

GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
FINANCE COMMITTEE
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
MEETING MINUTES
August 5, 2024

The Grand Forks School Board Finance Committee met on Monday, August 5, 2024, at the Mark Sanford Education Center with Bill Palmiscno serving as the meeting chairperson.

Committee Members Present: Josh Anderson, Joel Larson, Eric Lunn, Bill Palmiscno, Dr. Terry Brenner, Brandon Baumbach, Catherine Gillach, and Matt Bakke.

Committee Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Cindy Johnson, Executive Secretary.

Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m.

Consideration of June 11, 2024, Meeting Minutes. It was moved by Anderson and seconded by Lunn to approve the minutes of June 11, 2024, as written. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Phase 2 Culinary Bid, Café Equipment. Shawn Senescall, JLG Architects, reported on the recommendation to approve an alternate bid for Café equipment in the amount of \$57,814 for the Career Impact Academy. The culinary lab is the formal education space. The café equipment is meant to supplement the culinary lab and has support from many industry partners. With the Academy's project base bid significantly under budget, the budget will handle the cost of the café equipment.

Eric Ripley, Executive Director of Career and Technical Education, phoned in and discussed the importance of the café as part of culinary education.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Larson to accept the proposal for café equipment for \$57,814 as outlined and forward it to the school board with a recommendation for approval. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of EAPC Design Fees for Safety and Security Enhancement Project. Casey Hutton, EAPC Architects Engineers, reported on progress to date to scope the design contract. The scope to date includes Tier 1 projects which includes Red River High School, Winship Elementary School, Schroeder Middle School,

Wilder Elementary School, Lake Agassiz Elementary School, and Head Start. Design to replace two of the four relocatables at Wilder is included. The projects are slated to begin next summer.

It was moved by Anderson and seconded by Lunn to accept the amendment to the EAPC design contract and forward it to the school board with a recommendation for approval. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

DaLee Wilkinson, Safety and Security Manager, reported key/fob updates are completed at all buildings, except for ENCORE.

Consideration of Increased Building Fund Contribution to Ben Franklin HVAC Project. Baumbach gave a detailed presentation about the relationship between the general fund and the building fund that included a discussion about the Board's goal to keep a balance of 15% in the general fund by the end of FY26, keep the building fund healthy while addressing deferred maintenance needs, and establish parameters for the building fund similar to the guiding change document for the general fund. The presentation and discussion led to a recommendation to increase the building fund contribution to the Ben Franklin HVAC project to just over \$4M. Doing so would free up the previously allocated ESSER dollars for the project which could be used to address expenses in the general fund and ultimately allow the district to remain on track to reach a 15% general fund balance by the end of FY26.

Three topics the committee recommended further

study on were whether the auditors had a recommended balance for the building fund, what it would take to eliminate all relocatables, and what it would take to replace Schroeder Middle School.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Larson to approve the recommendation to increase the building fund contribution to the Ben Franklin HVAC project and forward it to the school board with a recommendation for approval. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting Date. The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, September 30, 2024, beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

Bill Palmiscno, Meeting Chair

Brandon Baumbach, Business Manager