

GRAND FORKS AIR FORCE BASE SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS AIR FORCE BASE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #140
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 18, 2026

The School Board of Grand Forks Air Force Base Public School District No. 140 held a regular meeting on Tuesday, August 18, 2026, with President Michelle Shepperd presiding.

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

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; Chris Triggs, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education.

Others Present: Jennifer Schroeder, GFAFB School Liaison Program Manager; and JoNell Bakke, GF School Board President.

Resource Staff Present: Chad Kurtyka, Twining School Principal.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m., and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda.

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

Consideration of July 28, 2026, Meeting Minutes.

It was moved by B. Shepperd and seconded by G. Edwards to approve the minutes of July 28, 2026, as written. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: G. Edwards, Snider, L. Edwards, B. Shepperd, and M. Shepperd. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Public Comments.

None.

Discussion of Fall Enrollment Projection for Nathan F. Twining Elementary and Middle

School.

Triggs reported that as of August 13, 2026, 177 students were projected to be in grades K-5 and 87 in grades 6-8, for a total of 264 students.

Discussion of NDSBA Opportunities for Board Member Development.

Dr. Brenner informed the board of upcoming professional development opportunities sponsored by the North Dakota School Boards Association (NDSBA). These events include the School Law Seminar, the Annual Convention, and the New Member Learning to Lead Workshop (formerly the New Member Seminar). New board members are required by GFAFB Policy 1035 and state law (NDCC § 15.1-09-32) to attend the workshop within one year of assuming office. The events will take place October 8–9, 2026, in Bismarck. Board members were requested to notify Cindy Johnson of their attendance plans.

Discussion of Nathan F. Twining Pre-K-8 School Construction Update.

Jake Schnoor of McGough Construction presented an update on the construction of the new Twining School building. He reported that the

project remains on schedule—slightly ahead in certain areas—and within budget.

Consideration of School Board Committee Appointments for 2026-2027.

It was moved by B. Shepperd and seconded by L. Edwards to approve the school board standing committee appointments for 2026-2027 as follows:

- District #140 Standing Committee Appointments:
 - Agreement between Districts Committee – Michelle Shepperd and Terry Snider.
 - Policy Review – all board members.
- Appointments to District #1 Standing Committees:
 - Facilities Committee of the Whole – Terry Snider.
 - Finance Committee – Michelle Shepperd.
 - Policy Review – Branden Shepperd.
 - Superintendent Evaluation Committee – Michelle Shepperd.

Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: B. Shepperd, L. Edwards, Snider, G. Edwards, and M. Shepperd. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Administrative and Liaison assignments were provided for information as follows:

- Liaison to GF School Board:

July	N/A
August	Terry Snider
September	Branden Shepperd
October	Gladstone Edwards
November	All Members at Joint mtg.
December	Michelle Shepperd
January	Terry Snider
February	Lucelyn Edwards
March	Terry Snider
April	Branden Shepperd
May	Gladstone Edwards
June	N/A
- School Building Liaison:
 - Nathan F. Twining Elementary and Middle School – Lucelyn Edwards
 - Grand Forks Central High School – Terry Snider.

Consideration of a Van Purchase for Twining Athletics/Activities.

Dr. Brenner presented a proposal to purchase a 14-passenger van, to be owned by District #140, to support athletic travel and extracurricular activities for Twining Middle School students. Board discussion confirmed that the District will handle insurance, licensing, and off-site maintenance, while staff noted that non-parent drivers must complete required training. Members noted the vehicle will offer flexible, cost-effective transportation for small groups when full bus service is unnecessary.

The Board also discussed expanding 6th-grade athletic participation. While NDHSAA rules permit 6th-graders to participate in non-contact sports, contact sports (such as football) remain restricted to external local leagues, youth programs, or intramurals.

It was moved by G. Edwards and seconded by B. Shepperd to approve the purchase of the proposed van with a purchase price of up to \$33,990, including the insurance and related liabilities associated with District #140 ownership and operation. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Snider, B. Shepperd, G. Edwards, L. Edwards, and M. Shepperd. Nay: None. Absent: None.

Announcements.

- Dr. Brenner announced the District was two seasons away from air conditioning at Twining.

Board Request for Future Consideration.

Snider requested a discussion about potential District financial assistance with student participation fees for local Little League programs for next year.

Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

Michelle Shepperd, President

Ryan Gatzke, Interim Business Manager