FACILITIES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
MEETING MINUTES
October 26, 2026

The Grand Forks School Board Facilities Committee of the Whole met on Monday, October 26, 2026, at the Mark Sanford Education Center, with Board Member JoNell Bakke presiding.

Committee Members Present: Mary Adams, JoNell Bakke, Dr. Allyse Dunnigan, Amber Flynn, Brianna Hall, Lori Kraemer, Eric Lunn, and Jeff Manley, Board Members; 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; and DaLee Wilkinson, Director of Buildings and Grounds.

Committee Members Absent: Jay Kleven, Board Member, and Terry Snider, GFAFB School Board Member.

Others Present: Cindy Johnson, Senior Executive Assistant and School Board Operations Coordinator.

Call to Order.
The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m.

Consideration of Minutes.
It was moved by Adams and seconded by Kraemer to approve the minutes of May 26, 2026, as written. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously. Absent: Kleven.

Discussion and Recommendation Related to Wilder Air Conditioning.
The committee discussed adding a chiller at Wilder Elementary School, originally estimated at approximately $1.45 million and now potentially higher due to inflation. It would require competitive bidding. Funding would come from outside the safety and security project dollars. Members weighed this request against urgent, extreme heat conditions at Schroeder Middle School, where lack of air conditioning poses significant learning and safety challenges. The committee also evaluated whether Schroeder warrants ongoing, costly repairs or eventual replacement, alongside financing considerations and the anticipated sunsetting of principal and interest bond payments in fall 2027 that will free up capital beginning in 2028. Rather than advancing an immediate recommendation to the full board, the committee reached consensus to refer the item back to the Finance Committee and district administration to develop a firm proposal.

Discussion of Five-Year Facilities Plan.
Gatzke and Wilkinson requested guidance on the committee's priorities, including life safety and security, building condition and system failure risk, code and ADA compliance, educational programming needs, operational cost savings, and equitable investment across schools. Building needs across the district exceed available funding, so the five-year facilities plan will have to prioritize and sequence projects over time.

Wilkinson indicated that she had not prepared a complete draft proposal because she wanted to establish committee priorities first; however, she was directed to utilize her department's expertise to formulate comparative baseline scenarios so the committee had a clear starting point.

The committee also discussed ongoing drone infrared roof scans, facility consolidation, eliminating relocatable classrooms, tracking annual operating costs per building, and school-level enhancement (SLICE) funds. Wilkinson will

present a preliminary draft to the Finance Committee at its next meeting, and a Facilities Committee of the Whole will be scheduled once full proposals are prepared.

Next Meeting Date.
The next meeting date is to be determined.

Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Approved _____
(Date)

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JoNell Bakke, Meeting Chairperson

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Ryan Gatzke, Interim Business Manager

DRAFT