



1 The Great Falls Voyagers Baseball Team is generously sponsoring a “Cross-town Clash for Education,”  
2 to benefit the Great Falls Public Schools Foundation. Last spring the Voyagers approached student  
3 councils at CM Russell and Great Falls High Schools about a fundraising opportunity. Student council  
4 members took the challenge and have been encouraging students, parents, and school supporters to  
5 attend a Voyagers game where a portion of every ticket will be donated to a designated charity. Both  
6 councils agreed to participate—on different nights—and selected Great Falls Public Schools Foundation  
7 to receive the contributions. Wednesday, August 24, is CM Russell night, and Thursday, August 25, is  
8 Great Falls High School night. One dollar from every ticket sold for those two evenings will be donated to  
9 the Great Falls Public Schools Foundation.

10  
11 Take advantage of this opportunity to enjoy one or two evenings of baseball and support a most  
12 worthwhile cause!

### 13 14 15 **GREAT FALLS HIGH FACILITY STUDY**

16  
17 Tonight you are being asked to take action to authorize the superintendent to enter into a contract with an  
18 engineering and architectural group to study and make recommendations to the district on upgrading  
19 Great Falls High School and preparing it for 21<sup>st</sup> Century instruction while maintaining the architectural  
20 integrity of a facility that is a community treasure.

21  
22 It has been a long process to get to this point and it is important for you to have a little background  
23 history. A 27-member Facilities Long Range Task Force was appointed in the fall of 2009 and charged  
24 with assisting the Board of Trustees in its fiduciary responsibility to the community as keepers of the  
25 district’s facilities and grounds by developing and recommending to the Board a long range facilities plan  
26 for the district. The Task Force was further charged with studying and addressing issues of energy,  
27 safety and usage. On November 24, 2009 at their second meeting, Task Force members toured District  
28 facilities including Great Falls High School. It was at that time they became aware of the complex needs  
29 in Great Falls High School and the importance of addressing 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning environments while  
30 simultaneously maintaining architectural integrity of this beautiful community asset. Tom Moore and Paul  
31 Culbertson made a presentation on Great Falls High energy and use needs to the Committee in January,  
32 2010. In February 2010 the Committee recommended and the Board accepted a recommendation that  
33 included removing Great Falls High School from the facilities energy project and reserve money to study  
34 the building and campus at a later date. The Board also approved on February 22, 2010 to hold funds in  
35 the amount of \$150,000 for this project.

36  
37 It is exciting to have the energy project underway and to be ready to select a firm to begin studying  
38 GFHS.

### 39 40 **KUDOS TO STUDENTS AND STAFF**

41  
42 Congratulations to **Sharon Lindstrom** and **Sally Mathers** for being selected as Salute to Women  
43 honorees by the Great Falls YWCA. This program recognizes women in our community who embody  
44 YWCA mission “to advance the quality of life for women of all ages, races, and faiths, and their families.”  
45 Sharon and Sally were honored this weekend for their outstanding work in developing the Early Learning  
46 Family Center for children and families at Skyline School.

47  
48 **B. Report of the Malmstrom Representative** – Dawn Beal reported that Colonel Cotton will be  
49 departing and new Colonel will be inducted on August 29, 2011. She also reported that 66 members  
50 were deployed for 6 month to a year and 15 members from the air guard were also deployed. She  
51 indicated that she will get information on how many have families and the number of children involved.

### 52 53 **QUESTIONS, CONCERN, AND INFORAMTION FROM THE AUDIENCE**

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55 Cyndi Baker felt that the district should use email instead of sending out post cards for noticing Board  
56 Meetings. She also suggested that the trustees emails be posted on the website.

1  
2 Philip Faccenda of Faccenda Swanson Architecture asked the trustees to delay making their decision on  
3 awarding the contract for Engineering and Architectural Study of Great Falls High School and questioned  
4 the methods the school district used to come up with their selection. He also voiced concern over not  
5 asking the responding firms interested in bidding on the master plan project to include their fees for  
6 services because of a perceived discrepancy in laws related to architectural fees. Because his company  
7 includes many Great Falls High graduates, he stated it likely would have done the study for at least 33  
8 percent less than the \$150,000 set aside.  
9

10 Martin Byrnes with CTA Architects defended the school district's vetting process, even though his  
11 company did not get awarded the contract. He stated that he found the process typical and it was fair.  
12

13 Judy Deck commented that she would like to see Great Falls High grads people working on this project.  
14 She feels this would help keep the traditions and excellence of this building.  
15

16 Steve L'Heureux, whose firm is recommended for the contract, commented that they have strong ties to  
17 Great Falls and the public schools and also felt that the selection process was good and handled  
18 correctly. His interpretation of the law is that you negotiate the fees after the firm has been picked for the  
19 project.  
20

## 21 **ACTION ITEMS**

22  
23 **A. Adopt Board Goals for 2011-2012** – Motion – Laura Vukasin, Seconded – Ann Janikula, passed  
24 unanimously to adopt the revision in the Vision, Mission and Belief statements and the nine overarching  
25 Board Goals that set the direction for the Strategic Plan. Jeff Gray and Laura Vukasin commented that  
26 this was a great process and also appreciated the feedback from Cabinet.  
27

28 Cheryl Crawley reported that this is the first year of a new multi-year strategic plan with the focus of the  
29 plan around three themes: Everyone Counts, Operational Excellence, and Data-driven Organization.  
30 Under each theme are multiple Board Goals. Each Cabinet member's department staff is in the process  
31 of developing the strategies and action plans unique to their area of business that will serve to meet the  
32 intent of the Board Goals. A few samples have been attached in the agenda.  
33

34 **B. Award Contract for Engineering and Architectural Study of Great Falls High School** – Motion –  
35 Laura Vukasin, Seconded – Ann Janikula, passed with Johnny Walker, Laura Vukasin, Ann Janikula, Jeff  
36 Gray voting in favor of motion and Bob Moretti abstaining, to authorize the superintendent to enter into a  
37 contract with L'Heureux Page Werner not to exceed \$150,000 to conduct the comprehensive master plan  
38 study of Great Falls High School.  
39

40 Tom Moore, Assistant Superintendent for secondary schools, explained the methods used to select the  
41 firm. He also corrected a statement in the agenda in the third paragraph, third sentence saying that "It  
42 was not unanimous among the review committee it was conclusive."  
43

## 44 **C. Accept Financial Report and Approve Check Registers**

45  
46 Motion – Laura Vukasin, Seconded – Johnny Walker, passed unanimously to approve Accounts Payable  
47 checks #44572-44889 in the amount of \$696,646.36 and Payroll checks #35626-35744 in the amount of  
48 \$99,383.41. No financial reports were presented for approval at this time.  
49

## 50 **ACTION OTHER**

51  
52 None  
53

## 54 **REPORTS, DISCUSSION, AND POLICIES**

55

1 **A. Report from Jon Konen's Presidential Science Award Trip** – Ruth Uecker introduced Jon Konen,  
2 who is the new principal at Lincoln Elementary and who was honored with the 2010 Presidential Award  
3 for Excellence in Elementary Science Teaching. Jon reported on how he was nominated and what his  
4 trip was like to Washington DC. He stated that the requirements for becoming nominated he had to video  
5 tape a science lesson, analyze how he planned for the lesson, what he and the students did during the  
6 lesson and what he did after the lesson. This award has been given out since 1983 and is set up to have  
7 teachers meet the administrators of many of the governmental agencies. Teachers are asked to be  
8 liaisons back in their states and schools in helping get information out, as well as being asked to sit on  
9 many committees/organizations. Out of the 79 recognized teachers since 1983, 10 are from Great Falls.  
10 The top 3 events of the recognition week were meeting the President, meeting with the Department of  
11 Education and NOAA: JOIDES Resolution which is a seagoing research vessel that drills core samples  
12 and collects measurements from under the ocean floor, giving scientists a glimpse into Earth's  
13 development. Three ideas that he brought back are to deliver professional development and embedded  
14 instructional help; Instructional libraries and "STEM on Steroids" Lessons.  
15

16 **B. Report on Great Falls High School Neighborhood Council Meeting** - Tom Moore reported that on  
17 Thursday, August 11, 2011, members of GFPS board, district administration and a representative of the  
18 Great Falls Police Department attended a listening session with the Neighborhood Council #9 at the  
19 Church of the Nazarene at 1727 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave South. Neighborhood Council #9 is adjacent to GFHS.  
20 Residents from the surrounding neighborhood addressed concerns regarding parking issues, student  
21 loitering, vandalism, smoking and litter. Several of the speakers offered suggestions and support for  
22 remedying the issues. Tom Moore presented an Action Plan to the Board and they will continue to work  
23 on this issue. Trustees had concerns with the hiring of a campus supervisor as to what authority this  
24 person would have and how this would work out. Tom indicated that this person would have interaction  
25 with students, staff, SRO and neighborhood. The Board asked that more discussions be set on this item.  
26 Tom Moore explained that this item was brought up 2 years ago, others changes have been made, but  
27 not hiring a person. Currently these changes are not working and there is a need to show action quickly.  
28 Fred Anderson, Principal at GFHS stated that each year these problems have been brought up. Students  
29 in the building work very hard on this topic by policing the areas and keeping it clean. Also it needs to be  
30 pointed out that Neighborhood #9 also had positive things to say and letters acknowledging GFHS and  
31 the good things they do.  
32

33 **C. Discussion, Committee Reports, and Comments** – Trustee Vukasin reports that last week she  
34 attended a Transportation Meeting which had concerns with the conditions of the roads in town and also  
35 all the road construction that is currently going on. Trustee Moretti reported that he visited Ray Lyons,  
36 Head Engineer for GFHS, in the hospital. Ray was involved in an accident and seems to be doing well.  
37 Chairman Gray announced that there will be a Board Work Session on August 29, 2011 at 5:15 to work  
38 on Board Goals.  
39

#### 40 **UPCOMING EVENTS**

41  
42 Chairman Gray reminded everyone that the First Day of School is August 31, 2011 and to drive slowly  
43 and watch out for kids. The next Board Meeting will be September 12, 2011 at 7 pm at the DOB.  
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#### 45 **ACTION TO ADJOURN**

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47 Motion – Laura Vukasin, Seconded – Johnny Walker, passed unanimously to adjourn the Regular  
48 Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 8:52 pm.  
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55 Jeff Gray, Chairman  
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Brian Patrick, Clerk

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