

GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 4, 2024

The School Board of Grand Forks Public School District No. 1 met in regular session on Monday, March 4, 2024, at the Mark Sanford Education Center with President Amber Flynn presiding.

Board Members Present: Josh Anderson, Dave Berger, Amber Flynn, Monte Gaukler, Joel Larson, Eric Lunn, Jeff Manley, Bill Palmiscno, and Cynthia Shabb. **Absent:** None.

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; Matt Bakke, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education; Melissa Buchhop, President, Grand Forks Education Association; Arielle Neumann, GFAFB School Board Liaison; 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. President Flynn read aloud the school board norms.

Approval of Agenda. The agenda was amended to allow 20 minutes of public comments during the Public Comments topic and to add additional public comments if needed after the agenda topic 7. E.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Larson to approve the agenda as amended. Upon roll call vote as follows, the motion carried. Aye: Anderson, Berger, Gaukler, Larson, Lunn, Manley, Palmiscno, and Flynn. Nay: Shabb. Absent: None.

Celebrating Success – South Middle School. Travis Neil, South Middle Principal, introduced this discussion. Accompanied by several staff members, they gave a presentation about the school’s mission “Every Learner, Every Day”, academic achievement, interventions, the ML program, and clubs and activities.

Approval of Minutes. It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Gaukler to approve the minutes of February 20, 2024, as written. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Palmiscno and seconded by Manley to approve the minutes of February 26, 2024, as written. Upon voice vote, the motion carried

unanimously.

Public Comments. Public comments were received by the board. Listed below are the names of all individuals who spoke and the topic of their remarks:

1. Betty Benson – SAIL program district cuts.
2. Kailey Meadows, SAIL program.
3. David LaValley – SAIL program.
4. Montgomery Brown – SAIL program.
5. Jason Johnson – SAIL program.
6. Nya Rout – SAIL program.
7. Jenn Kolodka – music education.
8. Henry Haug – the importance of music.
9. Eli Zerr – Music in Our Schools month.

Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended June 30, 2023. Baumbach and Brian Opsahl of Brady, Martz & Associates, P.C. reviewed the audited financial statements for Grand Forks Air Force Base Public School District No. 140 and Grand Forks Public School District No. 1 for the year ending June 30, 2023. Both districts were issued an Unmodified Audit Opinion, which is a clean audit. The Single Audit Reports for District #140 Impact Aid and District #1 Head Start and ESSER were each given an unmodified, clean opinion. The Finance Committee unanimously recommended approval.

It was moved by Palmiscno and seconded by Anderson to approve the audited financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2023, for Grand Forks Public School District #1 and Grand Forks Air Force Base Public School District #140. Upon roll call vote

as follows, the motion carried. Aye: Larson, Manley, Gaukler, Anderson, Berger, Shabb, Palmiscno, Lunn, and Flynn. Nay: None. Absent: None.

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

- ◆ Resignations of Austin Salyer, dean of students, and Olivia Strid, 3rd-grade teacher, effective May 31, 2024.

Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation to Approve Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order for Discharge to be served on Nneka Nwaokefor, and Board Action. It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Gaukler to approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order for Discharge to be served on Nneka Nwaokefor. Upon roll call vote as follows, the motion carried. Aye: Palmiscno, Larson, Berger, Manley, Lunn, Shabb, Anderson, Gaukler, and Flynn. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Superintendent Evaluation Committee Report.

- **Superintendent's March Evaluation.** Anderson reported on the November 7, 2023, meeting of the Superintendent Evaluation Committee at which the committee reviewed input that was provided by eight of nine Grand Forks School Board members and four of four Grand Forks Air Force Base School Board members regarding the following areas of performance: Leadership, Administration, Curriculum and Instruction, Human Resources, and Communication; and the following areas following Strategic Plan areas: Academics – High-Reliability Schools Framework, Comprehensive School District mental Health System, Resource Management and Long-term Planning, Human Resources. The committee unanimously recommended the board find the superintendent's performance to be satisfactory.

It was moved by Manley and seconded by Berger that upon review of Board member input and an overall weighted average ranging from 3.5 to 3.75 out of 4.0 in all domains, the Superintendent Evaluation Committee and Grand Forks School Board find the superintendent's performance to be satisfactory. Upon roll call vote as follows, the motion carried. Aye: Palmiscno, Shabb, Larson, Lunn, Gaukler, Berger, Anderson, Manley, and Flynn. Nay: None. Absent: None.

- **Superintendent's Contract Extension.** Anderson

reported on the committee's unanimous recommendation to extend the superintendents' three-year rolling contract to June 30, 2027, and to meet later to discuss salary and benefits.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Manley to extend the superintendent's three-year contract to begin July 1, 2024, and end June 30, 2027, with salary and benefits to be negotiated later. Upon roll call vote as follows, the motion carried. Aye: Berger, Palmiscno, Shabb, Manley, Larson, Anderson, Lunn, and Flynn. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Consideration of Temporary Construction Easement related to North Dakota Department of Transportation Signal Rehab Project Adjacent to Career Impact Academy. Baumbach reported a permanent right of way (fee acquisition) and a temporary construction easement is needed for the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) to complete some signal rehabilitation along Gateway Drive (US 2), North Dakota. The anticipated start date is May 2025. For this temporary access, they are offering \$300 as a flat payment that was determined to be a fair payment to compensate for the time the landowner is using to go over the paperwork and to sign.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Larson to approve the execution of the Memorandum of Offer to Landowner, Memorandum Agreement, Temporary Construction Easement for Parcel 7-1, Notification and Appraisal Waiver, and Agreement for Entry and Construction (no compensation). Upon roll call vote as follows, the motion carried. Aye: Gaukler, Manley, Palmiscno, Anderson, Lunn, Berger, Larson, Shabb, and Flynn. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Announcements. Berger announced his gratitude that music month was highlighted during public comments and congratulated Alshami on his 2nd place win at state and Barker and the girls' basketball team advancing to state.

Board Requests for Future Consideration. None.

School Board Norms – How Did We Do? It was reported the board did okay in following its meeting norms.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

Amber Flynn, President

Brandon Baumbach, Business Manager