

**GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 28, 2020**

NOTE: Per Governor Doug Burgum's executive order, all North Dakota school districts, including Grand Forks Public Schools, are closed until further notice. This is a precautionary measure against the transmission of COVID-19. This meeting was held via Zoom.

The Grand Forks School Board met in regular session on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, 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
Jeff Manley, Voting Member
Cynthia Shabb, Voting Member
Matt Spivey, Voting Member

Student Board Members Present:

Riley Thoreson, Non-voting Member
Oliver Wolfe, Non-voting Member

Board Members Absent:

Shannon Mikula, Voting Member

Student Board Members Absent:

None.

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
Cindy Johnson, Executive Secretary

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

to the board's attention the school board norms and requested board members follow them.

Approval of Agenda. It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Shabb to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hoffarth and Mikula.

Grant Writer Position Update. The district's grant writer, Taunya Schleicher, gave an update on her position and work with federal programs and competitive grants funding.

Approval of Minutes. It was moved by Spivey and seconded by Carpenter to approve the minutes of April 14, 2020, as written. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hoffarth and Mikula.

Hoffarth joined the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Citizen Comments (non-agenda items). None.

Distance Learning Update. Dr. Brenner, Thompson, and Gillach gave an update on the district's distance learning including successes, lessons learned, and opportunities for a blended learning environment in the future.

Review School Board Norms. Palmiscno drew

Consent Agenda. It was moved by Shabb and

seconded by Spivey to approve the consent agenda as follows: Appointment of Cassidy Graves (salary \$43,232) effective August 18, 2020; Open Enrollment Applications as presented; and Resignations of Garnet Asmundson, Kyle Cummings, and Emily Gilbertson effective May 29, 2020. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Mikula.

General Fund Financial Statement. Berge explained that for the period of July 1, 2019, through March 31, 2020, total general fund revenues were \$85,340,126 and total general fund expenditures were \$71,985,847 resulting in an excess of revenues over expenses of \$13,354,279. He reported the expenses as a percentage of the budget were higher this year than the last two years, all of which are related to construction and repair expenses, which have increased significantly. The general fund balance declined by \$6.2M in two years, mostly due to construction expenses paid out of the general fund. Interest growth is not sustainable due to declining interest rates and less money in interest-earning accounts. Utilities in March decreased which corresponds with online learning. Construction Services is a \$1.37M increase from last year and is 65% of the \$3.65M annual budget. Berge announced the school district will receive approximately \$2M from the CARES Act in May. The district has one year to use the funds for expenses related to COVID-19, a lot of which are technology-related.

It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Shabb to approve the General Fund Financial Statement for the period July 1, 2019, through March 31, 2020. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Mikula.

District Strategic Plan 2020-2025. Dr. Brenner reported that changes were made in the areas of Human Resources and Academics since Dr. Schatz presented the draft strategic plan. A draft of the plan's Roadmap, otherwise known as the operational guidelines, was also mentioned. Shabb said that she still saw gaps in progress monitoring areas and wanted to see the recommendations go to some type of action plan.

It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Lunn to approve the District Strategic Plan 2020-2025. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Mikula.

Policy Review Committee Report: First and Second Readings and Rescinding of Policies.

Shabb reported on the April 20, 2020, Policy Review Committee meeting at which the board's suggestions for proposed Policy AAC-Nondiscrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy were discussed as well as continuing work toward adoption of the NDSBA policy templates.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Spivey to complete the second reading of Policy BDA-Procedure for Adopting Board Policy and Policy 4300-Early Retirement of Professional Staff Members and adopt each one as an official policy of the district. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Mikula.

It was moved by Hoffarth and seconded by Lunn to complete the first reading and adoption of Board Regulation BDA-BR-Procedure for Development of Board Policy, the new first reading of Policy AAC-Nondiscrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy, the first reading of Policy ABBE-Displays of Religious Objects or Documents, Policy ABCE-Prohibition on Aiding Sexual Abuse, Policy ABDA-Website Accessibility Policy, Policy FDB-Education of the Homeless Student, first reading and adoption of Board Regulation FDB-BR-Education of the Homeless Student Dispute Resolution Policy, and the first reading of Policy FDE-Education of Special Education/Disabled Students, Policy FDH-Students in Foster Care, Policy GABAA-English Learners, Policy GACB-Patriotic Exercises, and Policy HBAA-Federal Fiscal Compliance. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Mikula.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Carpenter to rescind Policy 8600-Adoption and Amendment of Policies and Regulations. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Mikula.

Announcements. Carpenter announced the School Board Self-Assessment Committee met and agreed the assessment format for this year will be based on the board's meeting norms. The survey will be distributed to board members on

May 1 with an expected completion date of May 15 after which the committee will meet to review the results and prepare a report for the June 2 board meeting.

Board Requests for Future Consideration.

None.

School Board Norms - How Did We Do?

Palmiscno reported the board did well in following its norms.

Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Approved _____
(Date)

Bill Palmiscno, President

Scott J. Berge, Business Manager