

**Facility Schools Board  
Minutes of Meeting  
December 11, 2025**

Venue: Virtual

**In attendance:**

Board Members Present: Steven Ramirez, Carolena Steen, Mylynda Herrick, Doug Hainley, Sonjia Hunt, Megan Coggins, Rebecca Carpenter

Staff Present: Judy Stirman, Wendy Dunaway, Robin Singer, Allie Miller, Tara Butler, Ann Symalla, Celina Uliberri, Cheryl Jackson

**Staff Absent:**

Margarita Colindres, Carrie Foster, Annie Haskins, Lori Kochevar

Others Present: Virginia Winter - Consultant to the Board, Jason Langberg - Assistant Attorney General, Jenna Zerylnick - Assistant Attorney General, Barb Taylor, Quixie Smith

**Meeting Commencement:**

Co-Chair Steen called the meeting to order.

**Approval of Minutes for November 13, 2025**

Co-Chair Steen entertains a motion to accept the Board minutes.

Board member Hainley makes a motion to approve the November 13, 2025 minutes, and Board member Coggins seconds. The Board unanimously approves minutes.

**Approval of December 11, 2025 Agenda:**

Co-Chair Steen entertains a motion to accept the agenda.

A motion was made by Board member Coggins seconded by Board member Hunt to approve the December 11, 2025, agenda. The Facility Schools Board unanimously approved the agenda.

**Public Comment** – Members of the public who wish to address the board must sign up 24 hours prior to the meeting.

- ❖ No public comment provided.

**Announce Board Seat Vacancies**

Judy Stirman discussed the FSB seats that will be open June 2026 - County DHS and State placing agency seats and the process for application in January. **Awareness of Preparation**

Judy Stirman led discussion on Facility Schools Board Preparation for State Board of Education (SBE) meeting. Topics mentioned were: Purpose, Organization, Expectations, and Commitment to participate. Dr. Foster will attend the February 12, 2026 Facility Schools Board meeting to discuss and help the Facility Schools Board prepare (who will attend; what will FS Board present) for the SBE meeting. It was suggested that a planning meeting occur during the October 2026 FSB meeting or during Kaleidoscope for the November 2026 SBE meeting.

## **Board Leadership**

Virginia Winter took the Board through the 2026 Board Work Plan (a standardized resource for the Board to use on monthly agenda tasks) and gathered input and approval from the Board on any edits and updates. The suggestion was made to review the Work Plan quarterly. The Board gave consensus to the final Work Plan.

## **Accreditation**

Wendy Dunaway met with Cognia and School Works (as possible options to provide neutral/external onsite review processes). They are meeting again in January and she'll keep the Board updated. She is also working on a timeline on mapping data that will go in the Accreditation Outcome report. She will bring back the Accreditation Rubric to discuss at the January Board meeting. At the December 12 Directors' meeting, she'll request Directors review the Standardized Indicators Rubric. In the spring, a draft of the documents created by IMS will be provided to the FSB. Co-chair Steen suggested the Board prepare an accreditation report for the State Board meeting.

## **Dialogue topics**

- Incident reports and physical managements in specialized day schools (tracking, accountability, and reporting) were discussed. There were updates on the reporting process for incident reports for SDS and legal requirements.
- Update on School Lunch
  - Jenna Zerylnick summarized school lunch program regulations. For-profit entities are not eligible for school lunches. Public or non-profits are eligible.
- January - Compliance Issues - Jason Langberg shared information about "Restraint Seclusion in Approved Facility Schools." He discussed existing laws and practices and gaps in oversight. The Board was asked to review Jason's document and consider next steps at the January, 2026 Board meeting.
- It was suggested that the currently scheduled February 2026 Dialogue item -Medicaid Changes - Day/Tx/Residential, be moved to the January 8, 2026 meeting as it is time sensitive.

## **Board Corner (realignment)**

Board Member Hainley - Dec/Jan - Havern

Board member Coggin - February - Real Life CO/Learning Zone

Board member Herrick - March - Monarch

## **Board's Strategy Goals (Reviewed by stewards Coggins, Hunt, and facilitator Winter)**

The FSB reviewed their current work, including the Dialogue and next steps of their work regarding the Specialized Day Schools and current incident reporting practices. The board agreed that during this meeting they had touched upon all three of their strategic goals, which in brief are:

1. Goal 1 - Responsibility and Leadership
2. Goal 2 - Improve and enhance website

3. Goal 3 - Increase awareness of facility schools and the FSB

**CDE/ESSU/Facility Internal Updates**, Judy Stirman - Margarita, who was unable to share updates, will do so at January 8, 2026 Board meeting. Judy, Wendy, and Robin are preparing FS budgets for the 1/27/26 ESSU budget meeting. There are new Time & Effort, CDE, and HRIS websites.

**Senate Bill Implementation** - Wendy Dunaway - There are seven new potential schools in process that may be ready to open Fall, 2026. Any school requests after this cannot be guaranteed funding. She is checking attendance/enrollment numbers. The Facility Schools Workgroup meets several times next year with a likely final meeting and report in the fall, before sunseting. CDE continues to develop the accreditation report. The '26-27 state budget may impact the number of new facility schools the board can approve.

**Monitoring Update, State Assessments** - Robin Singer and Ann Symalla -Completed monitoring visits at 15 schools - none had compliance issues. The first training about Capstones has been completed. Ann and Allie created a rubric and other tools to share with the field. There will be diplomas ready for the Board to sign at the next meeting. Carrie and Annie are working with Project Ed on development requests.

**Multilingual Support**, Margarita Colindres (Update provided by Annie Haskins) - Looking at students, as it relates to ML identification procedures/services. The lack of a standard process is an issue. Reviewing information gathered for students and updating documents. Considering adding Project ML to Project Education. Looking at next steps after identification of services.

**Data Management and Systems Support**, Celina Ulibarri – December Staff collection is open and due February 6, 2026. Working on and disaggregating the December Student Count data. Finalizing attendance data (due December 15)

**Program Support** - Cheryl Jackson had no updates.

**Board Counsel** - Jason Langberg and Jenna Zerylnick are working on an FAQ related to facility school placements and other common questions.

**Technical Assistance Center** - Allie Miller - Supporting rural school districts and providing trainings. New training for the Capstone culminating projects went very well. She gave kudos to Ann, Allie, and Quixie for their help.

**Academic Systems-Tara Butler**, Supported schools with i-Ready/IXLtrainings. Working on planning for Kaleidoscope 2026. Will get the Facility Schools Newsletter out this week.

**Adjournment of Meeting:** Co-Chair Steen adjourns the meeting.

**Next Meeting Date** – January 8, 2026, VIRTUAL