

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
November 28, 2005
Northfield High School Media Center

- I. Call to Order.
Chairperson Kari Nelson called the meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District 659 to order at 7:00 p.m. No one was absent.
- II. Agenda Changes.
The table file was added.
- III. Public Comment.
There was no one.
- IV. Approval of Minutes.
The minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on November 14, 2005, were approved with one correction.
- V. Announcements.
 - Hoang Ton, a student of the Community Services Dakota Prairie Adult Basic Education Consortium Citizenship Preparation Class, obtained his US citizenship in a ceremony held on Nov. 9 at the Mpls. Convention Center. The citizenship preparation class is taught by Judy Dirks.
 - The Gator Girls Swimming and Diving Team closed out its season with an eighth place finish at the Class A State Meet on Nov 23.
 - The NHS student body under Mr. Ron Nuebel's leadership, raised over \$2,800 in money for Katrina relief. The money will go to our "matched" high school, East St. John's High School, in Reserve, LA. Their student body exploded from around 1,400 students to 1,800 students following the hurricane. The LA high school needs money for school supplies and school uniforms.
 - NHS advisors, Mr. Cade and Mr. Wold, report a very successful student trip to Peru and the Amazon rainforest over Thanksgiving break. Mr. Wold and Mr. Cade led 22 students and other chaperones to South America.
 - Smith reported on the Community Education Day activities. She toured their new offices.
 - Nelson commented on the American Education Week staff breakfast. Special thanks to Ellen Haberoth and the Superintendent's Cabinet for setting up, serving and cleaning up. The Friend of Education award went to two people - Julie Pritchard and Richard Welch. Teacher of the Year is David Bly.
 - Fifth graders will be going to Eagle Bluff the week of December 5. Nelson thanked Friends of Residential Environmental Learning (FREL) and members of the community for their support.
- VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports.
 1. Presentation of Quality Compensation (Q Comp) Proposal by the Q Comp Committee.
David Bly, Ray Coudret and Melissa Larsen, members of the Q-Comp Committee, presented to the Board the Q-Comp proposal currently being considered. The plan includes funding for a career ladder of new positions that support the program including the Teacher Mentors/Coaches, Professional Learning Group Facilitators and Peer Evaluators. A

performance award is provided each year to each staff member who demonstrates proficient or exemplary teaching skills. Funding is also provided for a student achievement award to each licensed staff member when the building or group of licensed staff working on a particular goal reaches it successfully. In addition to funding the career ladder and the evaluation and student achievement based awards, there is a major focus on continuous staff development based on helping teachers to use new strategies that support all students reaching the building achievement goals.

2. Secondary and Community Services Site Continuous Improvement Plan Presentations. Community Services, the Middle School and High School presented their site continuous improvement plan. The presentations described the site improvement goals, the data or evidence that was used to identify those goals, and the specific performance targets that will be used to determine their success in reaching the goals. The presentations also highlighted the specific activities and staff development that will be completed during the next school year and how progress will be monitored.
3. Northfield High School Five Star Rating Report. High School Principal Dr. Bruce Santerre provided the same presentation to the Board that was shared with the High School staff at the recent Double Five Star Celebration at the High School. The presentation focused on the elements that supported our students achieving at a high level on state MCA testing.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. FY 2005 Audit Report.
On a motion by Smith, seconded by Stratmoen, the Board accepted the 2004-2005 audit as presented.
2. Resolution Regarding Structurally Balanced School District Budgets.
On a motion by Berthelsen, seconded by Cirksena, the Board approved the resolution incorporating financial projections showing that the proposed Agreement with the Northfield Education Association will not cause structural imbalance in the District's budget during the period of the Agreement and for one year following the period of the Agreement.

2005-2007 Master Agreement with Northfield Education Association.
On a motion by Smith, seconded by Hargis, the Board approved the 2005-2007 Master Agreement with the Northfield Education Association as negotiated.
3. Permission to Execute a Fiber Optics Contract on December 15, 2005.
On a motion by Berthelsen, seconded by Stratmoen, the Board granted permission to administration to execute a fiber optics contract with the qualified vendor with the lowest quote as of December 15, 2005, that would connect Longfellow, Greenvale Park and Sibley with the other buildings in the district that already have fiber optics connections.

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Berthelsen, the Board approved the following items listed under the Consent Grouping.

1. Middle School Change Order.

This change order is the result of approximately twenty-two open items that have been part of the final punch list. The remaining contingency after consideration of these items is \$18,408.

2. Gift Agreement.

The Sibley PTO has donated \$5,930.13 to Sibley Elementary School's special supplies budget.

3. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments**

1. Sommer Dunn, KidVentures Site Leader at Greenvale Park for 5.0 hours per day, beginning November 13, 2005, at an hourly rate of \$12.42, pro-rated benefits.
2. Tammie Warner, Early Ventures Site Assistant at Longfellow School for 5.0 hours per day beginning November 13, 2005, at an hourly rate of \$9.97, pro-rated benefits.
3. Daniel Warner, Auxiliary Custodian, beginning December 12, 2005, step 1 of the wage scale for custodians.
4. Co-Curricular Assignments for 2005-06
 - Blake Wergeland, Alpine Ski Assistant (Split Stipend)
 - Darcy Seurer, 9th Grade Part-time Girls Basketball Coach (Hourly)

b. Increase in Hours

1. Kathie Smestad, Educational Assistant at ALC, increase from 4.0 to 6.0 hours per day beginning November 28, 2005.

c. Change in Position Status

1. The Temporary Food Service Associate I position at the Middle School became a permanent position. This position is currently filled by Cinnamon Rahman, who will continue in the position.

d. Leave of Absence

1. Amanda Heinritz, childcare leave from on or about May 1, 2006, through the end of the 2005-06 school year.

**Conditional offers of employment are subject to successful completion of a criminal background check.

4. Community Services Advisory Council Appointments.

The Board approved two additional appointees to the Community Services Advisory Council. They are Mary Bleckwehl and Pearl Devenow.

VIII. Items for Information.

1. Policy 214 - Out-of-State Travel By School Board Members.

The Board Policy Review Committee presented Policy 214, Out-of-State Travel By School Board Members for review and comment. School districts are required by statute to have adopted a policy addressing this issue by January 1, 2006. The purpose of this policy is to control out-of-state travel by school board members as required by law. Policy 214 is the model policy suggested by the Minnesota School Boards Association to meet this requirement. Over the next two weeks, Board members and individuals were encouraged to react to this policy. Agreed-upon comments and suggestions for revisions recommended by Board members will be incorporated into the final draft of the policy, which will be presented to the Board for adoption at the December 12, 2005, School Board meeting.

2. The End of Quarter Enrollment Report as of November 1, 2005 was presented.

IX. Future Meetings

Tuesday, December 6, 2005, 7:00 PM, Truth in Taxation Hearing,
Northfield High School Media Center

Monday, December 12, 2005, 6:30 PM, Reception for National Merit Scholars,
Northfield High School Cafeteria

Monday, December 12, 2005, **7:30 PM (Notice change in time),**
Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

X. On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Hargis, the Board adjourned at 10:10 PM.

Katy Hargis, Clerk