

EPLC

Educational Programs Leadership Council - The Grosse Pointe Public School System

Meeting Minutes
Date: February 4, 2026
1:00 pm- 3:00 pm
Barnes PLS

Meeting called to order: 1:03 p.m.

Present: Katy Vernier, Courtney Dykstra, Andrea Doherty, Taylor Barczyk, Andrea Gruenwald, Beth Walsh-Sahutske, Brian Levinson, Ryan Boyd, Sophia Melhem, Jessica Bryan, Alejandro Delgado, Natalie Vassel, Sara Delgado, Holli McNally, Taryn Loughlin, Kevin Shubnell, Michelle Bachert, Emily Rennpage

I. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

II. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approval of Agenda for February 4, 2026
Motion to approve Taryn Loughlin; Seconded Beth Walsh-Sahutske; No discussion; Motion passed
- B. Review of Proposed Minutes from December 3, 2025 [12/3/25 EPLC Minutes](#)
Motion to approve Taylor Barczyk; Seconded Andrea Doherty; Discussion: Same format for next year, delete January meeting going forward. Motion passed

III. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

- A. Cognia Updates and Celebrations
Thank you to all who worked so diligently on this. We learned in mid December that we were approved and have received our accreditation. We are waiting for an official write-up from Cognia to publish about it.
- B. MTSS Updates
 - 1. Winter Data Days We have been to every school except Richard looking at new data and identifying kids that need specific Tier supports. We will be at Richard on 2/5/26.
 - a) [MTSS Flowchart for K-2 Literacy](#)
 - b) [Elementary Fall to Winter MTSS Growth](#)
 - c) Grade Level Fall to Winter [Reading](#) and [Math](#) Growth
 - d) Table Talk and Share Out [Small Group Data Analysis](#)
 - (1) Noticing and Wondering

Noticings:

- Little variation among schools except 1 school (#5)
- Able to ID these kids better than were previously able to

All meetings of the EPLC are open to the public. Persons wishing to address the Council are asked to fill out a visitors form available at the door. At an appropriate time during the meeting, visitors will be invited to participate.

For more information on the Grosse Pointe Educational Programs Leadership Council (EPLC), please contact Dr. Sara Delgado. (313) 432-3042.

- Achievement down between 2nd and 3rd grades due to self-reading?
- Most reading scores show percentile growth, all math shows growth
- Positive movement from Tier 2 to Tier 1
- Kindergarteners are moved to Tiers during Winter semester
- No middle school tiers are listed, need more of that
- Instructional time in middle school for testing is reason we used to not test
- 4th graders generally going up in Tier levels. It's hard to catch a 4th grader up than a 2nd grader

Wonders:

- Why is there variance in who takes the test?
- Does the Math curriculum need to be updated?
- School 5 - Tier 1 dropped and Tier 3 went up
- What is the purpose of the Winter NWEA test? It helps us decide which interventions need to be initiated or discontinued. At the middle school it helps us reset the interventions mid-year for math.
- How are elementary teachers analyzing the data? We're having conversations about the "whole child" and taking other things into account like attendance.
- It will be interesting to look at the Tier changes over time
- Do we look at the spring scores? How are they compared?
- Can we use spring data to start off right away with interventions or do we have to wait until the fall?
- Will data change with the new curriculum?
- Can you have every teacher proctor their own test to help not lose as much instruction time?
- Could winter testing be interrupted due to cold days?
- How do MTSS scores compare year to year?
- Does PSAT data line up with NWEA testing data? NWEA tests are untimed whereas PSAT tests are timed, so it's not a good comparison.

e) Secondary Support Brainstorm

What do Tier 2 supports look at the middle school and high school level? Elementary is more fluid but secondary is more structured. Students don't often want to give up an elective to get support.

- Toolbox of simple things for Tier 2 supports on a list
- Interventions need to be department based and targeted. (Example: Quill for South's English Dept)
- Could elective teachers help with support?
- Increase time, intensity and frequency
- Creating systems at administrative level - a more structured, systems-based approach. Communicating and getting effective buy-in.
- Co-teaching for Tier 3 in general ed classes
- Flex time within school days
- Putting middle schools on trimesters for more room for electives and supports
- Can tutorials be more intentional? South does have math tutorials. Right now tutorials are under-utilized. Tutorial teachers do check the grades of their students.

2. MTSS District Committee
 - a) District Handbook We are currently working on creating it.
 - (1) Mission, vision, goals
 - (2) Communication and Parental Understanding
 - (3) Description of Tiers and available supports
 - (4) Data Collection/Screeners
 - b) [Marysville Example](#)

C. Professional Learning - April 20th

Topics that you would like to learn about?

- Loss of Department time due to snow days - could we make it up?
- Counts as instructional day with State of MI
- Training teachers on QPR suicide prevention
- Elementary teachers want to talk across grade levels
- How to use the Arts and Letters assessments
- Special education and Story Champs
- 504 organization and instruction, creating system
- MDR process with 504s
- Specificity for Special Education so there is no conflict
- Training on special education in terms of accommodations, role of gen ed teacher

D. Galileo Teacher Leadership Academy Updates

Teachers can apply to be a part of this cohort, applications due by 2/13/26.

E. Curriculum Updates

1. Magnet Review Committee
 - a) Referral Process Started
Made some changes to our referral process based on committee suggestions, data will be the first referral point, then teacher input, then parent input.
2. PE/Health/AHE/FCS
 - a) Subcommittees meeting in March
3. Performing Arts/Drama
 - a) First meeting February 9th
4. Math
 - a) Elementary Pilots Team met in January, evaluated IReady, tallied evals for both pilots, and they want Illustrative for next year. Presentation to EPLC will be 3/4/26. Parent math meeting 2/10/26.
 - b) Middle School
 - (1) Platform Discussions Online may be discontinued next year
 - c) High School
 - (1) Continued PD
 - (2) 26-27 Pilots AP Business with Personal Finance, AP Precalc
 - (3) [Pilot Course \(AP Precalc\)](#)
Still involved in curriculum review. Partnering with RESA for piloting resources. Full committee meets next week. Looking at best practices and ready to start looking at materials for the rest of the year to pilot in the fall.

5. Social Studies

a) Feedback on TCI resources

All middle schools currently piloting TCI. Looking to solidify it as our curriculum.

Next meeting - March 4, 2026

- **Elementary Math will present**
- **Middle School Social Studies will present**
- **Strategic Planning Updates**

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 3:06 pm