

**GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD**  
**GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 14, 2022**

The School Board of Grand Forks Public School District No. 1 met in regular session on Monday, February 14, 2022, at the Mark Sanford Education Center with President Eric Lunn presiding.

**Board Members Present:** Doug Carpenter, Chris Douthit, Amber Flynn, Eric Lunn, Jeff Manley, Bill Palmiscno, and Cynthia Shabb. **Absent:** Jacqueline Hassett and Shannon Mikula.

**Student Board Members Present:** Evan Whalen. **Absent:** Alicia De La Cruz.

**Others Present:** Dr. Terry Brenner, Superintendent of Schools; Michelle Emineth, Interim Business Manager; Catherine Gillach, Associate Superintendent of Secondary Education; Dr. Brenda Lewis, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education; Brent Harland, GAFB School Board Member; and Cindy Johnson, Executive Secretary.

**Building Tour.** A tour of Grand Forks Central High School was held from 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.

**Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance.** The meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited at 6:30 p.m.

**Approval of Agenda.** It was moved by Douthit and seconded by Palmiscno to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

**Celebrating Success – Wilder Elementary School.** Wilder Principal Leslie Wiegandt along with Teachers Katie Bosman, Branden Boemann, and Laurie Skattum shared details about their schoolwide positive school behavior intervention system.

**Approval of Minutes.** It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Palmiscno to approve the minutes of January 24, 2022, as written. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

**Public Comments (non-agenda items).** David Waterman spoke about children’s health. Mary Dietrich spoke about masking children. Jean Gullicks spoke about early childhood mandates.

**Review School Board Norms.** Douthit read aloud the school board norms.

**Public Forum Planning.** Dr. Brenner reviewed the draft materials for the March 28, 2022, public forum. Discussion included proposed modifications to the materials and procedural matters.

**Finance Committee Report.** Carpenter reported on the

February 1 and 9 Finance Committee meetings. The Committee recommended the Board accept the application for tax incentive financing at 90/80% for Olive Ann Boutique Hotel.

Several scenarios to address the District’s budget realignment, deferred maintenance, and facility needs were discussed. The Committee recommended the Board approve Scenario 1 as it relates to the general fund and Scenario 3 as it relates to deferred maintenance and facility needs. Scenario 1 calls for a \$500,000 drawdown of facilities projects to the general fund and projects a budget surplus of \$1,106,000 in Fy22-23. Scenario 3 includes all schools less all Valley, Schroeder, and South middle schools and estimates \$143,949,7078 in projects through 2030. Funding sources are through donation, energy savings, ESSER, and via financing a portion of the 10 mills in the building fund. Another possible scenario suggests bonding the 10-mill increase in the building fund.

The Finance Committee authorized District Administration to start the bonding process to gather information and bring it back to the committee and ultimately the board.

The Committee also recommended the school board meet in a work session on February 28 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in place of the Phoenix Elementary School building tour.

**Debrief Grand Forks Central High School Building Tour.** Board members shared their overall impressions of the Grand Forks Central High School building and its ability, or inability, to support 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning.

**Applications for Tax Incentive Financing for Olive Ann Boutique Hotel.** Dr. Brenner reviewed the steps to date in reviewing this project. At the Finance Committee meeting, the project's financier, Phil Gisi, provided a compromise from his original request by reducing the percentage for years 6-10 from 100% to 90%, thus amending the application for tax incentive financing to a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) as follows: 90% PILOT exemption for years 6-10 and 80% PILOT exemption for years 11-15.

Board members discussed their reasons why they supported or did not support the application.

It was moved by Palmiscno and seconded by Manley to approve the application for tax incentive financing for the Olive Ann Boutique Hotel as amended. Motion carried on roll call vote as follows: Aye: Palmiscno, Shabb, Douthit, Flynn, Manley, and Lunn. Nay: Carpenter. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

**Consent Agenda.** It was moved by Palmiscno and seconded by Shabb to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- ◆ Appointment of Kelsey Peterson (salary \$23,251 for 85 days) effective January 31, 2022;
- ◆ Professional Growth Leave for Lisa Berglund effective the 2022-2023 school year; and
- ◆ Resignations of Taylor Powers effective February 3, 2022; Leanna Nelson effective March 4, 2022; Kaia Berggren effective April 1, 2022; and Sarah Hellyer, Joseph Kulas, and Jenna Pederson effective June 3, 2022.

Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

**District Calendar for 2022-2023 and Start and End Dates for 2023-2024.** Gillach reported on the work of the District Calendar Committee that resulted in their recommendation for the 2022-2023 District Calendar and tentative start and end dates for 2023-2024. School Board Policy ABAB requires the Board to approve the start and end days and teacher blackout days.

It was moved by Douthit and seconded by Carpenter to approve the recommendation as follows:

- a start date for grades K-9 on Wednesday, August 24, 2022, and for grades 10-12 on Thursday, August 25, 2022, for the 2022-2023 school year;
- 22 elementary school teacher blackout dates on October 4, 6, 10, 11, 12, 17, November 29, December 1, 6, 7, 8, February 21, 23, 27, 28, March 1, 6, 9, and May 24, 25, 30, 31;
- 20 middle school teacher blackout dates on

August 24, 25, 26, October 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, November 1, January 11, 12, 13, February 27, 28, March 3, 6, 22, 23, and May 30, 31;

- 20 high school teacher blackout days on October 6, 11, 27, 28, 31, November 1, January 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, February 9, 14, March 23, 24, 27, 28, May 30, 31, and June 1; and
- to tentatively approve a start date of August 30, 2022, and an end date of May 30, 2024, for the 2023-20224 school year.

Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

**Policy Review.** Shabb reported on the February 2, 2022, Policy Review Committee meeting and recommendations.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Douthit to complete the first reading of FCC, Restraint or Seclusion Policy as amended. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Palmiscno to complete the first reading of DEBH, Employee Use of Social Media as amended. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Carpenter to complete the first reading of ACBF, Medical Marijuana as written. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Palmiscno to complete the first reading of FDA, Education of Home-Schooled Students as written. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Carpenter to complete the first reading of FACA, Placement & Adjustment of Transfer Students as written. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Palmiscno to complete the first reading of GAAA, Curriculum Design & Evaluation as amended. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Douthit to complete the first reading of GAAD, Selection and Adoption of Instructional Materials as amended. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Palmiscno to complete the first reading of IAB, Buildings and Grounds Security Plan as written. Motion carried

unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Douthit to complete the first reading of JBA, Accommodations for Individuals with Disabilities as written. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Palmiscno to complete the first reading of FGCA, Searches of Lockers as written. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Carpenter to complete the first reading of FGCB, Searches of Students & Student's Personal Possessions as written. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Palmiscno to complete the first reading of FFK, Suspension and Expulsion as amended. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Douthit to complete the first reading of FGA, Student Education Records and Privacy as amended. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Palmiscno to complete the first reading of FGDE, Student Distribution & Posting of Non-Curricular Material in School as written. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Palmiscno to complete the first reading of ABAC, Virtual learning Because of Weather or Other Conditions as amended. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Carpenter to complete the first reading of KACA, Patron Complaints as amended. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Palmiscno to complete the first reading of BCAA, Board Meeting Agenda & Pre-Meeting Preparation as amended. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Carpenter to complete the second reading and adoption of BCBA, Public Participation at Board Meetings as amended. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Manley to rescind 4144, Workers' Compensation Policy for Employees, and 8509, Citizen Requests, Representations, or Proposals. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

**Agreement Between Districts Committee Report: Joint Powers Agreement between District #140 and District #1 for Educational Services.** Lunn reported on the February 8, 2022, meeting of the Agreement Between Districts Committee. Recommended updates to the agreement for the 2022-2023 fiscal year are limited to an update of the dates, a format change, and a minor language change.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Manley to approve the Joint Powers Agreement between District #140 and District #1 for Educational Services for the 2022-2023 fiscal year as recommended. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

**Appointment of District Activities Director.** Dr. Brenner reviewed the interview process and recommendation to hire Mr. Michael Biermaier as the District Activities Director effective July 1, 2022.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Flynn to appoint Mr. Michael Biermaier as the District Activities Director effective July 1, 2022, with a salary of \$132,050. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hassett and Mikula.

**Announcements.** None.

**Board Requests for Future Consideration.** None.

**School Board Norms – How Did We Do?** Douthit said the Board did a very nice job following its meeting norms.

**Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

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Eric R. Lunn, President

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Michelle Emineth, Interim Business Manager