SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION COMMITTEE
GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
MEETING MINUTES
September 22, 2026

The Grand Forks School Board Superintendent Evaluation Committee met on Tuesday, September 22, 2026, at the Mark Sanford Education Center, with Board Member Jeff Manley presiding.

Committee Members Present: Dr. Allyse Dunnigan, Jay Kleven, Eric Lunn, Jeff Manley, Grand Forks School Board Members; Michelle Shepperd, GFAFB School Board Member; and Dr. Terry Brenner, Superintendent of Schools.

Committee Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Laura D. Cobb, Attorney at Law; and Cindy Johnson, Senior Executive Assistant and School Board Operations Coordinator.

Under 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, both Boards shall have appointed representation on this committee, and all appointed seats for both Boards shall be voting members.

Call to Order.
The meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m.

Approval of Minutes.
It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Dunnigan to approve the March 2, 2026, minutes as presented. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Mutually Establish Specific Evaluation Criteria and Instrument in accordance with Policy CAAB.
The committee held an extensive debate regarding whether the superintendent evaluation should continue using the established board-only evaluation instrument or incorporate broader stakeholder feedback—such as surveys from teachers, parents, principals, directors, and the public.

Dunnigan advocated that gathering multi-perspective data in an anonymous way would reduce individual board member bias and provide a clearer picture of the superintendent's performance. Other members raised significant concerns about the validity of anonymous input from individuals who do not know all aspects of the superintendent's job, input that may be based on emotions, potential bias, and organizational risks of 360-degree surveys. They also noted that developing a scientifically sound survey would take months or years, making it unfeasible ahead of the upcoming October 16 distribution and November 15 evaluation deadlines, but that it could be developed for next year as a measure of how the district is doing.

Cobb emphasized that state law and board policy placed evaluation responsibility on the board.

Ultimately, the committee formally voted to retain the 43-question evaluation tool and process utilized during the previous academic year, while agreeing that any proposals for separate, district-wide surveys should be brought to the full board as a standard agenda item.

It was moved by Lunn to recommend to the board that the same evaluation tool as last year be used for this year's superintendent evaluation. Upon

voice vote, the motion carried. Aye: Kleven, Lunn, Manley, and Shepperd. Nay: Dunnigan.

Next Meeting Date.
The next meeting date was scheduled for Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment.
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
(Date)

_____
Jeff Manley, Meeting Chairperson