

**GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 25, 2019**

The School Board of Grand Forks Public School District #1 held a regular meeting on Monday, March 25, 2019, at the Mark Sanford Education Center with President Bill Palmiscno presiding.

Board Members Present: Doug Carpenter, Chris Douthit, Amber Flynn, Jacqueline Hoffarth, Eric Lunn, Shannon Mikula (via phone), Bill Palmiscno, and Cynthia Shabb.

Board Members Absent: Matt Spivey.

Others Present: Student Board Members Riley Thoreson and Anastasia Usatii, Superintendent Dr. Terry Brenner, Business Manager Scott J. Berge, Associate Superintendent Jody Thompson, Assistant Superintendent Catherine Gillach, GFEA President Amanda Weston Caillier, GFAFB School Board Liaison Kevin Whitney, 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. Lunn requested the resignation of Nancy Dutot be removed from the consent agenda and considered as its own topic. The request was approved by unanimous consensus of all Board members present. Absent: Spivey.

It was moved by Douthit and seconded by Carpenter to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried with all Board members present voting aye. Absent: Spivey.

Approval of Minutes. It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Lunn to approve the minutes of March 11, 2019, as written. Motion carried with all Board members present voting aye. Absent: Spivey.

Later in the meeting, Shabb said the minutes needed to be corrected. She said that she had reported on a dyslexia bill, not an autism bill, in the Announcements.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Douthit to amend the minutes to state 'dyslexia', not 'autism'. Motion carried with all Board members present voting aye. Absent: Spivey.

Citizen Comments (non-agenda items). None.

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

Legislative Update. Dr. Brenner reported the latest update regarding the \$137 million alleged distribution error by the State Treasurer is that both Chambers appear to believe that the money must be reinstated; the question is when and how. He also highlighted the following bills:

- SB2052, which would allow districts to levy an additional five mills for safety and which includes language making school safety plans exempt from open records.
- HB1454, which relates to bids for school district contracts, increases the threshold amount from \$25,000 to \$50,000. Berge reported that another bill [HB1356] related to public improvement projects would raise the bid threshold to \$250,000.
- HB1335 allows a student to wear traditional tribal regalia at graduation ceremonies.

Standards-Based Report Card Update. District Assessment Coordinator Carrie Weippert and Elementary Instructional Coaches Sarah Bry, Jennifer Straw, and Becky Trapnell highlighted the timeline of work that has been done in 2018-2019, which is the first year this new report card has been implemented district-wide. They also shared plans for the 2019-2020 school year, which will include work with prioritizing standards and creating proficiency scales for those standards.

Consent Agenda. It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Shabb to approve the consent agenda as follows: Teacher Appointments of Emily Gilbertson (salary \$43,057) and Kimberly Hansen (salary \$43,057), Open Enrollment Applications as presented, and

Resignations of Armelda "Kay" Kingfisher and Lane Talkington effective May 31, 2019. Motion carried with all Board members present voting aye. Absent: Spivey.

Resignation of Nancy Dutot. It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Shabb to approve the resignation of Nancy Dutot effective June 28, 2019. Lunn requested that the School Board send a letter to Mrs. Dutot commending her for 34 years in the District, 26 years as a principal, plus all of the background work she has done for the District. Shabb called attention to her being the first female secondary administrator in the District and one of two female secondary Class A administrators in the state. Douthit said she was a professional, caring educator. Motion carried with all Board members present voting aye. Absent: Spivey.

Facilities Committee Report - Pure Development/Executive Corners Agreement.

Thompson reported that this is an amended land exchange contract that now includes six additional stalls and the developer's donation of \$120,000. He reminded the Board that the cost to develop Executive Corners is approximately \$180,000 minus the developer's donation and \$20,000 in ramp lease savings for a total of approximately \$40,000. District Administration supports the unanimous recommendation of the Facilities Committee to approve this agreement and begin planning and construction of the Executive Corner lot to be completed by the fall of 2019. Palmiscno pointed out that the savings from the reduced parking ramp lease is a yearly savings, which not only does the District save the money from the parking ramp lease, we relieve some traffic coming out of the parking ramp.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Shabb to approve the Amended Land Exchange Contract by and between Fire Thorn LLC by and through their President Kevin Ritterman (Developer) and the District and to proceed with development of the Executive Corners parking lot as recommended.

Mikula asked if the vote is to exclusively apply the donation to the development of Executive Corners versus to an emergent project. Palmiscno and Shabb said the motion is to use the donation for Executive Corners.

In response to comments by Flynn, Dr. Brenner reported on contacts the he has made regarding the Executive Corners lot and their responses as follows:

- City Planner Ryan Brooks did a traffic study of cars coming in and out of the Executive Corners lot and said it would not cause any issues or problems downtown even if there were a raised coffee house or cafe on that lot.
- Keith Lund and Brandon Baumbach from the Economic Development Corporation know it is the District's property and say the District may do what it wants with its property. Most are saying it is on the edge of downtown and not a prime piece of real estate to be developed into something.
- Blue Weber of the Downtown Development Association acknowledged that it was the District's property and the District could do what it wanted with it. There is a philosophical difference of opinion as to how the property could be used. Brenner said that the District would be open to conversation if approached with an option for a raised structure on the lot to make it a multi-use land space if the District would still be able to park there.
- Other City leaders, the Mayor and City Administrator Todd Feland, agree that the District ought to be able to do what it wants with the lot and reconcile the parking for Central High School.

Palmiscno added that all of the District's lots downtown have been made available to the general public after school hours, although restrictions could be put on them for overnight parking in order to prevent parking problems in the morning.

It was pointed out that the Section 2.A. of the agreement called for a concrete paving; however, Brenner and Palmiscno said that the surface would be asphalt.

Motion carried with all Board members present voting aye. Absent: Spivey.

Head Start Grant Application. Tracey Johnson, Head Start Director, requested approval of the 2019-2020 First Year of the Five-Year Grant Narrative and Budget Justification for \$3,334,607 that includes \$666,922 for non-federal share. The Head Start Policy Council unanimously approved the proposed budget and annual goals and objectives on March 5. Johnson explained the Head Start Program, budget details, enrollment, program locations, and major goals for the next year.

It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Hoffarth to approve the 2019-2020 First Year of the Five-Year Grant Narrative and Budget Justification for \$3,334,607. Motion carried with all Board members present voting aye. Absent: Spivey.

Summer School Program. Summer School Directors Kevin Ohnstad, Gabe Dahl, Terry Bohan, and Dean Opp reported on their respective elementary, secondary, driver education, and Summer Performing Arts (SPA) summer programs. Ohnstad highlighted Intro to Kindergarten and 10th month remedial reading, which are held in June, and remedial math, which is held in August.

Dahl reported on the high school program and the middle school English and math remedial program. The German, class will be traveling this summer. Dahl said this is the first year where communications are strictly by email, although there will be alternative communications if a parent does not have email. Dahl also said expanding the number of classes offered online is being looked at.

Bohan reported on the driver education program. It is a three-tier program with classroom instruction, simulated driving, and actual driving experience. As in the past, Rydell Auto, Twin City Motors, and Atlas Auto will provide vehicles. Bohan explained that the instructor pool is becoming an issue. He discussed the uniqueness of licensure for a driver education instructor and the cost for certification. The driver education program will be scaled back this summer and then look for the possibility of another session later and continue studying how to recruit drivers.

Opp reported on the Summer Performing Arts program. The program is laid out as it has been in the past except that an elementary session will be offered on Base at Twining School. SPA has a scholarship program that allows no student to be turned away due to their financial condition.

It was moved by Douthit and seconded by Lunn to approve the summer school programs as outlined. Motion carried with all Board members present voting aye. Absent: Spivey.

Appointment of Grand Forks Central High School Principal. Gillach reported on the interview process and membership of the interview team for the position of principal of

Grand Forks Central High School. The recommendation is to hire Mr. Jon Strandell.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Shabb to appoint Mr. Jon Strandell as the principal for Grand Forks Central High School for the 2019-2020 school year. Motion carried with all Board members present voting aye. Absent: Spivey.

Announcements.

- Shabb reported on her recent experience on the Substance Abuse and Prevention Committee during which she was surprised by the prevailing community attitude about alcohol and the high number of fake driver licenses that are being used.
- Flynn asked if the Youth Commission was recently awarded a grant from Governor Burgum. Douthit said the commission is one of 17 student organizations recognized across the state in their work towards the stigma of addiction and drug and alcohol issues facing youth.

Board Requests for Future Consideration.

None.

School Board Norms - How Did We Do?

Lunn said the Board was excellent in following the school board norms.

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

APPROVED _____
(Date)

Bill Palmiscno, President

Scott J. Berge, Business Manager