

GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 26, 2024

The School Board of Grand Forks Public School District No. 1 held a regular meeting on Monday, August 26, 2024, at the Mark Sanford Education Center with President Dave Berger presiding.

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

Student Board Members Present: Adrianna Tande. **Absent:** None.

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; Brady Olson, President of 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.

Appointment of Student Board Member and Oath of Office. This topic was deferred.

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

Approval of Agenda. It was moved by Larson and seconded by Flynn to approve the agenda as written. Upon roll call vote as follows, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Palmiscno, Anderson, Lunn, Flynn, Larson, Manley, Kleven, and Berger. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Public Comments. None.

Update on Consolidated Grant Application for 2024-2025 Federal Title Funding. Bakke reported the final details of federal Title funding. Titles I and II decreased, Title III increased, and Title IV stated an overall funding decrease of \$101,000.

NDSBA Opportunities for Board Member Development. Dr. Brenner informed board members of upcoming opportunities for board member development sponsored by the North Dakota School Boards Association (NDSBA), including the New Member Seminar, which GFAFB policy requires each newly elected school board member to attend within one year of assuming office, School Law Seminar, and Annual Convention. The events will be held in

Bismarck on October 24-25, 2024. Board members were asked to notify Cindy Johnson of their attendance plans.

High School Attendance Intervention Plan. Grand Forks Central High School Principal Jon Strandell and Red River High School Principal Dr. Kris Arason reported details of and reasons for their High School Attendance Intervention Plan, which will be implemented to improve overall attendance this school year. District leadership supports the plan, which is operational and does not require board action.

Leadership Coach Update. Berger reported that the superintendent and principals have been meeting, and Board leadership's work regarding the hiring of a leadership coach is near completion. They plan to present a final recommendation to one of the Board's September meetings.

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

- ◆ Appointments effective August 19, 2024, of Joanne Abel, 6th Grade ELA Teacher, salary of \$50,274; Lana Beaton, Autism Teacher, salary of \$51,414; Heidi Nordin, Social Worker, salary of \$54,265; and Mayra Dantas, ML Teacher, salary of \$52,669;
- ◆ Appointment effective September 3, 2024, of Angela Beardemphl, Career Advisor, salary of \$50,623.01 (178 days);
- ◆ Waiver of Years of Experience and Appointment

to allow twenty-five (25) years of experience to be brought into the district by Susan LaPlante and to approve her teacher appointment effective August 27, 2024, salary of \$78,215.47 (BA+30, Step 25, 182 Days);

- ◆ Open Enrollment Application as presented;
- ◆ Student Travel Request for up to 21 students to travel to Germany and France from July 17, 2025, to July 12, 2025;
- ◆ August 12, 2024, regular and special meetings minutes as written; and
- ◆ Student Transportation Bus Drivers as listed; and
- ◆ Playground IEP to receive student information as required for their use in the district and as allowed by policy and law.

Upon roll call vote as follows, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Larson, Manley, Kleven, Anderson, Flynn, Palmiscno, Lunn, and Berger. Nay: None. Absent: None.

General Fund Financial Statement. Baumbach reported that from July 1, 2024, through July 31, 2024, total general fund revenues were \$163,182, and total general fund expenditures were \$2,844,393, resulting in expenses over revenues of \$2,681,211.

It was moved by Manley and seconded by Anderson to approve the General Fund Financial Statement for July 1, 2024, through July 31, 2024. Upon roll call vote as follows, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Lunn, Flynn, Palmiscno, Larson, Kleven, Anderson, Manley, and Berger. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Appointment of Board Member for Mid-Term Vacancy. Baumbach reported a vacancy exists on the school board due to the mid-term resignation of Board Member Monte Gaukler. The opening was advertised for two weeks, beginning Monday, August 5, 2024, and ending with applications due by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, August 19, 2024. Four applications were received and listed in the order of the results of a double-blind drawing: Cameron Murphy, Jacqueline Hassett, Sherryl A. Houdek, and Joel Schleicher. All applicants were invited to attend tonight's meeting.

Upon invitation from Berger, each applicant made a statement to the board concerning their candidacy.

Baumbach then led the Board through the appointment process to fill the vacancy outlined in Policy BBC.

The voting tally to narrow the field to two finalists was:

- Cameron Murphy – no votes.
- Jacqueline Hassett – three votes.
- Sherryl A. Houdek – six votes.
- Joel Schleicher – seven votes.

The voting tally to select the appointee was:

- Sherryl A. Houdek – seven votes.
- Joel Schleicher – one vote.

Sherryl A. Houdek was declared the appointee to fill the mid-term vacancy until a successor is elected and qualified at the next annual election, which will take place in June 2026.

Policy Review. Following action taken at the August 12, 2024, school board meeting, and with no additional amendments since their first reading, Flynn reported on the resulting recommendations.

It was moved by Flynn and seconded by Lunn to complete the second reading and adoption of the following policies as amended:

- ◆ ABBB, Community Use of District Property,
- ◆ ABDA, Website Accessibility Policy (renamed to Website Accessibility for People with Disabilities),
- ◆ DGHA, Lactation/Breastfeeding,
- ◆ FDE, Education of Special Education/Disabled Students (renamed to Education of Special Education Students/Students with Disabilities),
- ◆ GABAA, English Learners (renamed to Services for English Learners), and
- ◆ GABDB, Title Programs Dispute Resolution Procedure (renamed to Federal Title Programs Dispute Resolution Procedure).

Upon roll call vote as follows, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Manley, Lunn, Larson, Palmiscno, Kleven, Flynn, Anderson, and Berger. Nay: None. Absent: None.

It was moved by Flynn and seconded by Kleven to complete one reading and adoption of ABDA-BR1, Website Accessibility (renamed to Website Accessibility Complaints) as amended. Upon roll call vote as follows, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Anderson, Flynn, Kleven, Larson, Lunn, Manley, Palmiscno, and Berger. Nay: None. Absent: None.

It was moved by Flynn and seconded by Palmiscno to rescind ABDA-BR2, Website Accessibility Concerns, Complaints, and Grievances. Upon roll call vote as follows, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Flynn,

Kleven, Anderson, Palmiscno, Lunn, Manley, Larson, and Berger. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Consideration of Renewal of Shared Parks and Facilities Use Agreement for July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2026. Baumbach reported most changes made to the agreement were fee increases. More significant changes made in other areas of the document included additions in items 6d and 6e. Section 6d was added as the rental amount increased due to investments made in the turf at the Oxford Sports Complex, which includes Kraft and Montgomery Fields. With this, the agreement removed any shared utility expense for these fields and has added an ‘Anticipated Capital Improvement’ section that sets expectations for facility maintenance and turf replacement. Similarly, Section 6e was added to call out the increased rental amounts associated with Paukert, Register, University Park, and Wynne Tennis Complexes. The courts also have an added expectation of maintenance and court resurfacing into the agreement. The agreement increases the expense from \$131,700 in FY24 to \$161,800 in FY25 (22.85% increase) and to \$169,000 in FY26.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

Dave Berger, President

Brandon Baumbach, Business Manager

It was moved by Palmiscno and seconded by Kleven to renew the Shared Parks and Facilities Use Agreement with the Grand Forks Park District for the period from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, with the knowledge of automatic renewal from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, unless otherwise terminated by the parties. Upon roll call vote as follows, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Kleven, Manley, Anderson, Flynn, Larson, Lunn, Palmiscno, and Berger. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Announcements. School starts for grades K-9 tomorrow and for grades 10-12 on Wednesday.

School open houses have been cheerful.

Board Requests for Future Consideration. Kleven requested an end-of-first-semester follow-up report on the high school attendance intervention plan.

Berger requested an update on the virtual school and a sequence of Building Fund updates.

School Board Norms—How Did We Do? Manley reported that the school board did very well following its meeting norms.