

1 **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**
2 **OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
3 **HELD JUNE 23, 2025**
4

5 A duly called Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Great Falls Public
6 Schools was held at the District Offices Building, 1100 4th Street South, on the 23rd day
7 of June 2025.

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9 Chairperson Johnson reported that, per Board Policy 1420, all Board meetings are
10 recorded and posted on the District website for one (1) year.

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12 **ROLL CALL:** Brian Patrick took roll call.

13
14 **Trustees Present:** Gordon Johnson - Chairperson
15 Kim Skornogoski – Vice-Chairperson
16 Bill Bronson
17 Craig Duff
18 Marlee Sunchild
19 Amie Thompson
20 Paige Turoski

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22 **Others Present:** Heather Hoyer, Superintendent; Brian Patrick, Director of Business
23 Operations; and Lance Boyd, Executive Director of Student Achievement. Also present
24 was Tom Cabbage, Great Falls Education Association President.

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26 At 5:30 pm, Chairperson Johnson called to order the Regular Meeting of the Board of
27 Trustees and asked everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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30 **ADOPT AGENDA**

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32 Motion – Paige Turoski, Seconded – Kim Skornogoski, passed unanimously to adopt
33 the agenda as presented.

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36 **APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**

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38 Motion – Kim Skornogoski, Seconded – Bill Bronson, passed unanimously to approve
39 the Consent Agenda as presented.

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41 **A. Minutes of the June 9, 2025, Regular Board Meeting** – The Board approved the
42 minutes of the June 9, 2025, Regular Board Meeting as presented.

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44 **B. Minutes of the June 18, 2025 Special Board Meeting – Open Session** – The
45 Board approved the minutes of the June 18, 2025, open session of the Special Board
46 Meeting as presented.

1 **C. Minutes of the June 18, 2025, Special Board Meeting – Closed Session** – The
2 Board approved the minutes of the June 18, 2025, closed session of the Special Board
3 Meeting as presented.

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5 **D. Personnel Actions** – The Board approved the Personnel Actions as presented.

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7 **E. Incoming Student Attendance Agreements for the 2025-2026 School Year** – The
8 Board approved the incoming student attendance agreements for the 2025-2026 school
9 year the students listed in the agenda. Tuition will be paid for by the District of
10 Residence.

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12 **F. Student Activity Monthly Report for May 2025** – The Board approved the Student
13 Activity Accounts for May 2025.

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16 **COMMUNICATION**

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18 **A. Superintendent Report** –

19 Superintendent Hoyer provided an update on the twenty-one (21) current job openings
20 in the District. She stated that the District is waiting to hear from two applicants which
21 would bring open positions down to nineteen (19). Superintendent Hoyer also reported
22 that Brian Patrick has agreed to extend his retirement date as the Director of Business
23 Operations until someone is hired for the position. He has also agreed to mentor the
24 new employee as needed.

25 Throughout the year the Board has received updates about the peer mentoring group,
26 advised by Marla Hauser and Andrea Savage. Superintendent Hoyer is pleased to
27 announce that the group has a new name and logo. The group will now be known as
28 *LIFT*, which stands for Listen, Inspire, Foster, and Trust.

29 Congratulations to Caimbrie Brost, a C.M. Russell High School (CMR) Health
30 Occupations Students of America (HOSA) student, on placing 1st internationally in
31 Sports Medicine. This is the first time a Great Falls Public Schools HOSA student has
32 medaled on a global stage.

33 Superintendent Hoyer welcomed new staff members to Great Falls Public Schools and
34 stated that the most popular posts on the District Facebook website are about students
35 and teachers. She highlighted three (3) new teachers that will start in August.

36 She reviewed the Summer Learning opportunities that are currently taking place within
37 the District including, but not limited to, summer jumpstart, culture camp and driver's
38 education.

39 Superintendent Hoyer stated that the Annual Book Giveaway took place June 18-19,
40 2025, at Paris Gibson Education Center and was a huge success. A big thank you was
41 given to Administrative Assistant Dennis Martin for organizing the event.

42 Superintendent Hoyer stated that summer is the starting point for major maintenance
43 and improvement projects throughout the District. She highlighted Lewis and Clark
44 Elementary Schools' inclusive regional playground project and will continue to update
45 the Board on other work being done as a result of feedback from *Armed Intruder*
46 *Training* that was required of District staff this year.

47 Superintendent Hoyer presented data on six (6) years of major behavioral incidents.
48 "Major behavioral Incidents" include - aggravated assault, attendance, disorderly

1 conduct, fighting, insubordination, and school treats. In reviewing the data, the District
2 has seen a 13.36% reduction in major incidents. Superintendent Hoyer reported that
3 Longfellow Elementary School reduced their total behavioral incidents by 72%.

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5 **B. Audience Communication – None**

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8 **ACTION ITEMS**

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10 **A. Financial Report and Check Register for May 2025** - Director of Business
11 Operations, Brian Patrick, presented the financial report and check register for May
12 2025.

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14 Motion – Paige Turoski, Seconded – Kim Skornogoski, passed unanimously to approve
15 the May 2025 Financial Report and Accounts Payable checks #139212 - #139742 in the
16 amount of \$2,316,020.49 and Payroll checks #83937 - #84133 in the amount of
17 \$338,451.92 as presented.

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19 **B. Acceptance of Donor-Funded Building Enhancement Projects Through the**
20 **Great Falls Public Schools Foundation** – Great Falls Public Schools Foundation’s
21 Building Enhancement Chair, Jamie Marshall, reported that the foundation received
22 estate funds from Nancy A. Cameron for elementary media centers in the District.
23 Library renovations have been completed at West and Lewis and Clark Elementary
24 Schools as a result of this estate gift. The total funding that was allocated to these
25 projects was \$200,000. She stated that the final cost for these projects is \$108,187.01
26 at West Elementary School and \$92,079.82 at Lewis and Clark Elementary School.
27 Special thanks were given to Building and Grounds Assistant Supervisor, Jack Norris,
28 and Executive Directors, Jackie Mainwaring and Lance Boyd, for overseeing these
29 projects to completion.

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31 Motion – Paige Turoski, Seconded – Bill Bronson, passed unanimously to accept the
32 funding of these improvements to District properties with thanks to the donors.

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35 **ACTION: OTHER**

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37 There were no items extracted from the Consent Agenda to discuss.

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40 **REPORTS, DISCUSSION, AND POLICIES**

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42 **A. Discussion, Committee Reports, and Comments –**

43 Trustee Turoski stated that she respects the peer mentor group, what they stand for,
44 and what they do. She thanked Superintendent Hoyer for the staffing update and
45 wished everyone a happy summer.

46 Trustee Sunchild congratulated Longfellow Elementary School on their reduction of
47 behavioral issues and stated that she is excited to see the completion of the inclusive
48 regional playground at Lewis and Clark Elementary School.

1 Trustee Duff expressed his apologies for missing the last Board meeting but is looking
2 forward to learning the duties and responsibilities of a Great Falls Public Schools
3 Trustee.
4 Trustees Bronson, Thompson and Skornogoski thanked Mr. Patrick for postponing his
5 retirement date until his position is filled and agreeing to mentor the new employee as
6 needed.
7 Trustee Thompson stated that she is impressed with the new *LIFT* logo and recognized
8 Trustee Skornogoski's input on the design.
9 Trustee Skornogoski thanked Superintendent Hoyer for the major incidents data
10 presented during her report. She also thanked Jamie Marshall and the GFPS
11 Foundation for their continued support along with private sectors and donors supporting
12 our schools.
13 Chairperson Johnson thanked fellow Trustees, the community and administration for
14 their work and dedication to the District.

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17 **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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19 Chairperson Johnson said the next Regular Board Meetings are scheduled for Monday,
20 July 21, 2025, and Monday, August 11, 2025.

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23 **ACTION TO ADJOURN**

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25 Chairperson Johnson adjourned the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 5:50
26 p.m.

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Gordon Johnson, Chairperson

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33 Brian Patrick, Clerk
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