program capacity, student interest in career and technical fields, and the importance of expanding pathways for students pursuing options beyond traditional four-year college routes.

VI. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

There were no further board or superintendent comments.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:32 p.m. by Trustee Jenny Murnane Butcher.