GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 9, 2026

The School Board of Grand Forks Public School District No. 1 held a regular meeting on Monday, November 9, 2026, at the Mark Sanford Education Center, with President JoNell Bakke presiding.

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

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.

Resource Staff Present: None.

Other Present: Joe Drumm, Vice President, Grand Forks Education Association; and Cindy Johnson, Senior Executive Assistant and School Board Operations Coordinator.

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.
Lunn read aloud the meeting norms.

Approval of Agenda.
It was moved by Adams and seconded by Kleven to approve the agenda as presented. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Aye: Kraemer, Dunnigan, Adams, Hall, Kleven, Lunn, Manley, and Bakke. Nay: None. Absent: Flynn.

Celebrating Success: Valley Middle School.
Principal Tad Schye, Associate Principal Nick Pederson, Instructional Coaches Lisa Vojacek and Meghan Scott, Behavior Interventionist Ashley Vinje, and School Social Worker Jessica Jeffrey presented an overview of schoolwide initiatives, demographic growth, and their Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) under North Dakota First. Discussion included mission and goals; ELA and math academic data; interventions; AVID; behavioral supports; attendance; student supports; and school culture and celebrations.

Board members discussed chronic absenteeism patterns, sustaining academic growth, and potential supports if additional funding were available.

Public Comments.
None.

Consideration of Consent Agenda.
It was moved by Kleven and seconded by Kraemer to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- October 26, 2026, school board meeting minutes;
- Third-party request for access to student information for Alboum & Associates LLC dba Alboum Translation Services;
  And

- Open Enrollment Application, as presented.

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

Superintendent Evaluation Committee Report: Consideration of Superintendent's November Evaluation.

Manley reported on the October 27, 2026, Superintendent Evaluation Committee meeting where the evaluation data was reviewed and a draft evaluation developed. Based on board member input and an overall weighted average ranging from 3.18 to 3.71 across all domains, the committee unanimously recommended finding the superintendent's performance satisfactory in all areas.

It was moved by Manley and seconded by Lunn to approve the Superintendent's November evaluation and submitted scores as recommended by the committee.

Discussion followed regarding the timeline for newly elected board members completing the evaluation after only three months of service, with Lunn noting that the November evaluation timeline is mandated by state law.

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

Announcements.

A list of upcoming meetings was linked on the agenda.

Board Requests for Future Consideration.

Lunn requested that relevant board policies regarding board member conduct and individual vs. board representation be distributed ahead of the upcoming League of Women Voters forum on November 18, 2026.

School Board Meeting Norms—How Did We Do?

Lunn concluded that the board did very well in following its meeting norms.

Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
(Date)

_____
JoNell Bakke, President

_____
Ryan Gatzke, Interim Business Manager

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