

**GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD  
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
November 13, 2018**

The school board of Grand Forks Public School District #1 held a regular meeting on Tuesday, November 13, 2018, at the Mark Sanford Education Center with President Bill Palmiscno presiding.

**Board Members Present:** Douglas Carpenter, Chris Douthit, Amber Flynn, Jacqueline Hoffarth, Eric Lunn, Shannon Mikula, Bill Palmiscno, Cynthia Shabb, and Matt Spivey.

**Board Members Absent:** None.

**Others Present:** Student Board Members Riley Thoreson and Anastasia Usatii, Superintendent Dr. Terry Brenner, Associate Superintendent Jody Thompson, Assistant Superintendent Catherine Gillach, Business Manager Ed Gerhardt, GFEA President Amanda Weston Caillier, and Executive Secretary Cindy Johnson.

**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.

**Approval of Agenda.** It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Spivey to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously.

**Celebrating Success.** Dr. David Saxberg, Principal of Century Elementary School, Teachers Lori Ring and Amy DeWitt, and a group of Century's student leaders gave a presentation about how the school is facilitating growth in leadership skills for all of its students.

**Approval of Minutes.** It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Douthit to approve the October 22, 2018, minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

**Citizen Comments (non-agenda items).** None.

**Review School Board Norms.** The School Board Meeting Norms were provided in the agenda packet for review, which Shabb read aloud.

**2019 Legislative Issues and Priorities.** Dr. Brenner explained an abbreviated list of legislative issues and priorities pertinent to the District and that the North Dakota Council of Education Leaders (NDCEL) will be promoting during the 2019 Legislative Session.

**NDSBA Seminars/Convention Lessons Learned.** President Palmiscno informed Board members that this agenda item was provided so that Board members who attended the North Dakota School Boards Association (NDSBA) New Member Seminar, School Law Seminar, or Annual Convention could share highlights of what they learned at the events. Should a Board member wish to have deeper discussion on a particular topic, it could be considered for a future agenda item. Board members then shared highlights of their takeaways from the events they attended.

Mikula suggested future discussion about orientation for new board members similar to the process used at Jamestown.

**Title IV Funded Positions Update.** Thompson and Gillach explained the new positions that will be funded with Title IV grant monies. The positions will provide social and emotional support for students and include 1 FTE Licensed Addiction Counselor, 2 FTE Behavior Facilitators, and 3.6 FTE School Social Workers. Thompson pointed out that the District is the first school district in the state to hire a licensed addition counselor.

**Consent Agenda.** It was moved by Spivey and seconded by Hoffarth to approve the consent agenda as follows: Teacher Appointments for Alisa Bowman, effective November 19, 2018, (salary \$30,969); Moire Dunn, 60% position effective November 26, 2018, (salary \$16,173); Tracy Meagher, effective

November 26, 2018, (salary \$30,458); Mary Moroney-Fernandez, effective October 29, 2018, (salary \$39,249); and David Tack, effective the 2019-2020 school year, (salary \$57,537); and Resignation of Renolda Smith, effective December 20, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

**Appointment of Business Manager.** Dr. Brenner explained the recommendation to hire Mr. Scott Berge as the new Business Manager. He informed the Board that Berge has accepted the employment offer contingent upon Board approval and that Berge is available to begin employment in early December rather than waiting until January. Starting earlier will benefit the District as Berge will have more time to work with Gerhardt before he retires.

It was moved by Spivey and seconded by Shabb to hire Mr. Scott Berge as Business Manager, effective December 3, 2018, (salary \$144,000). Motion carried unanimously.

**General Fund Financial Statement.** Gerhardt reported for the period of July 1, 2018 through October 31, 2018, total general fund revenues were \$27,541,243 and total general fund expenditures were \$22,202,231 resulting in an excess of revenues over expenses of \$5,339,012.

Flynn left the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Douthit to approve the General Fund Financial Statement for the period of July 1, 2018 through October 31, 2018 as presented. Motion carried with all Board members present voting aye. Absent: Flynn.

**Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 3200 and Rescind of Policy 3211.** President Palmiscno informed the Board that Policy 3200 has been reformatted and is being considered for its second reading.

Mikula referred to Section IV of the proposed policy and questioned whether it was necessary to obtain legal counsel's signature on form contracts before they are executed. She recommended the form contract be developed and include a foot notation of the last time it was approved by legal counsel instead of physically having the signature of the attorney

on it and then review the form contract at least every two years thereafter.

Lunn asked if the proposed policy could interfere with the District's ability to collaborate with the trade industry that may be working with the District's CTE program. Dr. Brenner assured the Board that Administration would explore this through Eric Ripley, the CTE Director, to ensure that the advertising contract does not circumvent any process in the contracts that he writes.

It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Lunn to approve the second reading and adoption of Policy 3200 with the changes recommended by Mikula not to require the signature of legal counsel review and to approve the rescinding of Policy 3211. Motion carried with all Board members present voting aye. Absent: Flynn.

**Superintendent's Evaluation Committee Report - Consideration of Superintendent's November Evaluation.** President Palmiscno reported on the draft November evaluation for the superintendent and the committee's recommendation for approval.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Carpenter to approve the superintendent's November evaluation as written. Motion carried with all Board members present voting aye. Absent: Flynn.

**Announcements.** Dr. Brenner encouraged Board members to attend the Celebrating Our Cultures event on Thursday, November 15, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Red River High School.

Hoffarth informed the Board of an upcoming play at the Fire Hall Theater called *The Amish Project*, which is about the aftermath of a school shooting. The Theater is considering having a couple of panels on some show dates consisting of people who have been affected either from an educational background or from a victim or community standpoint. Show dates are November 28 to December 1. Hoffarth will forward more information about the panels as it becomes available.

The Legislative Forum is scheduled for Thursday, November 29. Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. and presentations by the City of Grand Forks, Grand Forks County, Park District, School District, and Airport Authority begin at 6:00 p.m.

**Board Requests for Future Consideration.**

Mikula referred to the core competencies as found in the Jamestown presentation at the NDSBA events and requested something similar be developed for the Board.

Mikula asked if the policy template that was included in the agenda packet was going to be used for future policy drafting. Lunn stated that the template should be referred to the 8000 Series Policy Review Committee. Board members should forward any input they may have to the Superintendent's office.

**School Board Norms - How Did We Do?**

Lunn summarized that the Board followed the norms and even with a couple of miscues, the Board was respectful.

**Book Study.** Board members divided into three groups with administrators and proceeded with the book study from 7:12 p.m. to 7:40 p.m.

**Adjournment.** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

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

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Bill Palmiscno, President

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Edwin J. Gerhardt, Business Manager