

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD  
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1  
MEETING MINUTES  
June 2, 2025

The Grand Forks School Board Finance Committee met on Monday, June 2, 2025, at the Mark Sanford Education Center, with Bill Palmiscno as the meeting chairperson.

**Committee Members Present:** Board Members Josh Anderson, Joel Larson, Eric Lunn, Bill Palmiscno, Business Manager Brandon Baumbach, Associate Superintendent Dr. Catherine Gillach, and Assistant Superintendent Matt Bakke.

**Committee Members Absent:** Superintendent Dr. Terry Brenner and GFAFB Board Member Branden Shepperd.

**Others Present:** Buildings and Grounds Director Jonathan Ellwein, Executive Director of Career and Technical Education Eric Ripley, and Cindy Johnson, Executive Secretary.

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**Call to Order.**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Consideration of Meeting Minutes.**

It was moved by Larson and seconded by Anderson to approve the May 5, 2025, minutes, as written. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

*The order of agenda topics 3 and 5 was reversed.*

**Career Impact Academy Student Transportation.**

Baumbach and Ripley discussed financial options, logistical difficulties, and other considerations, such as contracting with Valley Bus or purchasing a bus to transport Grand Forks students to the Career Impact Academy. Ripley reported it was common practice for other school districts to provide transportation for their students, and it was possible that sign-ups for the first course block may have to be limited based on the availability of transportation. Committee members agreed that the district was obligated to provide transportation.

Ripley left the meeting at 5:33 p.m.

**Consideration of Mental/Behavioral Health Director.**

Dr. Gillach explained this positional change request, which would elevate the mental health coordinator to a director position. The new position title is Behavioral Health and Wellness Director. Job duties would include district-wide mental health, a shift to a broader scope of behavioral health, and work with special education. Dr. Gillach reported that Dr. Brenner has endorsed the position.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Larson to recommend to the school board to elevate the position to a director-level position. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Recommended Building Fund Ending Balance for FY26.**

Baumbach reported that this topic was the same as presented to the Facilities Committee of the Whole on May 27. Ellwein reported on the facility assessment tool designed to objectively evaluate the condition and needs of district facilities, thus leading to a recommended ending balance for the building fund to ensure the sustainability of facilities and reduce reliance on the general fund for unexpected repairs.

It was moved by Anderson and seconded by Lunn to recommend to the school board a Building Fund ending balance goal of \$1.62 million for FY26. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**Next Meeting Date.**

The next meeting date is to be determined.

**Adjournment.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

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Bill Palmiscno, Meeting Chairperson

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Brandon Baumbach, Business Manager