



District Advisory Committee Report

Meeting Summary – October 8, 2025

1.) Welcome and Introductions

Committee members introduced themselves and shared their connections to the Detroit Lakes School District.

2.) Striving for Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness Report

An overview of the previous year's goals was presented, followed by a review of this year's plan. Members divided into groups to analyze and discuss the five primary goals of the 2024–25 plan. Each group summarized key insights, and attendees provided feedback and questions.

Attendees: Pam Daly Heidi Evans Rhonda Fode Josh Hochgraber Lindsay Jacobus Mark Jenson Renee Kerzman Trisha Mariotti	Cara Myers Sandy Nelson Mike Suckert Mary Rotter Kris Swenson Tom Trowbridge Kym Westholter
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Data sources and validity were discussed, including how statewide assessments and other measures are used to inform planning. Specific topics included:

- **MCA Results and Opt-Outs:** Discussion on participation and interpretation of results.
- **Graduation Data:** Clarified that four-year rates can be misleading due to “continuing students” enrolled in extended programs.
- **Title Programming:** Reviewed Title I and II allocations and how funds are used to provide additional academic support for students.
- **Parent and Family Engagement:** Shared an overview of last year's family engagement activities related to Title programs and some of the fun events that were held such as mat board game night and I Love to Read event. A virtual book study was tried but did not get as much parent involvement as we hoped. Committee members were invited to share additional ideas.

3.) Standards Review Update

The district shared progress on curriculum review cycles. Updates on Math and Reading standards will be provided in February. Members discussed the upcoming Health Standards development at the state level, not at the local level. The information will be forwarded to this committee if there is another opportunity for community feedback.

4.) Strategic Planning Process

Superintendent Jenson outlined the launch of the district's new strategic planning process. This includes staff, student, and community surveys, as well as a task force committee that will guide the development of district priorities and goals. Committee members were invited to participate and share feedback as the process unfolds. The goal is to have a plan to the school board May 2026.

Next Meeting

The next District Advisory Committee meeting will be held in February 2026 (date to be determined).