

**GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 24, 2020**

The Grand Forks School Board met in regular session on Monday, August 24, 2020, with Eric Lunn and Amber Flynn presiding.

Board Members Present: Doug Carpenter, Chris Douthit, Amber Flynn, Jacqueline Hoffarth, Eric Lunn, Jeff Manley, Shannon Mikula (via phone), Bill Palmiscno, and Cynthia Shabb. **Absent:** None.

Student Board Members Present: None.

Others Present: Dr. Terry Brenner, Superintendent of Schools; Scott J. Berge, Business Manager; Catherine Gillach, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education; Brady Olson, Vice President, Grand Forks Education Association; Branden Shepperd (via phone), GFAFB School Board Liaison; and Cindy Johnson, Executive Secretary.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Vice President Lunn. President Flynn joined the meeting and assumed the role of Chairperson.

Celebrating Success – Special Announcement. Dr. Brenner gave opening remarks about preparations for school during a pandemic and announced the district is the recipient of some additional support in funding our Smart Restart efforts. GE Foundation, the philanthropic arm of GE, owner of LM Wind Power, is providing a \$100,000 COVID-19 Community Response Grant to the Community Foundation of Grand Forks, East Grand Forks & Region that will be used to help retrofit classrooms to better meet COVID-19 safety standards, provide funds to help students access distance learning classes, and support professional development for educators as they shift to more online teaching.

Tom Leighton-Haggy, LM Wind Power Plant Director, spoke about work that GE and GE Foundation have done since the COVID-19 outbreak began. They have funded PPE and other necessary materials to healthcare workers and essential workers all over the world, vaccine and treatment research, supported food access to Boston's in-need children, families, and seniors, and now, to help support Grand Forks Public Schools' students in their educational journeys in the wake of COVID-19.

Cathi Feeley, Community Foundation Board President, spoke about the Foundation's philanthropic partnerships in the region. With the generosity of GE and the GE Foundation, the Foundation can offer increased safety measures for the upcoming school year.

Approval of Agenda. The agenda was amended by adding additional names to the list of Consent Agenda appointments and NDSBA Board Delegates Update as an action item. It was moved by Douthit and seconded by Manley to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes. It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Palmiscno to approve the minutes of August 10, 2020, as written. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Manley and seconded by Carpenter to approve the minutes of August 17, 2020, as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Comments (non-agenda items). None.

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

Facilities Taskforce Update. Tom Weber, senior business consultant, SitelogIQ, gave an update on the work of the taskforce and its timeline. The Taskforce is about 4-6 weeks behind the original

timeline. He anticipates submitting a final report to the board in November.

School Reopening Update. Dr. Brenner and Gillach gave an update on the school smart reopening plans and what can be expected during the classroom and distance learning day, staffing at the secondary level, and updated classroom and school closure and spectator attendance guidelines. Discussion continued on the district's protocol for wearing facemasks and whether a facemask mandate should be established and CDC guidelines.

Consent Agenda. Flynn requested the appointments of Mark Broden and Timothy Delmore be removed from the consent agenda. It was moved by Palmiscno and seconded by Hoffarth to approve the consent agenda as follows: Teacher Appointments effective August 18, 2020, of Heather Everson (salary \$44,810), Jennifer Fetsch (salary \$49,098), Amber Haskell (salary \$47,961), Renee Huether (salary \$18,554), Adam Kessler (salary \$50,270), Justin Knowlton (salary \$42,445), Eryn Miles (salary \$42,445), Joanne Abel (salary \$42,445), Brittany Anderson (salary \$42,445), Jesse Boushee (salary \$42,445), Elizabeth Crowston (salary \$59,276), Kimberly Dahl (salary \$42,445), Kelly Jensen (salary \$51,958), Lucas Rieder (salary \$42,445), Angela Salgado (salary \$42,445), and Teressa Wilde (salary \$42,445); and Student Placements as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Brenner explained Mark Broden and Timothy Delmore were coming out of retirement and the administration wanted to take a closer look at what their salary might be. It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Palmiscno to approve the appointments of Mark Broden (salary to-be-determined) and Timothy Delmore (salary to-be-determined) effective August 18, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

General Fund Financial Statement. Berge explained that for the period of July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020, total general fund revenues were \$103,059,620 and total general fund expenditures were \$108,998,103 resulting in an excess of expenses over revenues of \$5,938,483. Berge reported there are a few minor adjustments yet to be made, the FEMA receivable is not included, and the deficit is close

to budget, as are revenues and expenditures.

It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Manley to approve the General Fund Financial Statement for the period July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Policy Review Committee Report: First & Second Readings of Policies & Regulations. Shabb reported on the August 13, 2020, Policy Review Committee meeting and continuation of its work toward the adoption of the NDSBA policy templates.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Palmiscno to expedite the adoption of revised Policy AAC – Nondiscrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy as allowed by Policy BDA. Motion carried unanimously. It was moved by Hoffarth and seconded by Douthit to complete the expedited first reading as written of revised Policy AAC – Nondiscrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy and adopt it as the official policy of the district. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Carpenter to complete the first reading as written of Board Regulation AAC-BR1 – Discrimination and Harassment Grievance Procedure and Board Regulation AAC-BR2 – Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure and adopt each one as an official policy of the district. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Palmiscno to complete the first reading as written of Policy ABBA – North Dakota's Comprehensive Model School Policy for Tobacco Use. Motion carried unanimously.

Consolidated Grant Application for Federal Title Funding. It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Carpenter to approve the 2020-2021 Consolidated Grant Application in the amount of \$4,023,565.47. Motion carried unanimously.

NDSBA Board Delegates Update. Dr. Brenner explained the North Dakota School Boards Association decided that all in-person events connected to the 2020 Annual Convention have

been canceled and that the new member seminar, school law seminar, delegate assembly, and board of directors' election will be held virtually. The names of the delegates and alternates must be submitted by the close of business on September 10 to be eligible to vote in the election and participate in the delegate assembly. Board members wishing to attend any of the events are to contact Cindy Johnson by September 8.

It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Shabb to authorize the superintendent or business manager to designate and submit the appropriate number of delegates and alternates in the same order as the board member(s) has indicated their intent to attend. Motion carried unanimously.

Announcements. Flynn reminded everyone to practice good hygiene, wash their hands, wear masks, and practice social distancing.

Board Requests for Future Consideration. A school board retreat will be scheduled this fall.

School Board Norms - How Did We Do? Shabb reported that the board did well in following its norms.

Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

Amber Flynn, President

Scott J. Berge, Business Manager