

GRAND FORKS AIR FORCE BASE SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS AIR FORCE BASE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #140
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 17, 2026

The School Board of Grand Forks Air Force Base Public School District No. 140 held a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at Nathan F. Twining Elementary and Middle School, with President Michelle Shepperd presiding.

Board Members Present: Gladstone Edwards, Jr., Branden Shepperd, Michelle Shepperd, and Terry R. Snider, Sr.

Board Members Absent: Brendan Brustad.

Others Present: Dr. Terry Brenner, Superintendent of Schools; Catherine Gillach, Associate Superintendent of Secondary Education; Matt Bakke, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education; Col. Reynaldo Champion, Commander, 319th Mission Support Group; Jennifer Schroeder, GFAFB School Liaison Program Manager; and Cindy Johnson, Executive Secretary.

Call to Order and Voluntary Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was called to order at 12:01 p.m., and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda.

It was moved by Snider and seconded by B. Shepperd to approve the agenda as written. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Edwards, B. Shepperd, Snider, and M. Shepperd.
Nay: None.
Absent: Brustad.

Approval of Minutes.

It was moved by Snider and seconded by B. Shepperd to approve the minutes of January 20, 2026, as written. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Edwards, Snider, B. Shepperd, and M. Shepperd.
Nay: None.
Absent: Brustad.

Public Comments.

None.

Monthly Enrollment Report.

Bakke reported that, as of January 31, 2026, Twining School had a total of 278 students, with 205 in grades K-5 and 73 in grades 6-8. At the high school level, Grand Forks Central had 61 students, while Red River High School and Community High School had no students from the Air Base enrolled.

Project HEROS Grant Update.

Chad Kurtyka, Twining School Principal, provided a broad overview of the educational opportunities afforded to Twining students through the Project HEROS (Helping Everyone Reach Optimal Science) DoDEA (Department of Defense Education Activity) grant. The grant supported science instruction for military-connected students and has run its full cycle.

8th-Grade Graduation Ceremony – Spring 2026 Planning Considerations.

Dr. Brenner outlined several concepts for the spring 2026 8th-grade graduation ceremony and celebration. The school leadership team will set the date. Gowns and caps previously purchased will be reused, and new tassels will be purchased. A commemorative coin was discussed, with Snider exploring a design tied to the base and school mission. M. Shepperd noted

the success of last year's event and will work with teachers to confirm the schedule, plan a post-ceremony social gathering, coordinate livestreaming with the PBIS team, and report updates to Jenny Schroeder. Board members supported continuing the event as a meaningful experience for students and families and discussed using the purchase order process for event supplies. Board members asked to review a preliminary coin design and whether students could keep their caps and tassels for photos.

Consideration of 2026-2027 Joint Powers Agreement between GFAFB PSD #140 and GF PSD #1 for Educational Services.

Dr. Brenner reported on the February 2, 2026, Agreement between Districts Committee meeting and recommended updates to the agreement, which were limited to aligning the agreement's duration with the districts' fiscal year, updating dates, and making minor grammatical edits.

Additional changes may be necessary related to the new school build and the school board's powers.

It was moved by Snider and seconded by B. Shepperd to approve the 2026-2027 Joint Powers Agreement between Grand Forks Air Force Base Public School District No. 140 and Grand Forks Public School District No. 1 as presented. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: B. Shepperd, Snider, Edwards, and M. Shepperd.

Nay: None.

Absent: Brustad.

Consideration of Revised Meeting Date: Change March 17 Regular Meeting to March 10, 2026.

To meet certain timelines related to the new school build, it was requested that the March 17 regular meeting be rescheduled to March 10, 2026.

It was moved by Snider and seconded by B. Shepperd to reschedule the March 17, 2026,

regular school board meeting to Tuesday, March 10, 2026. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Snider, Bl Shepperd, Edwards, and M. Shepperd.

Nay: None.

Absent: Brustad.

Announcements.

Schroeder announced that planning is underway for the April 7th event to be held in conjunction with the Month of the Military Child.

Dr. Brenner announced January was School Board Appreciation Month.

Dr. Brenner announced that the district administration and weather partners were monitoring the incoming weather and that, if conditions worsened, tomorrow would be a remote learning day.

A reminder of tomorrow's meeting of the Representative Review Panel was announced.

Board Request for Future Consideration.

None.

Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:31 p.m.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

Michelle Shepperd, President

Brandon Baumbach, Business Manager