

**GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
July 10, 2023**

The School Board of Grand Forks Public School District No. 1 held its annual meeting on Monday, July 10, 2023, at the Mark Sanford Education Center with President pro tem Dr. Terry Brenner and President Amber Flynn presiding.

Board Members Present: Josh Anderson, Dave Berger, Amber Flynn, Monte Gaukler, Eric Lunn, Jeff Manley, Bill Palmiscno, and Cynthia Shabb. **Absent:** Joel Larson.

Student Board Members Present: Maggie Barker. **Absent:** Ryaan Alshami.

Others Present: Dr. Terry Brenner, Superintendent of Schools; Brandon Baumbach, Business Manager; Catherine Gillach, Associate Superintendent of Secondary Education; Melissa Buchhop, President, Grand Forks Education Association; and Cindy Johnson, Executive Secretary.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was called to order by President pro tem Brenner at 6:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Reading of School Board Meeting Norms. Dr. Brenner read aloud the school board meeting norms.

Approval of Agenda. Dr. Brenner announced items 3 and 4 will be presented in reverse order.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Flynn to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Larson.

Declaration of 2023-2024 School Board. Baumbach declared membership of the Grand Forks Public School District No. 1 School Board as follows:

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
1. Josh Anderson	June 2026
2. Dave Berger	June 2026
3. Amber Flynn	June 2024
4. Monte Gaukler	June 2026
5. Joel Larson	June 2026
6. Eric R. Lunn	June 2024
7. Jeff Manley	June 2024
8. Bill Palmiscno	June 2026
9. Cynthia H. Shabb	June 2024

Appointment of Student Board Members. Dr. Brenner announced Maggie Barker, a senior at Red River High School, and Ryaan Alshami, a senior at Grand Forks Central High School, are interested in reappointment as student school board members for

2023-2024. Both students' parents approve of their reappointment.

Due to Alshami's absence, his reappointment will be considered at a future meeting.

Barker took the Oath of Office and reappointment was approved by unanimous consensus.

Election of President of the School Board. Brenner called for nominations for president of the school board. Gaukler nominated Amber Flynn. After calling for nominations three additional times, no other nominations were made and nominations were closed. Upon voice vote with all members present voting aye, Flynn was declared the president of the 2023-2024 Grand Forks School Board.

The meeting continued with President Flynn as the presiding officer.

Election of Vice President of the School Board. Flynn called for nominations for vice president of the school board. Lunn nominated Dave Berger. After calling for nominations three additional times, no other nominations were made and nominations were closed. Upon voice vote with all members present voting aye, Berger was declared the vice president of the 2023-2024 Grand Forks School Board.

Approval of Minutes. It was moved by Palmiscno and seconded by Gaukler to approve the minutes of June 12, 2023, as written. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Larson.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Manley to approve the minutes of June 26, 2023, as written. Absent: Larson.

Public Comments. None.

Consent Agenda. It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Anderson to approve the consent agenda as amended as follows:

- ◆ Appointments effective August 22, 2023, of Ashlyn Hanson, Behavior Interventionist, salary \$46,977; Lexi Irving, Counselor, salary \$46,977; Jacob Siedschlag, first-grade teacher, salary \$46,977; Ashley Blake, sixth grade ELA, salary \$46,977; Sara Yurosko, fourth-grade teacher, salary \$50,967; Stephanie Britton, special education teacher, salary \$51,765; Lisa Enerson, K-2 social studies and interventionist 50/50; salary \$58,946; and Jennifer Jones, English teacher, salary \$62,082;
 - ◆ Student Travel Request for approximately 20 students from RRHS Fine Arts and advisor/instructor Jeff Seabloom to London, United Kingdom March 9, 2024, to March 26, 2024; and
 - ◆ Resignations effective June 2, 2023, of Amy Luckow, Jessica Grove, and Miranda Suchor.
- Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Larson.

Waivers of Years of Experience and Appointments of Juliet Lopez and Karlynn Von Rueden. Dr. Brenner reported the school board, per the teacher negotiated agreement, may allow more years of experience to be brought into the district with an external applicant for hard-to-fill positions and presented the four requests for waiver of years of experience and appointment as hard-to-fill positions as follows:

1. Juliet Lopez has been offered the position of Special Education Teacher at Schroeder Middle School effective August 22, 2023. Given the aforementioned, the administrative recommendation is to allow twenty-one (21) years of experience to be brought into the district by Juliet Lopez and to approve her teacher appointment. She would be placed at \$76,322 (MA+45, Step 22), and
2. Karlynn Von Rueden has been offered the position of World Languages Teacher at South Middle School effective August 22, 2023. Given the aforementioned, the administrative recommendation is to allow twenty-four (24) years of experience to be brought into the district by Karlynn Von Rueden and to approve her teacher appointment. She would be placed at \$81,428 (MA/MS, Step 25).

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Berger to approve the waivers of years of experience and to approve the teacher appointments for Juliet Lopez and Karlynn Von Rueden as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Larson.

Designation of Official Newspaper of the School District. It was moved by Manley and seconded by Gaukler to designate the *Grand Forks Herald* as the official newspaper of the school district. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Larson.

Designation of Authorized Representatives for Title Programs & Grants, 2023-2024. Dr. Brenner reported that because the assistant superintendent of elementary education's position was not yet filled, he will serve as the interim authorized representative for the federal grants and programs previously managed by that position.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Anderson to approve the authorization of designated individuals as the authorized representatives for federal programs and competitive grants for the 2023-2024 fiscal year as follows:

1. Title I – Disadvantaged Children Meet High Standards - Dr. Terry Brenner (interim)
 2. Title II, Part A – Teacher and Principal Quality Training and Recruiting - Dr. Terry Brenner (interim)
 3. Title III – English Language Acquisition/Enhancement - Dr. Terry Brenner (interim)
 4. Title IV, Part A – Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants - Dr. Terry Brenner (interim)
 5. Title VI-B (IDEA) – Individuals with Disabilities Education Act - Dr. Terry Brenner (interim)
 6. Title VII – Indian Education - Dr. Terry Brenner (interim)
 7. Title VIII – Impact Aid - Dr. Terry Brenner and Brandon Baumbach
 8. Title IX of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission – Griffin Gillespie
 9. Indian Education Formula Grant - Dr. Terry Brenner (interim)
 10. Johnson O'Malley Act (Indian Education) - Dr. Terry Brenner (interim)
 11. Head Start - Dr. Terry Brenner (interim)
 12. 21st Century Community Learning - Dr. Terry Brenner (interim)
 13. District Homeless Liaison - Sara Munson
 14. CLSD Grant - Amy Bartsch
 15. School Food Service - Wendy Mankie
- Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Larson.

School Board Regular Meeting Schedule for 2023-2024. Board members reviewed the proposed school board regular meeting schedule which was prepared based on current practice. The meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. and are held at the Mark Sanford Education Center, 2400 47th Avenue South, Grand Forks, ND unless otherwise noticed. Possible deviations on August 7, 2023, August 21, 2023, October 9, 2023, March 4, 2024, and May 28, 2024, were noted for the board's consideration. Special meetings may be called at any time.

It was moved by Palmiscno and seconded by Manley to approve the school board's regular meeting schedule for 2023-2024 as follows:

- Monday, August 7, 2023
- Monday, August 21, 2023
- Monday, September 11, 2023
- Monday, September 25, 2023
- Monday, October 9, 2023 – begins at 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, October 23, 2023
- Monday, November 13, 2023
- Monday, November 27, 2023
- Monday, December 11, 2023
- Monday, January 8, 2024
- Monday, January 22, 2024
- Monday, February 12, 2024
- Monday, February 26, 2024
- Monday, March 4, 2024
- Monday, March 25, 2024
- Monday, April 8, 2024
- Monday, April 22, 2024
- Monday, May 13, 2024
- Tuesday, May 28, 2024
- Monday, June 10, 2024

Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Larson.

In addition, Dr. Brenner announced a special meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 24, 2024.

In response to inquiries from board members, Dr. Brenner said time will be dedicated to education, learning, outcomes, and goals, and the public form required to be held between January 1 and June 30 of every even-numbered year is tentatively scheduled for March 25, 2024.

Palmiscno suggested the Board consider switching the Finance Committee to a committee of the whole.

Substitute Teacher Pay Rate for 2023-2025. Dr. Brenner reported on the recommendation to increase substitute teacher pay rate with a differentiated pay structure as follows:

- Substitute Teachers with an interim substitute teaching license: \$139.93/day, 56% of BA/BS, Step 1 Daily Rate
- Substitute Teachers with a regular teaching license: \$149.93/day, 60% of BA/BS, Step 1 Daily Rate
- Substitute Teachers who are retired teachers: \$174.92/day, 70% of BA/BS, Step 1 Daily Rate

It was felt this tiered approach will align the base pay more competitively in the market as well as help to recruit, retain, and recognize experienced teachers. Also, by tying the tiers to BA/BS, Step 1 of the teachers' salary schedule, the rates will adjust annually to ensure we maintain competitive substitute teacher pay. The cost to implement this tiered approach is approximately \$290,000 over last year's expenditure. This change amounts to a 9.32% increase in substitute teacher pay.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Shabb to approve the increased pay rate and tiered structure for substitute teachers as outlined. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Larson.

Consideration of Request for Qualification for Design Services Related to Grand Forks Central High School Swimming Pool. Baumbach explained the administrative recommendation to request qualifications for architectural and engineering services to support a potential project to recommission the Grand Forks Central High School pool and all related structural and mechanical repairs or upgrades. He said doing so is not precisely a commitment to repair the pool, rather, it is a commitment to gathering information that will be brought to the board for consideration.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Anderson to approve the Request for Qualifications for architectural and engineering services related to the Grand Forks Central High School swimming pool. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Larson.

Consideration of Request for Qualifications for Design Services Related to District-wide Safety and Security. Baumbach explained the administrative recommendation to request qualifications for architectural and engineering services for safety and security upgrades for all schools in the district.

It was moved by Berger and seconded by Shabb to approve the Request for Qualifications for architectural and engineering services related to safety and security upgrades for all schools in the

district, focusing on secure entrances and perimeter controls. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Larson.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

Consideration of HVAC Filter Services Bids. Baumbach reported the administrative recommendation to initiate a procurement process for HVAC filter services to sites in Grand Forks and at the Grand Forks Air Force Base. He said this is an annual maintenance contract that exceeds \$50,000.

Amber Flynn, President

Brandon Baumbach, Business Manager

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Gaukler to authorize the administration to initiate a procurement process and post the legal notice for HVAC filter services. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Larson.

Third-Party Individual/Entity Request for Student Information – Valley Bus Grand Forks, LLC. It was moved by Palmiscno and seconded by Manley to approve Valley Bus Grand Forks, LLC to receive student information such as the names, addresses, and contact information of district students to whom they provide school bus transportation as requested and as allowed by policy and/or law. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Larson.

Announcements. Dr. Brenner announced the Summer Performing Arts (SPA) productions were underway. *The Little Mermaid* starts this week and *Mamma Mia* next week.

Board Requests for Future Consideration. Requests were made as follows:

- Update on the hiring of international teachers—how it went last year and moving forward.
- Update on how the district is doing in filling its vacancies.
- Direction on the next steps regarding the review of the novels. Lunn clarified board members were asked to complete their readings by the end of June and suggested consideration be moved to August, but that will be up to the new board president.
- Consideration of the current structure of the finance committee.

School Board Norms - How Did We Do? Gaukler said the board did really well in following its norms.

Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.