

**GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD  
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
September 14, 2020**

The Grand Forks School Board met in regular session on Monday, September 14, 2020, with Amber Flynn presiding.

**Board Members Present:** Doug Carpenter, Chris Douthit, Amber Flynn, Eric Lunn, Jeff Manley, Shannon Mikula, Bill Palmiscno, and Cynthia Shabb. **Absent:** Jacqueline Hoffarth.

**Student Board Members Present:** 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, President, Grand Forks Education Association; Lewis Isassi, GFASB School Board Liaison; and Cindy Johnson, Executive Secretary.

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

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

**Approval of Minutes.** It was moved by Manley and seconded by Douthit to approve the minutes of August 24, 2020, as written. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hoffarth and Shabb.

**Citizen Comments (non-agenda items).** None.

**Review School Board Norms.** Manley read aloud the school board norms.

Shabb joined the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

**School Reopening Update.** Dr. Brenner, Thompson, and Gillach gave an update on the schools' reopening. Discussion took place on distance education enrollment, face-to-face enrollment, students and staff following CDC guidelines, COVID leaves and staffing challenges, and anticipation of face-to-face student returns at the trimester and semester. Despite some bumps along the way, overall there have been a lot of successes and things are going well. Some of the next steps include monitoring busing

needs once the weather gets colder and bolstering some intervention supports.

**Summer School Reports.** Summer School Directors Kevin Ohnstad, Mike Wilber, Terry Bohan, and Allison Peterson reported on the elementary and secondary summer school, driver's education, and the Summer Performing Arts.

Ohnstad reported Introduction to Kindergarten and Reading classes were offered at the elementary level in a face-to-face setting. Math was not offered. The enrollment totaled 704 students. He reported wearing face coverings was not an issue and that everyone understood the expectations and followed them.

Wilber reported there were 901 enrolled seats at the high school level in an online setting. The most popular classes were Global Ed and physical education. Class credit was earned by 798 students. Remedial math and reading classes were offered at the middle school level in a face-to-face setting with 63 students enrolled.

Bohan reported 249 students completed driver education. A majority of the students participated in a remote setting. Behind-the-wheel was offered in a solo setting with only the driver and instructor in the vehicle at one time.

Peterson reported that due to the COVID pandemic, all SPA activities did not happen. A small project to recognize senior students was completed.

**NDSBA Opportunities for Board Member Development.** Dr. Brenner reported three board members—Douthit, Shabb, and Carpenter—will serve as delegates to the Delegate Assembly on October 30. He reminded board members to inform Cindy Johnson of their plans to attend the new member seminar and school law seminar as soon as possible.

Berge informed board members of an opportunity to attend the NAFIS Virtual Fall Conference at no cost.

**Consent Agenda.** It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Lunn to approve the consent agenda as follows: Teacher Appointments of Alec Hepper (salary \$41,767) effective August 25, 2020; Marina Marzolino (salary \$41,541), Kristian Stenslie (salary \$42,643), and Caroline Stevens (salary \$44,626) effective August 26, 2020; of Shellon Glumm (salary \$41,316) effective August 27, 2020; and of Olivia Lund (salary \$41,090) and Aaron Schmidt (salary \$21,308) effective August 28, 2020; and Open Enrollment Applications as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hoffarth.

**Annual Compliance Report.** It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Palmiscno to approve the Grand Forks Public Schools Annual Compliance Report for 2020-2021. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hoffarth.

**Student Transportation Services for 2020-2021.** Berge reported the district is in the last year of the student transportation services agreement. The administration met with Dietrich's several times over the last few months regarding the 2019-2020 school year and has reached a tentative agreement based on an overall 1.25% increase, or approximately \$30,000 for the year.

It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Lunn to approve the Student Transportation Services Agreement with Dietrich's of Grand

Forks, Inc. for 2020-2021. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hoffarth.

**Head Start Carryover Grant Request.** Tracey Johnson, Head Start Director, requested approval to carry over \$18,065 from the 2019-2020, Training and Technical Assistance budget to the 2020-2021 school year. The dollars were not used due to COVID-19.

It was moved by Palmiscno and seconded by Shabb to approve the Carryover Grant Narrative and Budget Justification for \$18,065. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hoffarth.

**Head Start Orientation.** Head Start Director Tracey Johnson provided orientation to the Board on the Head Start Program including Shared Program Governance, selection criteria, Policy Council Bylaws, program goals, readiness goals, impasse procedures, and grievance and complaint procedures.

It was moved by Douthit and seconded by Shabb to approve the Grand Forks Head Start Program Policy Council Bylaws, Impasse Procedures, and Grievance and Complaint Procedures. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hoffarth.

**First & Second Readings of Policies & Regulations & Rescindment of Policy.** It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Lunn to complete the second reading of Policy ABBA, North Dakota's Comprehensive Model School Policy for Tobacco Use, as written and adopt it as the official policy of the district. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hoffarth.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Carpenter to complete the first reading of Board Regulation ABBA-BR, Tobacco-Free Policy Violations, and adopt it as the official board regulation of the district. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hoffarth.

It was moved by Shabb and seconded by Lunn to rescind Policy 7010, Smoke/Tobacco-free Environment, which has been replaced by Policy ABBA and Board Regulation ABBA-BR. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Hoffarth.

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

Flynn announced that this may be her last in-person meeting until sometime in December.

**Board Requests for Future Consideration.**  
None.

**School Board Norms - How Did We Do?**  
Manley reported that the board did fantastic in following its norms.

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

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

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Amber Flynn, President

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Scott J. Berge, Business Manager