

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

April 25, 2022

District Office Boardroom

1. Call to Order

Board Chair Claudia Gonzalez-George called the Regular meeting of the Northfield Board of Education of Independent School District No. 659 to order at 6:00 p.m. Present: Baraniak, Goerwitz, Gonzalez-George, Pritchard, Quinnell and Stratmoen. Absent: Butler. This meeting was open to the public, live-streamed and recorded, and access to the recording was posted to the school district website.

2. Agenda Approval/Table File

On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Goerwitz, the board approved the agenda.

3. Public Comment

There were public comments.

4. Announcements and Recognitions

- The school board recognized all senior members and one junior member of the DYC and presented each with a certificate of appreciation: Amelia Arnold, Moriah Bamonte-Grebis, Christian Cardenas, Sylvi Hanson, Maryam (Mimi) Keita, Simon McDonald, Ananda Myint, Julia Peterson and David Rhoades.

5. Items for Discussion and Reports

- District Youth Council (DYC) Recap. The purpose of the DYC is to foster relationships between the school board, administration and the student body. DYC co-chairs Amelia Arnold and Sylvi Hanson provided an end-of-year recap of the 2021-22 school year.
- Arcadia Charter School Application. Laura Stelter, Executive Director of Arcadia Charter School, and Superintendent Hillmann provided an overview of the application for the next five-year contract for Arcadia. The contract will be presented at the May 9 board meeting and the board will be requested to approve the new contract at the May 23 board meeting.
- Proposed 2022-2023 Child Nutrition Fund Budget. Stephany Stromme, Director of Child Nutrition, presented the 2022-2023 proposed child nutrition budget. This fund is used to record financial activities of providing nutrition services to students, which include preparation and service of the milk, meals, and snacks in connection with school and community services activities. No board action was required at this meeting.
- Budget Prioritization Plan and Recommended Program Reductions. Dr. Hillmann and Director Mertesdorf presented the budget prioritization plan. This included a recap of the budget prioritization process and a review of the department and program reductions recommended by administration based on the priorities established by the elementary, secondary and district services budget teams. The board will be asked to approve the recommended department and program reductions at the May 9 regular board meeting.

At 8:58 p.m., on a motion by Baraniak, seconded by Goerwitz, the board moved to continue the meeting past 9:00 p.m. On a motion by Gonzalez-George, seconded by Goerwitz, the board moved to take a ten minute recess. The board reconvened at 9:09 p.m.

- Superintendent Operations and COVID-19 Update. Dr. Hillmann provided an update about district operations, and local and county COVID-19 data. The COVID-19 positivity numbers have increased slightly and ILI rates remain stable. The district continues monthly anti-racism training seminars with licensed staff and the Northfield High School Facility Task Force will hold its last meeting later this week. We welcome two

new administrators to our district's leadership team: Bubba Sullivan has been recommended as the Northfield High School Director of Student Activities, and Nate Knutson has been appointed to a position that merges his current responsibilities as Network Manager with the Director of Technology Services position. The district completed its 2022 Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) testing this week. Northfield Public Schools ranks 469 out of 502 districts in the state for our per pupil spending on administration.

6. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

7. Consent Agenda

On a motion by Pritchard, seconded by Goerwitz, the board approved the consent agenda.

a. Minutes

- Minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on April 11, 2022

b. Gift Agreements

- \$2,400.00 from Mary C. Henry Step Up Scholarship Fund of the Capital Group American Funds for Step Up Scholarships
- \$1,000.00 from Schieck Orthodontics for Schieck Orthodontics Scholarship

c. Financial Report.

Financial Report - December 2021. Director of Finance Val Mertesdorf requested the board approve paid bills totaling \$2,130,941.20, payroll checks totaling \$3,648,269.14, a wire transfer totaling \$250,000.00 from Frandsen General to Frandsen Sweep, a wire transfer totaling \$650,000.00 from Frandsen Sweep to Frandsen General, and the financial reports for December 2021. At the end of December 2021 total cash and investments amounted to \$24,834,271.80.

d. Personnel Items

i. Appointments

1. Nicholas Bornhauser, Summer Seasonal Grounds/Custodial Worker with the District, beginning 6/6/2022-8/19/2022; \$15.75/hr.
2. Tory Borovsky, Site Supervisor/Scheduler with Community Education Recreation, beginning 5/6/2022-8/31/2022; \$11.89/hr.
3. Millie Bouvin, Program Assistant with Community Education Recreation, beginning 4/25/2022-5/31/2022; \$10.33/hr.
4. Hannah Breiland, Event Worker at the Middle School, beginning 4/22/2022.
5. Laura Holman, Program Assistant with Community Education Recreation, beginning 4/18/2022-5/31/2022; \$10.33/hr.
6. Kyle Malecha, Summer Seasonal Grounds/Custodial Worker with the District, beginning 5/16/2022-8/19/2022; Year 2-\$15.75/hr.
7. Connor Nagy, Summer Seasonal Grounds/Custodial Worker with the District, beginning 5/23/2022-8/19/2022; Year 2-\$15.75/hr.
8. Sophia Nevin, Special Ed EA PCA for 6.3 hours/day at the NCEC, beginning 4/25/2022-6/9/2022; Step 1-\$16.17/hr.
9. Leta Prestemon, Program Supervisor with Community Education Recreation, beginning 4/18/2022-5/31/2022; \$10.89/hr.
10. Ailie Deloia, AP Test Proctor at the High School, beginning 5/1/2022-5/31/2022.
11. Julie Kendle, AP Test Proctor at the High School, beginning 5/1/2022-5/31/2022.
12. Sue Reuvers, Community School Site Assistant for up to 7 hours/day for 4 days/week at Greenvale Park, beginning 6/23/2022-7/7/2022; Step 4-\$15.48/hr.
13. Belinda Zubia, Community School Site Assistant for up to 7 hours/day for 4 days/week at Greenvale Park, beginning 6/23/2022-7/7/2022; Step 1-\$14.11/hr.

ii. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment

1. Nancy Becker, Nurse at the Middle School, add Summer PLUS/BLAST Nurse for up to 6.5 hours/day Mon.-Thurs. at Greenvale Park/High School. effective 7/5/2022-8/11/2022.

2. Tory Borovsky, Site Supervisor with Community Ed Recreation, add Building Supervisor with Community Ed Recreation, effective 5/6/2022-8/31/2022; \$17.41/hr.
3. Stephen Cade, Teacher at the High School, add Summer PLUS Teacher for up to 6.5 hours/day Mon.-Thurs. at Greenvale Park, effective 7/5/2022-8/11/2022; Lane/step
4. Caitlin David, Teacher at Bridgewater, add Summer PLUS Teacher for up to 6.5 hours/day Mon.-Thurs. at Greenvale Park, effective 7/5/2022-8/11/2022; Lane/step
5. Kyle Fearing, Teacher at the Middle School, add Boys Assistant Basketball Coach at the High School, effective 11/20/2022; Level 1, Step 8
6. Michael Garlitz, Community School Site Leader at Greenvale Park, add Community School Summer Site Assistant for up to 35 hours/week for 3/weeks at Greenvale Park, effective 6/20/2022-7/8/2022; Step 4-\$15.48/hr.
7. Cortney Gillum, Nurse at Greenvale Park, add Summer PLUS/BLAST Nurse for up to 6.5 hours/day Mon.-Thurs. at Greenvale Park/High School. effective 7/5/2022-8/11/2022.
8. Julene Johnson, Gen Ed EA at Bridgewater, add Community School Summer Site Assistant for up to 28 hours/week for 2/weeks at Greenvale Park, effective 6/23/2022-7/7/2022; Step 4-\$15.48/hr.
9. Nate Knutson, Network Manager District Wide, change to Director of Technology Services with the District, effective 4/20/2022; \$105,000 + step 1-prorated.
10. Mackenzie Kodada, Long Term Substitute Teacher at Spring Creek, add Summer PLUS Teacher for up to 6.5 hours/day Mon.-Thurs. at Greenvale Park, effective 7/5/2022-8/11/2022; Lane/step
11. Kristi Kortuem, Teacher at the Middle School, add .5 Head Girls Swim Coach at the High School, effective 8/14/2022; Level 2 Head Coach .50 FTE, Step 1
12. Kristi Kortuem, Grade 6 Math Teacher at the Middle School, change to Math Teacher at the High School, effective 8/25/2022.
13. Kayla LaVoy, 1.0 FTE Second Grade Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year only at Bridgewater, change to 1.0 FTE Second Grade Teacher-ongoing at Bridgewater, effective 4/18/2022.
14. Ellen Mucha, .4 English/.6 ADSIS Teacher at the High School, change to 1.0 FTE MTSS Teacher at the High School, effective 8/25/2022.
15. Jacob Odell, 1.0 Boys Tennis Coach at the Middle School, change to .5 Boys Head Tennis Coach and .5 Assistant Tennis Coach at the Middle School, effective 4/4/2022.
16. Ashley Opatrny, Special Ed Teacher at Greenvale Park/Portage, change to Special Ed Teacher at Spring Creek, effective 8/25/2022.
17. Brian Porter, Assistant Boys Swim Coach at the High School, change to .5 Head Girls Swim Coach at the High School, effective 8/15/2022; Level 2-.50 FTE, Step 1
18. Sydney Rodgers, Grade 1 Teacher at Spring Creek, change to Teacher at Bridgewater, Grade TBD, effective 8/25/2022.
19. Darrell Sawyer, Teacher at the Middle School, add Private Lesson Sport Coach with Community Education Recreation, effective 4/23/2022-8/31/2022; \$36/person per hour for a single private lesson & \$20/person per hour for a semi-private lesson of up to five people.
20. Ann Schmidt, CNA III at the High School, add Concessions Coordinator at the High School, effective 8/15/2022; Stipend \$3,000
21. Renae Schuster, Grade 4 Teacher at Bridgewater, change to Grade 3 Teacher at Bridgewater, effective 8/25/2022.
22. Paul Stanton, 1.0 Guidance Counselor for the 2021-2022 school year only at the ALC, change to 1.0 Guidance Counselor-ongoing at the ALC, effective 4/18/2022.
23. Bob Sullivan, English Teacher at the High School, change to Student Activities Director at the High School, effective 7/1/2022; AD salary + step 1.
24. Eric Swan McDonald, .70 Science Teacher ALC/ .30 Science Teacher High School, change to 1.0 FTE Science Teacher at the ALC, effective 8/25/2022.
25. Erik Swenson, Grade 4 Compañeros Teacher at Bridgewater, change to Grade 2 Compañeros Teacher at Bridgewater, effective 8/25/2022.
26. Gina Swenson, Grade 2 Teacher at Spring Creek, change to Grade 1 Teacher at Spring Creek, effective 8/25/2022.
27. Nate Truman, Grade 3 Teacher at Bridgewater, change to Grade 4 Teacher at Bridgewater, effective 8/25/2022.
28. Cydney Ulvestad, Community School Site Assistant at Greenvale Park, add Community School Summer Site Assistant for up to 28 hours/week for 2/weeks at Greenvale Park, effective 6/23/2022-7/7/2022; Step 4-\$15.48/hr.
29. Cheryl Mathison, Teacher at the ALC, add ALC Boundary Waters Summer Teacher for up to 40 hours, effective 6/13/2022-6/17/2022.

30. Danielle Olson, .5 FTE School Social Worker at the NCEC, change to 1.0 FTE School Social Worker at Bridgewater, effective 8/25/2022-6/9/2023.
31. John Schnorr, 1.0 FTE Speech Language Pathologist at the NCEC, change to .5 FTE Speech Language Pathologist at the NCEC, effective 7/1/2022-6/9/2023.
32. Heather Stanton Ims, MYSC Teacher at the Middle School, extending MYSC Teacher position that ends on 5/12/2022 to 5/18/2022 at the Middle School, effective 4/25/2022.
33. Eric Swan McDonald, Teacher at the ALC, add ALC Boundary Waters Summer Teacher for up to 40 hours, effective 6/13/2022-6/17/2022.
34. Rebecca Stoufis, Special Ed Teacher with Portage, change to Special Ed Teacher DCD Mild/Moderate at the High School, effective 8/25/2022.

iii. Leave of Absence

1. Leah Sand, Teacher at the High School, Family/Medical Leave of Absence, beginning 4/11/2022 and continue on an intermittent basis for up to 60 work days.
2. Bob Sullivan, Teacher at the High School, Leave of Absence for the 2022-2023 school year.
3. Lily Landry, Teacher at Greenvale Park, Leave of Absence for the 2022-2023 school year.

iv. Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

1. Faith Ring, Program Supervisor with Community Recreation, declined position, effective 4/21/2022.
2. Jeff Sullivan, EA at the High School, resignation effective 4/11/2022.
3. Winston Vermilyea, EA at Spring Creek Elementary, termination effective 4/20/2022.

8. Items for Individual Action

- a. Resolution for Termination and Non-Renewal of Probationary Licensed Staff On a motion by Pritchard, seconded by Baraniak, the board adopted the Resolution related to the termination and non-renewal of the teaching contract of the probationary licensed teachers listed below effective at the close of the current 2021-2022 school year. On a roll call vote, voting 'yes' were Baraniak, Goerwitz, Gonzalez-George, Pritchard, Quinnell and Stratmoen. No one voted 'no'. Absent: Butler.

<u>Name</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Position</u>
Arends, Chelsey	1.0	Special Education
Broughton, Scott	1.0	English (long-term substitute)
Carlson, Kathryn	1.0	Grade 5 (long-term substitute)
Engle, Kari	1.0	Grade 3 (long-term substitute)
Hruby, Anna	1.0	Grade 3
Kelly, Anna	1.0	Grade 2 (long-term substitute)
Kodada, Mackenzie	1.0	Grade 4 (long-term substitute)
Kohlbeck, Madeline	1.0	Grade 2
Latterner, Megan	1.0	ECSE - Hand-in-Hand Preschool
Musicant, Elizabeth	.40	German
Schultz, Martha	1.0	Grade 3 (long-term substitute)
Weber, Jessica	1.0	Elementary Portage

9. Items for Information

- a. Community Open Forum. The budget prioritization community open forum is scheduled at Northfield Middle School on Tuesday, May 3, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- b. National Teacher Appreciation Week is May 1 - 7, 2022. Teacher Appreciation Week is celebrated in the first full week of May and is our chance to say thank you to those that play or have played such a huge role in our lives. Teacher Appreciation Day is Tuesday, May 3, and we recognize the dedicated educators across the country, in our state, and in our district, and the lasting contributions they make to our lives.
- c. Graduation Update. ALC graduation is scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 1, in the Middle School Auditorium. Northfield High School's graduation is scheduled at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 5, at Memorial Field.

10. Future Meetings

- a. Monday, May 9, 2022, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom
- b. Monday, May 23, 2022, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom

- c. Monday, June 13, 2022, 4:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m., NHS Work Session, Northfield DO Boardroom
- d. Monday, June 13, 2022, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom

11. Adjournment

On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Quinnell, the board adjourned at 10:13 p.m.

Noel Stratmoen
School Board Clerk