

K-12 Education Committee

FY2024/25 Term Report & FY2026/27 Work Plan

Committee Chair(s) and Vice Chair(s):

Chair: Shana Crosson,
scrosson@umn.edu

Vice Chair: Open

FY2024/25 GAC Term Report

Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/25: July 2023 - June 2025

GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee was responsible for during the term.

- The K-12 Education Committee is responsible for the Outreach, K-12 GIS Resources Priority.
- *Revised: 2/2026: Adding these priority projects:*
 - *K-12 Curated Geospatial Datasets*
 - *K-12 Minnesota Digital Atlas*
 - *Statewide Educator Dataset*

Accomplishments

This was the initial year of the K-12 Committee. Accomplishments include:

- Initial determination of goals and scope of the committee
- Developed a plan for the year
- Initial conversations with educators and administrators about barriers for GIS integration
- Presented at GIS/LIS Conference in October 2024
- Tabled at GEOFEST in October 2024
- Reviewed existing resources in the state

Recommendations

Recommendations for the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo) to support the Committee's goals.

MnGeo has provided excellent support in our initial year. Ongoing, it may be helpful to have MnGeo facilitate introductions to resources within state government and/or other areas.

Additional Comments

The committee met regularly through December 2024. The chair was out on medical leave from January - May 2025, so work slowed. The committee is picking up the work again.

FY2026/27 GAC Term Work Plan

FY2026/27: July 2025 - June 2027

GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee is to be responsible for during the upcoming term – these may be subject to change based on results of the term's priorities survey.

- The K-12 Education Committee is responsible for the Outreach, K-12 GIS Resources Priority.

Planned Activities and Deliverables

- The committee plans to continue its exploration of available GIS resources for K-12 education
- Determine gaps in available resources
- Additional discussion with teachers and administrators about desired resources
- Develop a plan to create additional resources
- *Revised 2/26:*
 - *The committee has joined with the GIS/LIS K12 Committee to make better use of our time*
 - *The committee will break into subcommittees for Resources, Outreach and Geofest.*
 - *The Resources subcommittee will take responsibility for the additional priorities and determine what is reasonable to accomplish this year.*

Roles and Responsibilities

- Chair: the Chair will call meetings, prepare agenda with input of the committee, submit reports to the GAC
- Vice-Chair: will cover these responsibilities in the absence of the Chair
- Committee members will attend meetings and develop workplans

Existing Resources

- The committee has connected with other resources, including GIS/LIS, U-Spatial and other organizations and individuals working in this area

Committee and Subgroup Needs

- Continue to develop relationships with K-12 to determine needs and interest

Risks

- That no one is interested in participating in this committee
- That there is no demonstrated need for these resources in the community
- Teachers may have technological and organizational challenges that prevent successful use of these resources in classrooms

Date approved by the Geospatial Advisory Council: May 21, 2025