

FACILITIES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
MEETING MINUTES
September 22, 2025

The Grand Forks School Board Facilities Committee of the Whole met on Monday, September 22, 2025, with Dave Berger presiding.

Committee Members Present: Josh Anderson, Dave Berger, Amber Flynn, Dr. Sherry Houdek, Jay Kleven, Joel Larson, Eric Lunn, Jeff Manley, and Bill Palmiscno, Board Members; Dr. Terry Brenner, Superintendent of Schools; Brandon Baumbach, Business Manager; Dr. Catherine Gillach, Associate Superintendent; Matt Bakke, Assistant Superintendent; and Jonathan Ellwein, Buildings and Grounds Director.

Committee Members Absent: Branden Shepperd, GFAFB School Board Liaison.

Others Present: Cindy Johnson, Executive Secretary.

Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Consideration of May 27, 2025, Meeting Minutes.

It was moved by Anderson and seconded by Lunn to approve the minutes of May 27, 2025, as written. Upon a roll-call vote, as follows, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Lunn, Palmiscno, Flynn, Anderson, Kleven, Manley, Larson, Houdek, and Berger. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Presentation of Draft Five-Year Facilities Plan.

Ellwein introduced a new initiative designed to empower school administration to shape their own spaces. School Led Initiatives for Capital Enhancements (S.L.I.C.E.) allows principals and leadership teams to propose, design, and lead facilities improvements that must align with school priorities and district standards. Funds would be allocated from the building fund as allowed under North Dakota Century Code § 57-15-17 and based on school size. Schools would be rotated on a three-year cycle. Projects would be submitted to the director of buildings and grounds and the business manager for approval, and to the school board for final approval.

Ellwein also introduced a draft facilities capital plan for 2026-2030, which includes prioritizing projects along with the S.L.I.C.E. allocations. The total investment over the five years is \$8,392,800 and consists of 44 projects that impact 15 schools.

It was acknowledged that a discussion of the condition of Schroeder Middle School could not happen without discussion about another school in the south end of Grand Forks, as well as when the district would propose another referendum. Baumbach clarified that if there was a plan to address Schroeder's needs, it could not be implemented before 2029 unless a public vote was held.

Consideration of the S.L.I.C.E. initiative and draft facilities plan will be brought to the next meeting of the Facilities Committee of the Whole.

Next Meeting Date.

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, November 24, 2025.

Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Approved _____
(Date)

Dave Berger, Meeting Chairperson

Brandon Baumbach, Business Manager