

**GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 13, 2023**

The School Board of Grand Forks Public School District No. 1 held a regular meeting on Monday, November 13, 2023, at the Mark Sanford Education Center with President Amber Flynn presiding.

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

Student Board Members Present: None. **Absent:** Ryaan Alshami and Maggie Barker.

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 at 6:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Approval of Agenda. It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Palmiscno to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Gaukler and Manley.

Celebrating Success. Principal Dave Nowatzki and a team of teachers, students, and a parent, spoke about Schroeder Middle School's mission, vision, values, recent work in HRS, support for students, and assessment results.

Approval of Minutes. It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Larson to approve the minutes of October 23, 2023, as written. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Gaukler and Manley.

Public Comments. None.

Valley Middle School Update. ICON Architectural Group's Allie Stevens, Project Manager, and Kyle Kvamme, Director of Project Development and Community Engagement, gave an update on the design of the new Valley Middle School. Currently in the construction document stage, a bid date is anticipated in February with construction to begin in the spring and end in the winter of 2025.

Facilities Committee of the Whole Report. Baumbach reported on the October 23, 2023, meeting of the Facilities Committee of the Whole. Discussion topics included concepts related to the recommissioning of the Grand Forks Central High School (GFC) pool, a safety and security update, an update on the Career Impact Academy, and an update on the Public School on Military Installations Grant and prospective new Twining School. Determining the path forward for the GFC pool is likely dependent upon the results of the November 14 public vote on the city referendum related to an aquatics center and turf facility.

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

- Appointments of Beah Lou Oco, Special Education Teacher, salary \$32,823, effective November 27, 2023, and Shaina Hess, School Counselor, salary \$35,465, effective December 11, 2023,
- Waiver of Years of Experience and Appointment of Joel Millares, Special Education Teacher, salary \$42,742.50, effective November 27, 2023,
- Open Enrollment applications as presented,
- Student Travel Request for approximately 20-30 students in the Spanish studies course to travel to Costa Rica in June 2025, and Third-Party Individual Entity Requests for Student Information for EverFi, Little Alchemy 2, www.breakoutedu.com, Wizer.Me, and ReadWorks.

Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Gaukler and Manley.

Superintendent’s November Evaluation. Anderson reported on the November 7, 2023, meeting of the Superintendent Evaluation Committee and its recommendation to find the superintendent’s performance to be satisfactory in all areas.

Dr. Brenner provided comments and reflections related to the draft evaluation.

Following additional comments, it was moved by Lunn and seconded by Shabb to approve the draft evaluation and find the superintendent’s performance to be satisfactory in all areas. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Gaukler and Manley.

Consideration of Certificate Regarding Negotiations for Community-Based Use Agreement. Baumbach reported that since the inception of the Memorial Village Project II, which includes an NCAA regulation-sized softball field and complex as an addition to the Fritz Pollard Jr. Athletic Center, the District administration has been in contact with the University of North Dakota, the City of Grand Forks, and the Grand Forks Park District to develop a use plan upon its completion. Per the development agreement, community partners must certify that negotiations regarding community use of the facility have begun and intend to continue. District leadership can confirm the beginning of and intention to continue negotiations. This agreement has been reviewed by District legal counsel and does not bind GFPS to reach an agreement for use. Rather, it certifies GFPS’ intent to continue negotiations.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Palmiscno to approve the Certificate Regarding Negotiations for Community-Based Use Agreement as recommended. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Gaukler and Manley.

Announcements. Dr. Brenner announced the following:

- Representative Kelly Armstrong nominated Alshami to attend the Naval Academy.
- A public vote will be held on November 14 at the Alerus Center related to an aquatics center and turf facility.

Flynn recognized Grand Forks Central’s football team placed second place at the state tournament and commented on the performance of the swimming and diving team.

Board Requests for Future Consideration. None.

School Board Norms – How did we do? Lunn reported the board did great in following its meeting norms.

Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

Amber Flynn, President

Brandon Baumbach, Business Manager