

# School Board Minutes

School Board Minutes

October 14, 2013

Northfield High School Media Center

- I. Call to Order.  
Board Chair Ellen Iverson called the Regular meeting of the Northfield Board of Education to order at 7:00 PM. No one was absent.
- II. Agenda Changes / Table File  
The table file was added.
- III. Public Comment  
There was none.
- IV. Approval of Minutes  
On a motion by Maple, seconded by Hardy, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on September 23, 2013, were unanimously approved.
- V. Announcements and Recognitions
  - Through a new grant program partnership between Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) and Guidecraft, 13 of SMIF's Early Childhood Initiative coalition communities received early childhood bookshelves. The Northfield Early Childhood Initiative Coalition was awarded five bookshelves that will be placed in the community and stocked with books for families to take home and keep. To date, about 1000 books have been donated and distributed in the Northfield community.
  - TORCH learned last week that the district has been awarded a \$19,900 grant from the Minnesota Work Force Development Office. This grant will make it possible for us to launch a *Career Opportunities and Readiness Experience (CORE)* Program that will help prepare TORCH students for today's job market through local internships, job "soft skills" training, and professional mentoring.
  - WE DAY was attended by 61 NHS students and 4 adults last week. The students were treated to a high energy, high tech and high profile event all around the message of service. The students came home with various thoughts and reflections about their own service and the teachers are ready to help guide the students in any possible.
  - "Lace for the Cure", an effort by the Girls Soccer Team to raise money to fight breast cancer, raised \$4000 in just over one week this year. All the money will go to the Inflammatory Breast Cancer Research Foundation.
  - Northfield High School has five National Merit Commended Scholars: Abraham Cooper, Ian Iverson, Margaret Kennedy, William Marfleet and Halie Ostberg. Congratulations to these students and their parents.
  - Northfield High School Activities Director Tom Graupmann was named last week as the Region 1AA athletic administrator of the year by the Minnesota Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. Graupmann is now nominated with seven other Class AA region athletic administrators of the year for consideration as the state winner. That announcement will come in January or early February. Congratulations Tom!
- VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports
  1. Ninth Grade Academy.  
The 9th Grade Academy team (T. J. Wiebe, Scott Stanina, Jill Kohel, Lisa Battaglia and Kelly Foster) provided an update on the work they do in the Academy, including 4-year longitudinal data encompassing their PLC SMART goals and their results.
  2. The Minnesota Multiple Measurement System (MMR).  
Superintendent Richardson and Dr. Roger Jenni, Testing and Assessment Coordinator, provided background information about the MMR and how it reports information about our District's student achievement.

3. Follow-up on Student Voice on School Topic.  
Board members Julie Pritchard and Rob Hardy requested that the Board revisit the student voice issue that was discussed at its April 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting and consider reaching out to the Mayor's Youth Council on their mindfulness campaign. Board Chair Ellen Iverson led a discussion in getting feedback from the rest of the Board on the level of interest in moving forward with this issue. Board members spoke about how much they would value students sharing their thoughts on various subjects. It was decided that Board members Hardy and Pritchard would speak to Zach Pruitt about the Mayor's Youth Council presenting their mindfulness campaign at a future School Board meeting.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) Foundation Grant for Student Participation.

On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Maple, the Board unanimously approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Minnesota State High School League Foundation was formed to provide support for Minnesota's high school youth to participate in athletics and fine arts;

WHEREAS, the School Board of Independent School District No. 659 recognizes the value of students participation in extracurricular activities; and

WHEREAS, the MSHSL Foundation is offering grants and funding to assist school districts in recognizing, promoting and funding extracurricular participation by high school students in athletic and fine arts programs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 659, supports the District's application to the Minnesota State High School League Foundation for a FORM A grant to offset student activity fees.

Voting 'yes' was Fossum, Maple, Nelson, Pritchard, Hardy, Stratmoen and Iverson. No one voted 'no.'

B. Items for Consent Grouping

On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Fossum, the Board unanimously approved the items under the Consent Grouping.

1. Gift Agreement.

The Board accepted the gift of a 1998 Dodge Grand Caravan valued at approximately \$1,799 to the High School Automotive Program.

2. Additional Co-Curricular Overnight Trip.

The Board approved an overnight trip to Fairmont, MN on February 28<sup>th</sup> for the Speech team. Funds to support this trip will come from the Speech team's activity account.

3. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments\*

1. Asia Black, EarlyVentures Site Assistant at Longfellow for 2.5 hours/day Monday-Friday, beginning 10/14/2013; Step 1, \$11.25/hour.
2. Melanie Cork, Child Nutrition Associate I for 3 hours/day at the High School beginning 10/22/2013; \$13.82/hour.
3. Sherri Goehring, Class II Educational Assistant at the ALC for 6.50 hours/day beginning 10/09/2013; Class II, Step 6 - \$14.86/hour, and Child Nutrition Associate I for .50 hours/day beginning 10/9/2013, \$13.82/hour.
4. Zeebo Karouso, KidVentures Site Assistant at the Elementary Schools for 3 hours/day beginning 9/30/2013; Step 1, \$11.25/hour.
5. Alison Kopp, Class IV PCA (3.25)/Class III EA (2.75) at the High School for 6 hours/day beginning 9/30/2013 - 6/6/2014; Class IV, Step 1-\$13.49/hour; Class III, Step 1-\$13.29/hour.
6. Robert Matthies, Part Time Evening Custodian at the High School for 3 hours/day beginning 10/2/2013; Step 2 - \$14.45/hour.
7. Susan Puppe, Instructional Educational Assistant at Sibley Elementary for 3 hours/day beginning 10/03/2013 - 6/6/2014; Class II, Step 1 - \$12.98/hour.

8. Scott Sannes, Community Services Building Supervisor as needed beginning 9/24/2013; \$13.88/hour.
  9. Patrick Wagner, Assistant Boys Basketball Coach at the High School beginning 11/11/2013 – 03/15/2014; Level E, Step 1.
  10. Rachel Woldum, MSYC Site Assistant at the Middle School/CS for 2.5 hours/day beginning 10/1/2013 – 5/8/2014; Step 2, \$11.55/hour.
  11. Community Services Fall/Winter Recreation Positions:
    - a) William Beimers, CS Lifeguard beginning 9/25/2013 – 04/01/2014; \$8.00/hour.
    - b) Karla Hirsch, CS Lifeguard beginning 10/28/2013 – 04/01/2014; \$8.00/hour.
    - c) Erin Johnson, CS Swim Aide \$7.50/hour, and Lifeguard \$8.00/hour beginning 10/07/2013 – 04/01/2014.
    - d) Breanna Olson, CS Birthday Party Supervisor beginning 10/07/2013 – 04/01/2014; \$7.50/hour.
  12. Melanie Cork, KidVentures Site Assistant at Bridgewater for 2.5 hours/day beginning 11/11/2013; Step 1, \$11.25/hour.
  13. Roberto Garcia, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade PT Boys Basketball Coach (hourly) at the High School beginning 11/11/2013 – 03/01/2014; \$14.00/hour.
  14. Nicki Pulju, KidVentures Site Assistant at Bridgewater for 4.0 hours/day beginning 10/25/2013; Step 4, \$12.15/hour.
  15. Amy Atkinson, Class I Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park for .50 hours/day beginning 10/28/13 through 6/6/14, Step 1 - \$12.59/hour, and Class IV Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park for 6.5 hours/day beginning 10/28/13 through 6/6/14, Step 1 - \$13.49/hour.
- b. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment
1. Janet Amundson, Class III EA at the Middle School for 5 hours/day, change to Class III EA at Middle School for 7 hours/day beginning 8/26/2013 – 6/6/2014.
  2. Mauricio Lozada Hernandez, Class II EA at the Middle School, add MSYC Site Assistant at the Middle School for up to 5 hours/week beginning 10/10/2013 – 5/8/2013.
  3. Marie Kylo, Child Nutrition Associate I for 3 hours/day at the Middle School, change to CNA I for 3.75 hours/day at the Middle School beginning 9/23/2013.
  4. Teresa Hasse, Class I EA at Sibley Elementary for 1.33 hours/day, change to Class I EA at Sibley for 1.4 hours/day in addition to 5.1 hours/day Class IV PCA, beginning 10/01/2013.
  5. Sue Leidner, Class IV PCA at Sibley, add 2.75 hours on Wednesdays only at Sibley.
  6. Laura Little, Child Nutrition Associate I for 3 hours/day at the Middle School, change to CNA I for 3.75 hours/day at the Middle School beginning 9/23/2013.
  7. Lori Malecha, Child Nutrition Associate II for 6 hours/day at Sibley, change to Temporary Child Nutrition Manager for 7 hours/day at Sibley beginning 9/30/2013 – 11/08/2013.
  8. Cheryl Mathison, 1.0 FTE Small Business Teacher at the ALC, add Independent Study Teacher at the ALC for 2 hours every Monday beginning 9/30/2013 – 05/22/2014.
  9. Nicole Miner, KidVentures Site Assistant at Bridgewater, change to KidVentures Site Leader at Greenvale Park for 29 hours/week beginning 10/15/2013.
  10. Margie Podominick, .5 FTE Teacher at Sibley, change to 1.0 FTE Teacher at Sibley beginning 10/07/2013 – 06/06/2013.
  11. Rose Ann Rossow, Child Nutrition Associate I for 3 hours/day at the Middle School, change to CNA I for 3.75 hours/day at the MS beginning 9/23/2013.
  12. Darcy Seurer, 1.0 FTE Social Studies Teacher at the ALC, add Independent Study Teacher at the ALC for 2 hours every Thursday beginning 9/30/2013 – 05/22/2014.
  13. Peggy Sheehy, Class I EA/Supv. with Community Services for 3.0 hours/day, add and additional 13.25 hours/week Class IV PCA at Headstart beginning 9/30/2013 – 5/8/2014.
  14. Michelle Warden, Class I EA/Supv. at Bridgewater for 3.5 hours/day, add Class IV PCA/Bus at Longfellow for 1.33 hours/day beginning 9/3/2013 – 6/6/2014.
  15. Elliott Courchaine, KidVentures Site Assistant at Bridgewater, change to KidVentures Site Assistant Substitute at Sibley, Bridgewater and Greenvale Park beginning 11/11/2013.
  16. Yolanda Loken, Special Education PCA (Class IV) at Longfellow building hours 21.75 hours/week, change to building hours 21.5 hours/week (bus PCA position remains the same) beginning 10/10/2013 – 6/6/2014.

- c. Leaves of Absence
  1. Barb Brunette, Sibley Kitchen Manager, FMLA Leave beginning 10/01/2013 through 11/11/2013.
  2. Julia Daly, Early Childhood Educator, Leave of Absence beginning 09/09/2013 through 05/23/2014.
  3. Kelly Foster, Educational Assistant at the High School, FMLA Leave beginning 12/09/2013 through 12/16/2013.
  4. Melissa Spitzack, Sibley teacher, FMLA Childcare Leave beginning on or about 02/13/2014 through 04/28/2014.
  
- d. Resignations / Termination
  1. Sheila Bird, ALC Administrative Assistant, resignation effective 11/01/2013.
  2. Angie Callahan, KidVentures Site Lead at GVP, resignation effective 10/11/2013.
  3. Reece Line, KidVentures Student Site Assistant, resignation effective 10/21/2013.
  4. Ratification of employment termination.
  
- e. TRA Part-Time Teacher Program  
The Board authorized Shelley K. Hansen to participate in the TRA Part-Time Teacher Program, whereby the teachers who qualify can personally purchase TRA service credit at no cost to the Northfield School District.

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

VIII. Items for Information

1. MinnCAN Visit to Northfield Middle School and Northfield High School.  
On October 3 MinnCan came to Northfield to specifically recognize two schools they identified as being successful in helping students with Limited English Proficiency and Latino students. They visited Northfield Middle School and High School and learned what staff is doing to encourage these students. Following their visit they commented on how impressed there are with how our staff is working together to support students and their families and therefore seeing tremendous growth in the graduation rate of Latino students.
  
2. Enrollment Report – October 2013.

IX. Future Meetings

Monday, October 28, 2013, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center  
**Tuesday, November 12, 2013, 6:30 PM, Reception for Commended National Merit Scholars, HS Upper Cafeteria**  
**Tuesday, November 12, 2013, 7:30 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center**

- X. On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Maple, the Board adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Noel Stratmoen  
School Board Clerk