

**GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 5, 2019**

The Grand Forks School Board met in regular session on Monday, August 5, 2019, at the Mark Sanford Education Center with Bill Palmiscno presiding.

Board Members Present:

Bill Palmiscno, President/Voting Member
Amber Flynn, Vice President/Voting Member
Doug Carpenter, Voting Member
Jacqueline Hoffarth, Voting Member
Eric Lunn, Voting Member
Cynthia Shabb, Voting Member

Student Board Members Present:

None

Board Members Absent:

Shannon Mikula, Voting Member
Matt Spivey, Voting Member

Student Board Members Absent:

Riley Thoreson, Non-voting Member

Others Present:

Dr. Terry Brenner, Superintendent of Schools
Scott J. Berge, Business Manager
Jody Thompson, Associate Superintendent of Elementary Education
Catherine Gillach, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education
Melissa Buchhop, Vice President, Grand Forks Education Association (GFEA)
Cindy Johnson, Executive Secretary

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda. Palmiscno drew to the Board's attention a handout of three additional teacher appointments to be added to the consent agenda. It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Carpenter to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Mikula and Spivey.

Approval of Minutes. It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Lunn to approve the minutes of July 15, 2019; July 17, 2019; and July 23, 2019, as written. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Mikula and Spivey.

Citizen Comments (non-agenda items). None.

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

Resignation of School Board Member. Berge reported that School Board Member Chris Douthit resigned his seat on the Board effective July 24, 2019.

Consent Agenda. It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Carpenter to approve the consent agenda as follows: Amended Teacher Appointments effective August 19, 2019, of Angela Blacknik (salary \$41,818), Danielle Bollman (salary \$41,818), Mallory Davison (salary \$41,818), Mariah Dolan (salary \$46,532), Skylar Hildebrand (salary \$41,818), Meghan Lano (salary \$42,593), Kyle Meier (salary \$44,037), Angela Nagel (salary \$54,296), Tina Parkes (salary \$41,818), Melissa Port (salary \$41,818), Desiree Sunde (salary \$55,073), Brooke VanLooy (salary \$41,818), Jennifer Woodward-Sorenson (salary \$56,181), Samantha Irving (salary \$48,085), and Samantha Schneider (salary \$42,593); Open Enrollment applications as presented; denial of Open Enrollment as

presented; and Resignations effective May 31, 2019, of Anita Klenner and Jennifer Schroeder. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Mikula and Spivey.

Process for Filling School Board Vacancy.

Berge reported on the requirements per state law and School Board Policy 8120 relative to the process for filling a school board vacancy. It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Lunn to establish an application period of Tuesday, August 6 through Tuesday, September 3, 2019, for the school board vacancy that resulted from the resignation of Chris Douthit. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Mikula and Spivey.

Discussion was held on the application questions #5 and #6. It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Hoffarth to revise question #6 by adding language about the role of a Board member. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Mikula and Spivey.

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 1001

School Calendar. Brenner explained a revision that was made to the policy since its first reading that adds language stating parent-teacher conference days are not part of the blackout dates. Buchhop agreed that the added language reflected conversations that took place during teacher contract negotiations. It was moved by Hoffarth and seconded by Carpenter to approve the second reading and adoption of Policy 1001 School Calendar. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Mikula and Spivey.

Revised School Board Committee Appointments for 2019-2020.

Palmiscno reported that with the resignation of Chris Douthit, it was necessary to appoint a replacement for him on the committees that he had been appointed to. It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Carpenter to approve the following replacement appointments:

- Classified Employees Meet & Confer Committee - reserved for the new board member.
- Policy Review Committees:
 - 4000 Series - Personnel - Shannon Mikula
 - 5000 Series - Students - reserved for the new board member

- Superintendent Evaluation Committee - reserved for the new board member
- Teacher Contracts Bargaining Committee - Shannon Mikula
- City of Grand Forks Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC) - Shannon Mikula

Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Mikula and Spivey.

Finance Committee Report. Brenner reported on recommendations from the July 15, 2019, meeting of the Finance Committee as follows:

Grant Writer Position. This is a new, non-administrative position that would exclusively dedicate an individual to pursue grant dollars for the school district. Pay for the position will range between \$60-65,000 with salary and benefits. The District expects to pay for the position in its first year and expects to recoup 80-100% of the cost thereafter from the grants.

Increase of Three FTEs in Special Education at the Middle Schools. An increase of 41 special education students in 6th grade is expected this year. Currently, the middle schools do not have adequate staffing to meet the special education needs and staff at the elementary level have been so inundated that they have not been available to the middle schools.

It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Hoffarth to approve the Grant Writer position and increase of three FTEs in special education at the middle schools. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Mikula and Spivey.

Consolidated Grant Application for Federal Title Funding.

Thompson provided an overview of the federal Title programs and their financial impact on activities in the district. It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Carpenter to approve the 2019-2020 Consolidated Grant Application in the amount of \$4,032,651.86. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Mikula and Spivey.

Preliminary Budget and Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. Berge gave a detailed overview of the preliminary budget and tax levy for fiscal year 2019-2020, which calls for a total

levy of 101 mills. This levy includes 70 mills for the general fund, 12 mills for miscellaneous, 4 mills for tuition, 3 mills for a special reserve fund, 10 mills for the building fund, and 2 mills for special assessments. The levy for the special reserve fund is a new levy and is intended to provide a source of funds in the event of an emergency. State law requires school district taxes to be levied on or before August 10. The law allows the district to amend its tax levy and budget on or before October 10. State law also requires that a preliminary budget statement and the date, time, and location of the District’s public hearing on the property tax levy, which may be no earlier than September 7, be provided to the county auditor on or before August 10. It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Lunn to approve the preliminary budget and tax levy of 101 mills for fiscal year 2019-2020 and to establish that the school board will conduct a public hearing on the 2019 property tax levy during its meeting on Monday, September 9, 2019, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Mark Sanford Education Center. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Mikula and Spivey.

Announcements. Thompson reported there would be an active shooter exercise at Grand Forks Central High School and reunification exercise at the Alerus Center on Wednesday, August 7.

Board Requests for Future Consideration. Flynn suggested the District submit an application to the National School Boards Association’s Magna Award Program.

School Board Norms - How Did We Do? Lunn reported that Board members did well in following the school board norms.

Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

Bill Palmiscno, President

Scott J. Berge, Business Manager