

GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 27, 2026

The School Board of Grand Forks Public School District No. 1 held a regular meeting on Monday, April 27, 2026, at the Mark Sanford Education Center. President Dave Berger presided.

Board Members Present: Josh Anderson, Dave Berger, Amber Flynn, Dr. Sherry Houdek, Jay Kleven, Joel Larson, Eric Lunn, Jeff Manley, and Bill Palmiscno.

Board Members Absent: None.

Student Board Members Present: Adrianna Tande.

Student Board Members 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; Joe Drumm, Vice President, Grand Forks Education Association; Eric Ripley, Executive Director of Career and Technical Education; Mike Biermaier, District Activities Director; 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.

Reading of School Board Meeting Norms.

Larson read aloud the school board's meeting norms.

Approval of Agenda.

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

Celebrating Success - Classified and Certified Employees of the 3rd Quarter.

Darin King, Information Technology Manager, spoke on behalf of Spencer Anderson, the Classified Employee of the 3rd Quarter. A commemorative plaque was accepted on Anderson's behalf.

Lake Agassiz Elementary School Principal Travis

Thorvilson introduced Traci Nelson, special education teacher, as the Certified Employee of the 3rd Quarter. She was presented with a plaque in recognition of the selection.

Public Comments.

None.

Bid Process for Sale of Building Trades 2025-2026 Project House.

Baumbach and Ripley presented an update on the Building Trades project house, which has transitioned to an on-site build at the Career Impact Academy to improve access, resources, and student participation. The district plans to sell the completed home through a sealed-bid process with public notice, a June 1 to June 30 bidding window, and walkthrough opportunities. The buyer will be responsible for relocating the house by August 1.

Consent Agenda.

It was moved by Manley and seconded by Flynn to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- April 13 and 17, 2026, Grand Forks School Board meeting minutes;

- Third-Party Student Information Sharing Request for UND TRIO Program;
- Teacher appointments effective August 17, 2026, of Ciera Bohm, English Language Arts Teacher, salary schedule placement at MA/MS, Step 5, \$59,514; Molli Erickson, Art Teacher, salary schedule placement at BA/BS, Step 1, \$51,477; Claire Cole, English Language Arts Teacher, salary schedule placement at MA/MS, Step 11, \$64,302; Kaylynn Campoverde, Speech Language Pathologist, salary schedule placement at MA/MS, Step 1, \$56,322; Allison Nelson, Head Start Teacher, salary schedule placement at MA/MS, Step 5, \$59,514; MacLaine Matson, Second Grade Teacher, salary schedule placement at BA/BS, Step 1, \$51,477; Maria Mann, Speech Language Pathologist, salary schedule placement MA/MS, Step 1, \$56,322; and Madison Bregier, Second Grade Teacher, salary schedule placement BA/BS, Step 1, \$51,477;
- Teacher resignations effective May 29, 2026, of Katie Weiland; Delila Poole; Grant Larson; Rhonda Peterson; Tiffany Olson; Amy Rohlk; Jethro Tan; Grace Kemnitz; Alyson Potts; Kimberly Mosley; and Mallory Rudningen; and
- School-Sponsored Fundraising Report as presented.

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

Consideration of Acceptance of Equipment Donation.

Baumbach and Ripley presented a donation of a six-head screen printing system valued at \$23,875 from Impressions Gifts & Creative Services for use in the Graphic Design program at Grand Forks Central High School. The donation was approved by building leadership, including Principal Jon Strandell, and requires Board approval because its value exceeds \$10,000.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Kleven to accept the donation of a full six-head screen printing setup to the Graphic Design program at

Grand Forks Central High School. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Houdek, Kleven, Manley, Larson, Flynn, Lunn, Anderson, Palmiscno, and Berger.

Nay: None. Absent: None.

Finance Committee Report.

A report on the April 20, 2026, committee meeting and resulting recommendations was heard.

- **Update on Athletic Scoreboards.** Biermaier updated the Board on a sponsor-funded proposal to upgrade athletic facilities with new videoboards and scoreboards at the Grand Forks Central High School gym and the Red River High School gym, and a new scoreboard at Cushman Field. The project would be fully funded by external sponsors and fundraising efforts, with no use of district funds, and its progress is contingent on fundraising success. Because each site is independent and funding-dependent, separate bid processes for each installation are recommended, with the possibility that not all components move forward. Next steps include soliciting bid proposals locally and nationally while continuing fundraising efforts.
- **Consideration of Bid for Parking Lot Resurfacing at Schroeder Middle School and Wilder Elementary School.** Palmiscno reported the committee reviewed bids for this project and recommended awarding the project to Strata Corporation DBA Knife River, in the amount of \$107,340.30, to be paid from the Building Fund.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Larson to accept the parking lot resurfacing bid of \$107,340.30 from Strata Corporation DBA Knife River.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Kleven to amend the motion to expense the cost against the Building Fund. Upon roll call vote, the motion to amend carried unanimously. Aye: Palmiscno, Lunn, Larson, Flynn, Anderson, Houdek, Manley, Kleven,

and Berger.

Nay: None. Absent: None.

Upon roll call vote, the motion as amended carried unanimously. Aye: Flynn, Houdek, Anderson, Manley, Lunn, Kleven, Palmiscno, Larson, and Berger.

Nay: None. Absent: None.

General Fund Financial Statement.

Baumbach presented the general fund financial statement for the period from July 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026. Total general fund revenue was \$102,574,284, and total general fund expenditures were \$86,729,332, resulting in revenue exceeding expenditures by \$15,844,952. It was moved by Palmiscno and seconded by Flynn to approve the General Fund Financial Statement for July 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026, as outlined. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Anderson, Flynn, Kleven, Houdek, Palmiscno, Larson, Lunn, Manley, and Berger.

Nay: None. Absent: None.

Proposed Revised Process for TIF and PILOT Tax Incentives.

Baumbach presented a revised draft process, developed in collaboration with the City of Grand Forks, Grand Forks County, and Grand Forks Public Schools, to improve coordination and transparency in the review of TIF and PILOT requests. Revisions reflected clarifications on process timelines, meeting structure, public comment procedures, and coordination among taxing entities. The procedures are generally characterized as informal and non-binding; however, Board members recommended legal review to ensure they do not create unintended obligations. Board discussion focused on clarifying procedural details, including timelines, statutory references, meeting structure, and the extent of public comment on a per-project basis.

It was moved by Kleven and seconded by Houdek to postpone consideration of the proposed revised process for TIF and PILOT Tax Incentives to the next meeting on May 11, 2026. Upon roll

call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Kleven, Larson, Palmiscno, Lunn, Manley, Flynn, Houdek, Anderson, and Berger.

Nay: None. Absent: None.

Consideration of Resolution for Renewal of Community High School Lease for July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027.

Baumbach presented the District's intent to renew its lease with the State of North Dakota for Community High School space at 500 Stanford Road for the 2026–27 year. The annual cost is \$173,700.

It was moved by Larson and seconded by Manley to approve the resolution to renew the lease with the State of North Dakota for space used by Community High School in the ND Vision Services/School for the Blind building located at 500 Stanford Road for the period from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Larson, Manley, Lunn, Palmiscno, Houdek, Anderson, Kleven, Flynn, and Berger.

Nay: None. Absent: None.

Appointment of Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education.

Dr. Brenner presented the interview process and administrative recommendation for the appointment. Following Board discussion, it was moved by Lunn and seconded by Kleven to approve the appointment of Mr. Chris Triggs as Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, effective July 1, 2026, with a base salary of \$188,400, along with an education factor of \$3,600, for a total annual compensation of \$192,000. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried. Aye: Anderson, Flynn, Kleven, Larson, Lunn, Manley, Palmiscno, and Berger.

Nay: Houdek. Absent: None.

Appointment of Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education.

Dr. Brenner presented the interview process and administrative recommendation for the appointment. Following Board discussion, it was moved by Palmiscno and seconded by Manley to

approve the appointment of Dr. Kristopher Arason as Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, effective July 1, 2026, with a base salary of \$189,000, along with an education factor of \$5,000, for a total annual compensation of \$194,000. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Palmiscno, Manley, Lunn, Larson, Kleven, Houdek, Flynn, Anderson, and Berger.

Nay: None. Absent: None.

Appointment of Director of Buildings and Grounds.

Baumbach presented the interview process and administrative recommendation for the appointment. Following Board discussion, it was moved by Larson and seconded by Kleven to approve the appointment of Ms. DaLee Wilkinson as Director of Building and Grounds, effective May 1, 2026, for a 260-day contract at Step 0, with an annual base salary of \$110,082. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Lunn, Houdek, Manley, Flynn, Kleven, Larson, Palmiscno, Anderson, and Berger.

Nay: None. Absent: None.

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy GDB, Graduation Exercises.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Manley to complete the second reading and adoption of Policy GDB, Graduation Exercises, as presented. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Houdek, Larson, Flynn, Palmiscno, Anderson, Lunn, Kleven, Manley, and Berger.

Nay: None. Absent: None.

Announcements.

None.

Board Requests for Future Consideration.

None.

School Board Meeting Norms—How Did We Do?

Larson concluded that the board followed its meeting norms very well.

Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
(Date)

Dave Berger, President

Brandon Baumbach, Business Manager