

**GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
July 13, 2026**

The School Board of Grand Forks Public School District No. 1 held its annual meeting on Monday, July 13, 2026, at the Mark Sanford Education Center, with Superintendent Dr. Terry Brenner and President JoNell Bakke presiding.

Board Members Present: Mary Adams (via phone), JoNell Bakke, Dr. Allyse Dunnigan, Amber Flynn, Brianna Hall, Jay Kleven, Lori Kraemer, Eric Lunn, and Jeff Manley.

Board Members Absent: None.

Student Board Members Present: Bella Aipperspach and Elsa Parrill

Student Board Members Absent: None.

District Administration Present: Dr. Terry Brenner, Superintendent of Schools; Ryan Gatzke, Interim Business Manager; Dr. Kris Arason, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education; and Chris Triggs, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education.

Other Present: Michelle Shepperd, Grand Forks Air Force Base School Board; Brady Olson, President, Grand Forks Education Association; and Cindy Johnson, Senior Executive Assistant and School Board Operations Coordinator.

Resource Personnel Present: Tracey Johnson, Director of Head Start, and Mike Biermaier, District Activities Director.

*Superintendent of Schools Dr. Terry Brenner as
Presiding Officer:*

Brianna Hall	June 2030
Jay Kleven	June 2028
Lori Kraemer	June 2030
Eric R. Lunn	June 2028
Jeff Manley	June 2028

Call to Order and 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.

Flynn read aloud the meeting norms.

Declaration of 2026-2027 School Board.

Dr. Brenner declared the membership on the Grand Forks Public School District No. 1 School Board as follows:

Board Member	Term Expires
Mary Adams	June 2030
JoNell Bakke	June 2030
Dr. Allyse Dunnigan	June 2030
Amber Flynn	June 2028

Election of President of the School Board.

Dr. Brenner called for nominations for president of the School Board. Manley nominated Kleven. Hall nominated Bakke. After calling for nominations three additional times and receiving no further nominations, a roll call vote was held, and the nomination of Kleven to be elected president of the School Board failed to receive a majority. Aye: Manley, Kleven, Flynn, and Lunn. Nay: Adams, Bakke, Dunnigan, Hall, and Kraemer. Absent: None.

Upon a roll call vote, the nomination of Bakke to be elected president of the School Board carried.

Aye: Hall, Flynn, Adams, Kleven, Dunnigan, Bakke, and Kraemer. Nay: Lunn and Manley. Absent: None. Bakke was declared elected as the president of the School Board.

President Bakke as Presiding Officer:

Election of Vice President of the School Board.

Bakke called for nominations for vice president of the School Board. Lunn nominated Flynn. Hall nominated Dunnigan. After calling for nominations three additional times and receiving no further nominations, a roll call vote was held, and the nomination of Flynn to be elected vice president of the School Board failed to receive a majority. Aye: Kleven, Manley, Flynn, and Lunn. Nay: Bakke, Dunnigan, Adams, Hall, and Kraemer. Absent: None.

Upon a roll call vote, the nomination of Dr. Dunnigan to be elected vice president of the School Board carried. Aye: Flynn, Bakke, Adams, Hall, Dunnigan, and Kraemer. Nay: Manley, Lunn, and Kleven. Absent: None. Dr. Dunnigan was declared elected as the vice president of the School Board.

Appointment of Student Board Members and Oath of Office.

It was moved by Kleven and seconded by Lunn to approve the appointment of Elsa Parrill as a student school board member for 2026-2027. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Hall, Lunn, Dunnigan, Flynn, Adams, Manley, Kleven, Kraemer, and Bakke. Nay: None. Absent: None. Parrill recited the Oath of Office.

It was moved by Kleven and seconded by Hall to approve the appointment of Bella Aipperspach as a student school board member for 2026-2027. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Adams, Flynn, Kleven, Hall, Dunnigan, Lunn, Manley, Kraemer, and Bakke. Aipperspach recited the Oath of Office.

Approval of Agenda.

It was moved by Kleven and seconded by

Kraemer to approve the agenda. It was requested that items 4, 5, and 6 be removed from the consent agenda for educational discussion.

It was moved by Kleven and seconded by Kraemer to amend the motion and pull items 4, 5, and 6 from the consent agenda. Upon a roll call vote, the amendment carried unanimously. Aye: Kleven, Dunnigan, Hall, Lunn, Manley, Flynn, Adams, Kraemer, and Bakke. Nay: None. Absent: None

Public Comments.

None.

Update on No Bid Results for Sale of Building Trades Home, and Next Steps.

Gatzke presented an update on the request for bids for the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Building Trades project house constructed in the 2025-2026 school year. The initial bidding window (June 1 through June 30) yielded no formal bids. However, three parties expressed interest but indicated that due to the short window to secure moving and foundation estimates, they could not submit a bid by the published deadline. Consequently, the administration announced plans to readvertise the request for bids with a new deadline of July 31.

School Board Regular Meeting Schedule for 2026-2027.

Dr. Brenner presented a proposed schedule for the regular school board meetings for fiscal year 2026-2027 and the annual meeting for fiscal year 2027-2028, based on current policy and practice. All meetings will be at the MSEC and begin at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise scheduled. Additionally, special meetings may be called at any time.

There are two special meetings scheduled in July: one on Tuesday, July 14, at 5:30 p.m. at the City Council Chambers and one on Tuesday, July 28, at 6:00 p.m. at the Mark Sanford Education Center.

The proposed meeting dates are:

- Tuesday, July 14, 2026 (special meeting)
- Tuesday, July 28, 2026 (special meeting)
- Monday, August 10, 2026
- Monday, August 24, 2026
- Monday, September 14, 2026
- Monday, September 28, 2026
- Monday, October 12, 2026
- Monday, October 26, 2026
- Monday, November 9, 2026
- Monday, November 23, 2026 (held jointly with GFAFB School Board)
- Monday, December 14, 2026
- Monday, January 4, 2027 (the first Monday of the month)
- Monday, January 18, 2027 (the third Monday of the month)
- Monday, February 8, 2027
- Monday, February 22, 2027
- Monday, March 8, 2027
- Monday, March 30, 2027 (the last Tuesday of the month)
- Monday, April 12, 2027
- Monday, April 26, 2027
- Monday, May 10, 2027
- Tuesday, May 24, 2027
- Monday, June 14, 2027
- Monday, July 12, 2027 (annual meeting)

It was moved by Kleven and seconded by Flynn to approve the school board's regular meeting schedule for 2026-2027, including the July 14 and July 28 special meetings and the July 12, 2027, annual meeting as outlined. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Dunnigan, Manley, Lunn, Hall, Adams, Kleven, Flynn, Kraemer, and Bakke. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Consent Agenda.

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

- June 8, 2026, school board meeting minutes;
- Designation of the *Grand Forks Herald* as the official newspaper of Grand Forks Public School District No. 1;
- Designation of Alerus Financial as the official depository of Grand Forks Public School

District No. 1; and

- Teacher appointments, effective August 17, 2026, as follows:
 - Steve Paintner, math teacher, 50%, 188-day contract, salary schedule placement MA+45, Step 25, \$45,675;
 - Tim Tandeski, math teacher, 50%, 188-day contract, salary schedule placement MA+45, Step 25, \$45,675;
 - Cristy Truedson, special education teacher, 188-day contract, salary schedule placement BA/BS, Step 4, \$53,871;
 - Peyton Doty, physical education teacher, 50%, 188-day contract, salary schedule placement BA/BS, Step 1, \$25,738.50;
 - Megan Moser, ELA teacher, 188-day contract, salary schedule placement BA/BS, Step 3, \$53,073;
 - Alexandra Lundebly, special education strategist, 188-day contract, salary schedule placement BA/BS, Step 1, \$51,477;
 - Aubrea McClurkin, English language arts teacher, 188-day contract, salary schedule placement BA/BS, Step 1, \$51,477;
 - Gayla Dafor, FACS teacher, 188-day contract, salary schedule placement BA/BS, Step 2, \$52,275;
 - Stefani Baggett, FACS teacher, 188-day contract, salary schedule placement MA/MS, Step 14, \$66,696;
 - Emily Walski, interventions teacher, 70%, 188-day contract, salary schedule placement MA/MS, Step 7, \$42,777.

Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Adams, Flynn, Kleven, Dunnigan, Lunn, Manley, Hall, Kraemer, and Bakke. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Consideration of Special Reserve Fund Transfer.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Flynn to approve the transfer of \$900,293.59 from the Special Reserve Fund to the General Fund to offset overbudget expenses, including teacher salaries, heat, light, and fuel. Upon a roll call vote,

the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Hall, Manley, Lunn, Dunnigan, Kleven, Flynn, Adams, Kraemer, and Bakke. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Consideration of Use of Building Fund for Johnson Controls Contract.

It was moved by Kleven and seconded by Lunn to approve the expenditure of \$183,336 in repair expenses incurred in fiscal year 2026 under the Johnson Controls Contract (\$155,610 for 30% of the Technical O&M Agreement and \$27,726 for 100% of the Metasys Planned Services) against the Building Fund. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Lunn, Manley, Flynn, Kleven, Dunnigan, Hall, Adams, Kraemer, and Bakke. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Consideration of Head Start Monthly Program Reports.

Johnson reported that as a result of a recent federal review finding, as an administrative practice related to the Head Start Act Section 642(d)(2) and Head Start Program Performance Standards 1301.2(b)(1-2), beginning with the meeting and monthly thereafter, the Head Start Monthly Program Reports will be provided to the school board for its consideration. It was moved by Manley and seconded by Flynn to approve the Head Start Monthly Program Reports. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Dunnigan, Flynn, Hall, Adams, Lunn, Kleven, Manley, Kraemer, and Bakke. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Consideration of Consolidated Grant Application for 2026-2027 Federal Title Funding.

Triggs presented on the consolidated grant application, which consists of federal Title programs and their preliminary allocation for 2026-2027, as follows:

- Title I, Part A: \$2,782,374
- Title II, Part A: \$654,821
- Title III, Part A: \$44,370
- Title IV, Part A: \$368,935
- Total: \$3,850,500

It was moved by Hall and seconded by Kleven to

approve the consolidated grant application for 2026-2027, as outlined, and to authorize Christ Triggs as the authorized representative to submit the final application. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Kleven, Dunnigan, Kraemer, Flynn, Manley, Adams, Hall, Lunn, and Bakke. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Update on No Bid Results and Consideration of Sale of Wilder Relocatable.

Gatzke reported that on June 6, a bidding window opened for a relocatable classroom at Wilder Elementary School, with a minimum bid of \$10,000. Although no formal bids were received before the window closed, the district received an offer within a week from Mr. Kevin Davidson matching the minimum bid of \$10,000. Since the buyer is offering the minimum bid amount and there is no legal requirement to readvertise, the administration recommended accepting Mr. Davidson's offer and requested authorization for the interim business manager to sign the bill of sale upon receipt of funds.

It was moved by Manley and seconded by Kleven to accept the offer from Mr. Kevin Davidson to purchase the Wilder relocatable for \$10,000 and to authorize Interim Business Manager Gatzke to sign the bill of sale upon receipt of funds. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Manley, Kraemer, Lunn, Kleven, Adams, Hall, Dunnigan, Flynn, and Bakke. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Consideration of SRO Agreement for 2026-2027.

Dr. Arason presented on the Memorandum of Agreement, including the assignment of officers. The memorandum reads largely the same as last year, but the contracted amount has increased by \$6,048.48, reflecting annual growth in officer salaries and health insurance. The combined total for 50% of the 2026-2027 school year and summer school compensation for all existing SROs will be \$214,055.23 to the district.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Hall to designate school resource officers as school officials, allow school resource officers access to

personally identifiable student information when appropriate, approve the Memorandum of Agreement School Resource Officer Services for the term beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, as presented, and authorize the Superintendent of Schools to sign the agreement. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Dunnigan, Kraemer, Hall, Lunn, Flynn, Manley, Adams, Kleven, and Bakke. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Agreement Between Districts Committee Report: Consideration of Amendments to 2026-2027 Joint Powers Agreement Between Grand Forks Air Force Base Public School District No. 140 and Grand Forks Public School District No. 1 for Educational Services.

Dr. Brenner presented on the amendments to the 2026-2027 Joint Powers Agreement, which included provisions to provide voting permissions on the District No. 1 Superintendent Evaluation Committee and Policy Review Committee, to clarify that District No. 140 is utilizing District No. 1 staff, and to correct a typographical error to read District #140.

It was moved by Kleven and seconded by Kraemer to approve the proposed amendments to 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 outlined. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Hall, Lunn, Dunnigan, Adams, Kleven, Flynn, Kraemer, Manley, and Bakke. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Consideration of Appointment of Valley Middle School Associate Principal.

Dr. Brenner reported on the application process and recommendation for appointment.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Kleven to approve the appointment of Mr. Nick Pederson as Associate Principal of Valley Middle School, effective July 14, 2026, with a base salary of \$98,503 and a school size factor of \$1,250 for a total salary of \$99,753. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Flynn, Hall,

Kraemer, Manley, Kleven, Adams, Lunn, Dunnigan, and Bakke. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Consideration of Lease Agreement with Huntington National Bank for Scoreboards at Grand Forks Central and Red River High Schools, and Resolution.

Following up on the board's May 26, 2026, approval of the scoreboard projects at Grand Forks Central and Red River High Schools—which was contingent upon 100% external funding—Gatzke presented a five-year lease agreement with Huntington National Bank as the next step in the process. Because local business sponsors are committing to five-year payment schedules rather than providing all funding upfront, this legally reviewed lease-purchase agreement extends the project's payments over five years to align with the incoming supporter agreements. Biermaier confirmed that these donor commitments are sufficient to cover both the lease's principal and accrued interest, with short-term fundraising reserves available to address any minor cash-flow timing gaps. Additionally, the district will retain full ownership of the scoreboards upon completion of the five-year term, and administration agreed to verify if there are any prepayment penalties for settling the lease early.

It was moved by Flynn and seconded by Lunn to approve the five-year lease agreement with Huntington National Bank for the Scoreboards at Grand Forks Central and Red River High Schools and the Resolution Governmental Lease-Purchase Agreement No. 20000051771 as presented. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Manley, Flynn, Lunn, Kraemer, Kleven, Adams, Hall, Dunnigan, and Bakke. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Announcements.

- The annual meeting of the Grand Forks Public School District Building Authority immediately follows this board meeting.
- Board members interested in attending the July 28 NDSBA/NDDPI School Board Member Bootcamp should let Cindy know by

Friday.

- The laminated strategic plan handouts are provided for information and will be placed at the board table at each meeting.

Board Requests for Future Consideration.

- A request for an update on the November ballot measure for free lunch and whether the cost will be paid from the per pupil payment.
- An announcement of a future report on a briefing by the Department of Education that Bakke recently attended.

School Board Meeting Norms—How Did We Do?

Flynn concluded that the board did a great job of following its meeting norms.

Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
(Date)

JoNell Bakke, President

Ryan Gatzke, Interim Business Manager