

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
March 12, 2007
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 7:05 p.m. Hager was absent.
- II. Agenda Changes.
The table file was added.
- III. Public Comment.
There was none.
- IV. Approval of Minutes.
On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Smith, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on February 26, 2007, were approved.
- V. Announcements.
 - Congratulations to Merrill Lutsky on qualifying for the State Geography Bee! Merrill will compete at Macalaster College over Spring Break for a chance to win and go on to the National Geography Bee in Washington, D.C. Darrell Sawyer is the Middle School Geography Bee Advisor.
 - The Boys Swimming and Diving team placed second at State. Congratulations to them and their coach Doug Davis.
 - Fourth Annual Kidzsing was held March 10 at Bridgewater and included choirs from Bridgewater, Greenvale Park, Sibley and the Middle School 6th grade chorus.
 - Middle School orchestra concert was great.
 - Thank you to Northfield hairdressers - and all volunteers - who volunteered their time to help with Rock 'n Roll Revival.

Representatives from the Greenvale Park Student Council spoke about the school's service project - Pennies for Patients, which benefits the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society. Over the past two years, Greenvale Park has raised over \$9200. Because of the school's community service, it was recognized by U.S. Congressman John Kline for its outstanding volunteerism at an event on March 19.

- VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports
 1. Report on the Response to Intervention Model.
Director of Student Services Gary Lewis presented an overview of the Response to Intervention (RTI) model - an early identification and intervention system designed to address the needs of at-risk learners.
 2. Proposed 2007-2008 Debt Service Budget.
The proposed Debt Service budget for 2007-08 was presented by Tom Stringer, Director of Business Affairs. The Debt Service Fund accounts for the School District's outstanding bonded indebtedness for past building construction and major capital projects. When bonds are sold to finance construction costs, a schedule of principal and interest is determined that drives the property tax levy. The tax levy set last fall, payable in 2007, will fund those payments for next year's budget. No action was required.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. School Board Policies.

On a motion by Smith, seconded by Cirksena, the Board approved the following School Board policies as presented: Policy 508 - Extended School Year for Certain Students with Individualized Education Programs; Policy 510 - Student Activities; Policy 513.1 - Determination of Legal Age of Students for School Admission; and Policy 513.2 - Early Entrance into Kindergarten.

2. Fifth and Seventh Grade Field Trips for 2007-2008 School Year.

On a motion by Cirksena, seconded by Stratmoen, the Board approved the modification of the fifth grade environmental experience by substituting multiple day long field trips for the current overnight component and focuses the overnight residential environment learning experience at the seventh grade level. Nelson wondered how the outdoor spaces are used at the three elementary buildings and encouraged elementary staff to stay committed to those spaces and utilize them.

3. Resolution Providing For The Sale of General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds.

On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Berthelsen the Board approved the Resolution Providing For The Sale of General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2007A; And Covenanting And Obligating The District To Be Bound By And To Use The Provisions Of Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55 To Guarantee The Payment Of The Principal And Interest On These Bonds. Voting 'yes' was Berthelsen, Cirksena, Hargis, Nelson, Smith and Stratmoen. No one voted 'no' and Hager was absent.

4. Dissolution of Cooperative Sponsorships.

On a motion by Smith, seconded by Hargis, the Board dissolved the current cooperative sponsorship with Stonebridge Academy for Girls Soccer and with ARTech in Football, Boys and Girls Soccer and Boys and Girls Swimming and Diving. Activities Coordinator Tom Graupmann's memo explained that in the future should an ARTech student wish to participate, the school district will form a "non-exclusive" cooperative agreement with ARTech. By doing this, Northfield High School would not be pushed into a larger classification.

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

Hargis removed the Dissolution of Cooperative Sponsorships from the Consent Grouping.

Then, on a motion by Smith, seconded by Cirksena, the Board approved the following items listed under the Consent Grouping.

1. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments**

1. Co-Curricular Assignments

Cliff Casteel, Girls Track Coordinator

Jerry Behr, Assistant Track Coach (shared stipend)

Teffaney Behr, Assistant Track Coach (shared stipend)

John Mahal, Boys Track Coordinator

Scott Christensen, Assistant Track Coach

Rachel Hoffelt, one extra class (Math) second semester, without supervision

b. Resignation

1. Cliff Casteel, Assistant Boys and Girls Track Coach

*Lane placement subject to verification by the Professional Growth Committee

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

2. Grant Request.

The Board approved a grant request to WINGS for \$5000. This grant, if awarded, would fund a Service learning / transitions facilitator to coordinate and facilitate 9th grade transitions and service learning at Northfield High School.

3. Dissolution of Cooperative Sponsorships.

Removed from Consent Agenda. See item #4 under Items for Individual Action.

VIII. Items for Information

1. Minnesota Administrators for Special Education (MASE) 2007 Legislative Platform.

2. School Board Policy.

The Board Policy Review Committee presented Policy 506 - Student Discipline, for review and comment. Discussion and final action by the School Board on this policy is scheduled for the April 9, 2007, regular School Board meeting.

3. Enrollment Report - March 1, 2007.

IX. Future Meetings

No Board meeting on Monday, March 26

Monday, April 9, 2007, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

Monday, April 23, 2007, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

X. On a motion by Hargis, seconded by Cirksena, the Board adjourned at 8:35 PM

Katy Hargis, Clerk