

**GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 2019**

The school board of Grand Forks Public School District #1 held a regular meeting on Monday, January 21, 2019, at the Mark Sanford Education Center with President Bill Palmiscno presiding.

Board Members Present: Douglas Carpenter, Chris Douthit, Jacqueline Hoffarth, Bill Palmiscno, and Cynthia Shabb.

Board Members Absent: Flynn, Lunn, Mikula, and Spivey.

Others Present: Student Board Members Riley Thoreson and Anastasia Usatii, Superintendent Dr. Terry Brenner, Assistant Superintendent Catherine Gillach, Business Manager Scott Berge, 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 Shabb to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried with all board members present voting aye. Absent: Flynn, Lunn, Mikula, and Spivey.

Approval of Minutes. It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Carpenter to approve the January 7, 2019, minutes as written. Motion carried with all board members present voting aye. Absent: Flynn, Lunn, Mikula, and Spivey.

Citizen Comments (non-agenda items). None.

Review School Board Norms. Hoffarth read aloud the school board norms.

Legislative Update. Dr. Brenner highlighted several bills currently before the State Legislature that may apply to the school district.

Facilities Committee Report:

Pure Development Request. Shabb reported that Hugo's has added more square footage to their floor plan, which took away some of their parking stalls. Hugo's and Pure Development are now requesting seven additional stalls from the District. In exchange for the additional parking stalls, Pure Development will donate \$120,000 to the District, cover all legal fees, cover all expenses related to drawings, creating necessary documentation, etc., and provide free technical assistance and support during future development of the Executive Corners lot. District Administration supports the proposal if the donation would be used to fund the development and construction of the Executive Corners lot, which would create approximately 61 parking stalls and cost approximately \$180,000. The Facilities Committee and District Administration unanimously recommend approval of the request as outlined. In her absence, Mikula provided a written statement stating that she is in favor of the project but that she is not in favor of dedicating the \$120,000 to surface parking. She preferred there be more flexibility in application of the funds in light of ongoing facilities planning. Palmiscno and Hoffarth agreed. Palmiscno suggested the Facilities Committee investigate possible uses for the money. Carpenter said the money should be dedicated to the downtown parking unless there was a clear, demonstrated need for its application elsewhere. Douthit expressed concern for students who return from late night events and have to access their vehicle in the parking ramp versus on surface parking.

C.T. Marhula, 617 Plain Hills Drive, Grand Forks, ND, spoke in favor of the project. He suggested the District put the \$120,000 into the General Fund or an Emergency Fund and then sell the property to a developer with a covenant for guaranteed future parking.

It was moved by Hoffarth and seconded by Carpenter to approve the request of Pure Development for seven additional parking stalls, eliminate the reference to surface parking, and

earmark the \$120,000 for Executive Corners. Motion carried on roll call vote as follows: Aye: Douthit, Hoffarth, Shabb, and Palmiscno. Nay: Carpenter

Shabb reported that the Facilities Committee and District Administration unanimously recommend that the superintendent or designee be authorized to work with Pure Development and the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) on a required temporary construction easement related to the project and to authorize the superintendent to sign the necessary related documentation.

It was moved by Douthit and seconded by Hoffarth to approve the recommendation as outlined. Motion carried with all board members present voting aye. Absent: Flynn, Lunn, Mikula, and Spivey.

Ruth Meiers Adolescent Center (RMAC) Project and Lease. Shabb reported that District Administration is requesting permission to create a draft lease agreement with the Grand Forks Housing Authority that would allow the District's Buildings and Trades students and instructor to build the approximately 5,000 square foot addition. In turn, the District would be able to use that space. She stated that this would be in lieu of building a house as the students have done in the past. Eric Ripley, Executive Director of Career & Technical Education, stated that the nature of the construction aligned with the students' skill sets. He explained that the benefit for the District is the donation of in-kind labor would be used to allow the District to use that facility for its students for the next 20-25-years lease-free. The plan is for a one-year project that would conclude by next summer. Shabb pointed out that the project was funded by a Community Development Block Grant to the Housing Authority and that this project was a first choice project for the Housing Authority Advisory Committee.

It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Hoffarth to approve the recommendation as outlined. Motion carried with all board members present voting aye. Absent: Flynn, Lunn, Mikula, and Spivey.

PreK-12 Education Model Committee Update and Authorization for Administration to Develop Comprehensive Plan and Timeline. Shabb called upon Douthit to update the Board

on the work of the PreK-12 Education Model Committee. Douthit reported that while committee members reviewed the rank scores of campus essentials at the last meeting, it was realized that the list of essentials contained several duplicates, which the committee worked through to collapse. Mikula was asked to work with Cindy Johnson to further identify duplicates in campus and classroom essentials, which will be brought back to the committee for one final look before the data is passed on. Douthit noted that there was also some discussion about the differences in essentials at the elementary, middle, and high schools levels. Carpenter stated his concern for the lack of information to the Board and unknown timeline for the committee's work. Brenner said that the plan is to bring the data to the Facilities Committee and then to the School Board not later than the Board's February 25 meeting.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Douthit to approve the authorization of the Administration to proceed in doing the work that simultaneously coincides with this phased group of the PreK-12 Education Model Committee. Motion carried with all board members present voting aye. Absent: Flynn, Lunn, Mikula, and Spivey.

Possible Rescind of Viking Elementary School Relocatable Replacement. Palmiscno explained that since this project was placed on the priority list, additional boiler problems have been discovered at other schools. Chris Arnold, Director of Buildings & Grounds, referred to the project slide that was presented to the Facilities Committee and approved by the School Board and clarified that projects 1-9 were part of the original approval for an additional \$1.9M. Item 10 is the Viking relocatable. Arnold recalled that Carpenter had requested the Board be informed of any deviations from the projects lists. Arnold explained that he wanted to make sure replacing the relocatables at Viking was the correct path going forward because, in the big picture, it is just another temporary band-aid at that school. He said there is a large class size coming into the school next year, but replacing the relocatables, even though they are in very bad shape, is a very expensive band-aid and he was not sure it was the best way to spend a half million dollars. He said he wanted to make sure the School Board was aware that Administration was looking at

this item and holding back a little bit. Palmiscno stated that with the numbers of students expected to come into Viking and in light of the facilities assessment, it might make more sense to put the money into an addition for \$1M, which is a permanent fix, rather than spending \$.5M on relocatables. Carpenter asked what would be done in the interim if the relocatables were not replaced. Dr. Brenner said that even with the new relocatables, Viking would still be short one classroom for next year's projected enrollment. Palmiscno said he had no problem with moving forward with the relocatables to take care of Viking for the next three or four years because the relocatables could be repurposed. He said the next step is for the Finance Committee to see what can be taken care of this year. Arnold explained that in addition to the emergency boiler projects at Grand Forks Central and Schroeder, Twining, Viking, and Ben Franklin are currently experiencing boilers issues. He said that once Grand Forks Central's boilers are replaced, Century's boilers would then be the oldest in the district. The relocatables are beginning to be a safety issue, but the buildings need heat too. This was referred to the Finance Committee.

Consent Agenda. It was moved by Hoffarth and seconded by Shabb to approve the consent agenda as follows: Teacher Appointments for Chelsea King effective January 14, 2019 (salary \$22,835) and Angela Byzewski effective January 17, 2019 (salary \$12,360); One-Year Education Training and Other Professional Growth Experience Leave effective the 2019-2020 contract year for Amy Geinert; Open Enrollment Application as presented; Resignation of Kimberly Adams effective May 31, 2019; and Student Placements as presented. Motion carried with all board members present voting aye. Absent: Flynn, Lunn, Mikula, and Spivey.

General Fund Financial Statement. Berge reported for the period of July 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018, total general fund revenues were \$53,606,067 and total general fund expenditures were \$40,510,735 resulting in an excess of revenues over expenses of \$13,095,332. He also provided comparative year-over-year data and explained reasons for the variances in revenues and expenditures.

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

Second Reading of Policies 8320 and 8330 and Rescind of Policy 8405. Dr. Brenner reported on the January 7, 2019, meeting of the 8000 Series Policy Review Committee and explained revisions that were made to Policies 8320 and 8330 since their first reading was approved. In her absence, Mikula provided a written statement concerning the format for legal references. It was determined that format for legal references did not change policy language and could be discussed later.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Douthit to approve the second reading and adoption of Policy 8320 as revised. Motion carried with all board members present voting aye. Absent: Flynn, Lunn, Mikula, and Spivey.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Hoffarth to approve the second reading and adoption of Policy 8330 as revised. Motion carried with all board members present voting aye. Absent: Flynn, Lunn, Mikula, and Spivey.

It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Douthit to approve the second reading to rescind Policy 8405. Motion carried with all board members present voting aye. Absent: Flynn, Lunn, Mikula, and Spivey.

Announcements. Dr. Brenner reminded the Board of the Directors and Principals Contract Bargaining Committees meetings that will be held tomorrow (January 22) at 5:15 p.m.

Douthit drew to the Board's attention that this is April Baumgarten's last meeting as reporter for the Grand Forks Herald as she has accepted a new position with the Fargo Forum. Douthit thanked Baumgarten for her fair and informative coverage of the school district.

Board Requests for Future Consideration. Douthit requested that Administration investigate whether the student board members could receive some type of nonmonetary credit for serving on the Board.

Shabb requested that Administration look at transportation costs regarding bussing.

School Board Norms - How Did We Do?

Palmiscno said that the Board did well.

Book Study. Board members divided into two groups with administrators and proceeded with the book study from 7:18 p.m. to 7:35 p.m.

Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

Bill Palmiscno, President

Scott J. Berge, Business Manager