

GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 25, 2025

The School Board of Grand Forks Public School District No. 1 held a regular meeting on Monday, August 25, 2025, at the Mark Sanford Education Center, with President Dave Berger presiding.

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

Student Board Members Present: Adrianna Tande. **Absent:** McKayla Sagini.

Others Present: Dr. Terry Brenner, Superintendent of Schools; Brandon Baumbach, Business Manager; Dr. Catherine Gillach, Associate Superintendent of Secondary Education; Matt Bakke, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education; Brady Olson, President of the Grand Forks Education Association; and Cindy Johnson, Executive Secretary.

Call to Order and Voluntary Recitation of the 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 Members and Oath of Office.

Adrianna Tande, a Grand Forks Central High School senior, was reappointed by unanimous consensus as one of two student school board members for 2025-2026, and Tande recited the Oath of Office.

Reading of School Board Meeting Norms.

Flynn read aloud the meeting norms.

Approval of Agenda.

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

Public Comments.

None.

Update on Consolidated Grant Application for 2025-2026 Federal Title Funding.

Bakke reported an overall decrease in federal title funding of roughly \$280,000. The decrease has impacted programs in terms of what can be provided, mostly from the professional development side. The final allocations total \$3,875,716.41, and the breakdown includes:

- Title I, Part A: \$2,772,431.00
- Title II, Part A: \$679,131.00
- Title III, Part A: \$34,414.41
- Title IV, Part A: \$389,740.00

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 Learning to Lead Workshop (formerly known as the New Member Seminar), which state law, NDCC § 15.1-09-32 requires new board members to attend within one year of assuming office, and the School Law Seminar and Annual Convention. The events will be held October 9-10, 2025, in Bismarck. Board members were asked to notify Cindy Johnson of their attendance plans.

School Board Compensation Discussion.

Board members shared their perspectives about school board compensation, comparisons with other school districts, and the time commitment of being a board member. The Policy Review Committee will take their perspectives under advisement in their next meeting.

Consent Agenda.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Kleven to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- August 11 and August 14, 2025, school board meeting minutes as written;
- Student Transportation Bus Drivers and Equipment as presented;
- Teacher appointments effective August 18, 2025, of the following:
 - Chloe Benson, social studies teacher, salary placement at BA/BS, Step 1, \$50,477;
 - Madison Cullen, school counselor, salary placement at BA/BS, Step 1, salary \$50,477;
 - Erica Wiese, kindergarten teacher, salary placement at BA/BS, Step 1, Salary \$50,477; and
 - Jennifer Pieper, special education teacher, salary placement at MA+30, Step 21, \$80,289.00;
- Teacher appointments effective August 28, 2025, of the following:
 - Grace Rames, aviation teacher (75%), salary placement at BA/BS, Step 1, \$37,857.75; and
- Tuition/Cost Sharing Agreement as presented.

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

Contracted Staff Resignation and Release from Contract (Lindsey Hanson).

It was moved by Kleven and seconded by Manley to grant Lindsey Hanson release from her 2025-2026 teaching contract, effective August 8, 2025, with the enforcement of liquidated damages as

outlined in Policy DKBB. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Larson, Palmiscno, Kleven, Lunn, Manley, Anderson, Houdek, Flynn, and Berger. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Contracted Staff Resignation and Release from Contract (Justin Lill).

It was moved by Anderson and seconded by Larson to grant Justin Lill release from his 2025-2026 teaching contract, effective August 7, 2025, with a waiver of liquidated damages as outlined in Policy DKBB. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Manley, Lunn, Larson, Palmiscno, Houdek, Kleven, Flynn, Anderson, and Berger. Nay: None. Absent: None.

General Fund Financial Statement.

Baumbach reported that from July 1, 2025, through July 31, 2025, total general fund revenues were \$8,012,488, and total general fund expenditures were \$2,807,428, resulting in revenue over expenses of \$5,205,060.

It was moved by Houdek and seconded by Anderson to approve the General Fund Financial Statement for the period from July 1, 2025, through July 31, 2025. Upon roll call vote as follows, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Houdek, Larson, Manley, Kleven, Anderson, Flynn, Palmiscno, Lunn, and Berger. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Consideration of Child Nutrition Meal Prices.

Baumbach and Director of Child Nutrition Wendy Mankie reported on the request to increase the prices of elementary breakfast, elementary lunch, secondary breakfast, secondary lunch, and adult breakfast by 20¢ each.

Regulation 7 CFR Section 210.14(e) requires school food authorities (SFAs) participating in the National School Lunch Program to ensure sufficient funds are provided to the nonprofit school food service account for meals served to students not eligible for free or reduced-priced meals. Schools currently charging full-pay students less than the USDA's target rate are

required to increase prices annually. Per the USDA regulation, the district is required to raise lunch prices by a minimum of 10 cents. An exemption waiver from the price increase requirement is available if the foodservice department has a positive balance as of December 31, 2024. The district meets this criterion. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has reported that food prices will increase 3% this year. Food prices for Child Nutrition from SY21-22 to the present have increased by \$425,961.82, whereas the district has not adjusted pricing since SY 2017-18.

Brady Olson joined the meeting at 6:21 p.m.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Kleven to approve a 20¢ increase in prices for elementary breakfast, elementary lunch, secondary breakfast, secondary lunch, and adult breakfast. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Lunn, Flynn, Palmiscno, Larson, Kleven, Houdek, Anderson, Manley, and Berger. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Announcements.

- Grades K-9 start school on Wednesday [August 27] and grades 10-12 on Thursday [August 28].
- The first RRHS vs. GFC soccer game is tomorrow [August 26].

Board Requests for Future Consideration.

None.

School Board Meeting Norms—How Did We Do?

Flynn reported that the board did an amazing job of following its meeting norms.

Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
(Date)

Dave Berger, President

Brandon Baumbach, Business Manager