

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

May 11, 2020
Teleconference

I. Call to Order

Board Chair Julie Pritchard called the Regular meeting of the Northfield Board of Education of Independent School District 659 to order at 7:00 p.m. Due to the current federal and state emergency declarations, the Minnesota directive for residents to stay at home and guidance about limiting person-to-person contact due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was conducted via video conference in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 13D.021. In addition, the school board determined that it was not feasible for at least one board member, or the superintendent to be physically present at the regular meeting location and that it was not feasible for the public to attend this meeting at the regular location. The district did make accommodations for public comment which are outlined below.

Board member attendance was taken by roll call. Anita Aase, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Education, called the name of each board member in alphabetical order by last name and the board member responded “present” when his/her name was called. Present: Baraniak, Goerwitz, Hardy, Iverson, Pritchard, Quinnell and Stratmoen. Absent: None.

Also present at this video conference meeting was: Dr. Matt Hillmann, Superintendent; Anita Aase; and Erin Bailey, Director of Community Education. Observing the meeting via Zoom was Sam Wilmes, reporter with the Northfield News. This meeting was live streamed and recorded, and access to the recording was posted to the school district website.

Board Chair Pritchard outlined the procedures for this meeting:

- Board members were asked to mute their microphone when not speaking.
- During the course of the meeting when a motion and a second is required, Dr. Hillmann would initiate the “unmute” for all board members.
- At the start of each discussion Chair Pritchard said she would call on each board member in alphabetical order by last name for any questions or comments. If they didn’t wish to speak, they would be welcome to pass.
- There would be one round of questioning for board members. If board members had a follow-up question or comment, they could consider using the Raise Hand feature in order to be recognized by the Chair.
- All votes on the Items for Individual Action would be conducted by roll call by Aase. Each board member was instructed to wait until their name was called before voting.

II. Agenda Approval/Table File

On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Goerwitz, the Board approved the agenda by roll call. Voting ‘yes’ were Baraniak, Goerwitz, Hardy, Iverson, Pritchard, Quinnell and Stratmoen. No one voted ‘no’.

III. Public Comment

To accommodate the public comment portion of our meeting, members of the public were invited via the school district website to submit feedback to the Board via email by 5:00 p.m. on May 11, 2020. All submissions that followed the district policy regarding public comment would be read by Chair Pritchard at this time. There were no public comments submitted for this Board meeting.

IV. Announcements and Recognitions

- There were no announcements or recognitions.

V. Items for Discussion and Reports

- A. COVID-19/Distance Learning Update/District Operations. Dr. Hillmann focused his update on the District Youth Council's (DYC) student survey regarding distance learning. The DYC, in conjunction with Director of Assessment Services Hope Langston, surveyed 939 middle school, high school and ALC students. The data results were shared with the DYC and highlighted were things going well and where there may be need for improvement. The results indicated most students have adjusted to distance learning with the oldest students in each building having a more difficult time adjusting. Many students reported feeling overwhelmed, yet supported. DYC will provide Dr. Hillmann and Ms. Langston recommendations based on these survey results.
- B. Cannon Valley Special Education Cooperative (CVSEC) Update. CVSEC Executive Director Lynn Krominga has resigned and the interviews to select her replacement are scheduled on May 13. There is consideration being given to consolidating buildings for the cooperative with a new lease at the Faribault West Mall in Fall 2021. Dr. Hillmann indicated this would be an item for individual action at the May 26, 2020 meeting
- C. Financial Update. Dr. Hillmann provided a narrative financial update to the Board which included State legislation currently under consideration which do not include any additional funding for schools, funds the district may receive under the CARES Act stimulus package, and some financial considerations and implications regarding how the COVID-19 pandemic will negatively affect school funding. He also shared the concept of a temporary reduction in the District's fund balance goal of 16% as a means of mitigating budget reductions during the COVID-19 crisis.

VI. Consent Agenda

On a motion by Barniak, seconded by Hardy, with a correction to the April 27, 2020 minutes to indicate it was a teleconference meeting, the Board approved the following Consent Agenda items by roll call. Voting 'yes' were Baraniak, Goerwitz, Hardy, Iverson, Pritchard, Quinnell and Stratmoen. No one voted 'no'.

- A. Minutes
 - Minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on April 27, 2020
- B. Gift Agreements
 - \$1,000.00 donation from Jan Burry for TORCH scholarship
- C. ALC Co-Curricular Overnight Field Trip - Rescheduled
ALC teachers Cheryl Mathison and Eric McDonald requested Board approval for a co-curricular overnight trip for the 2019-2020 school year. The Board approved this request at the October 28, 2019 school board meeting. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Mathison and McDonald have rescheduled this co-curricular overnight trip and they requested Board approval for this rescheduled co-curricular overnight trip.
- D. District Youth Council Membership
The following students were recommended to serve on the District Youth Council during the 2020-2021 school year:
Rising Seniors: *Wendy Bollum, *Dylan Dietz, Erica Loe, Nick Lopez, *Michael Malecha, *Bronwyn McDermott, Anders Ripley, *Chloe Rozga
Rising Juniors: *Amelia Arnold, *Moriah Bamonte Grebis, *Sylvi Hanson, *Simon McDonald, David Rhoades, *Kiara Rosas
Rising Sophomores: Ananda Myint, Julia Peterson, Sam Scherer, Jack Wendt
*Denotes current District Youth Council Member
- E. Personnel Items
 - a) Appointments
 - 1. Mary Harray-Davidson, .33 FTE Physical Education Teacher at the ALC, beginning 8/25/2020; BA+30, Step 15.

2. Erin Johnson, 1.0 FTE English Language Arts Teacher at the High School, beginning 8/31/2020; MA+10, Step 10.
 3. John Schnorr, 1.0 FTE Speech and Language Pathologist at Longfellow, beginning 7/2/2020-6/30/2021. MA+60, Step 15.
 4. Leslie Miller Gordinier, 1.0 FTE Special Education Resource Room Teacher at Bridgewater, beginning 8/25/2020; MA, Step 8.
 5. Melissa Roth, 1.0 FTE Special Education DCD Teacher at the High School, beginning 8/25/2020; MA, Step 9.
 6. Summer 2020 Brochure Instructors-See attached..
- b) Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment
1. Ann Hehr, Kindergarten Teacher at Sibley, change to Fourth Grade Teacher at Sibley, effective 8/31/2020.
 2. Chris Riazzi, .50 FTE Art Teacher at the ALC, change to .665 FTE Art Teacher at the ALC, effective 8/31/2020.
 3. Jodie Rud, Fourth Grade Teacher at Sibley, change to Kindergarten Teacher at Sibley, effective 8/31/2020.
 4. Eric Swan McDonald, 1.0 FTE Science Teacher at the High School/ALC, add an overload for the first semester at the High School, effective 8/31/2020-1/29/2021.
 5. Marissa Bernau, KidVentures Site Assistant Sub, add KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 40 hours/week at Bridgewater, effective 5/11/2020-9/4/2020; Step 2-\$13.56/hr.
 6. Katherine Norrie, 1.0 FTE Art Teacher at the High School 8/31/2020-6/10/2021, change to ongoing effective 8/31/2020.
 7. Dan Riesgraf, 1.0 FTE Health Teacher at the Middle School, change to .5 FTE Physical Education Teacher and .5 FTE Health Teacher at the Middle School, effective 8/31/2020.
 8. John Sand, Physical Education Teacher at the High School, add Assistant Boys Basketball Coach at the High School, effective 11/16/2020; Level F, Step 1.
- c) Leave of Absence
1. LeAnn Carlson, Educational Assistant at Longfellow, Leave of Absence effective 4/6/2020 through the end of the 2019-2020 school year.
- d) Retirements/Resignations/Terminations
1. Mary Katherine Maney, Music Specialist at Sibley, resignation effective at the end of the 2019-2020 school year.
 2. Dawn Sorenson, Early Childhood Special Education Teacher at Longfellow, retirement effective at the end of the 2019-2020 school year.
 3. Susan Wunderlich, Educational Assistant at the High School, retirement effective at the end of the 2019-2020 school year.
- e) Administration is Recommending the Ratification of an Employment Agreement
- f) Administration is Recommending the Approval of the Following:
Administration submits the following employment contracts/agreements for approval. These contracts/ agreements cover the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022.
1. Child Nutrition
 2. Educational Interpreters for Deaf and Hard of Hearing
 3. Building Nurses
 4. District Nurse, St. Dominic's
- g) Due to COVID-19 closures and our programs not running as planned this summer, the following people will no longer be working in summer programming:
- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Jaylen Heller | Sheila Atkinson | Karie Svien |
| Robyn Spillman | Margaret Magnuson | Matti Prayfrock |
| Marissa Gallardo | Elizabeth Brewer | Michael Garlitz |
| Matthew Meyer | Kelle Edwards | Janet Gannon |
| Mitzi Holden | Rachael Basinger | Robbin Hedberg |
| Jackie Groth | Katrina Warner | |

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action.

1. Stormwater Maintenance Agreement for Greenvale Park Elementary. On a motion by Baraniak, seconded by Goerwitz, the Board approved the Stormwater Maintenance Agreement for Greenvale Park Elementary School. Voting 'yes' were Baraniak, Goerwitz, Hardy, Iverson, Pritchard, Quinnell and Stratmoen. No one voted 'no'.

2. Approval of Policies. On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Hardy, the Board approved policies 414, 419 and 421. These changes are effective immediately. Voting 'yes' were Baraniak, Goerwitz, Hardy, Iverson, Pritchard, Quinnell and Stratmoen. No one voted 'no'.

VIII. Items for Information

- A. Enrollment Report. Dr. Hillmann reviewed the May 2020 district enrollment report.
- B. Construction Update #26. Superintendent Hillmann updated the Board on the District's construction projects.
- C. Graduation. Dr. Hillmann reviewed both the Alternative Learning Center and the High School graduation plans for the class of 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and in compliance with executive orders from the Governor of Minnesota, and guidance issued from the Minnesota Department of Education, graduations will be held virtually and recorded. The virtual High School graduation is scheduled at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 31. The virtual ALC graduation is scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, June 5.

IX. Future Meetings

- A. Tuesday, May 26, 2020, 7:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting
- B. Monday, June 8, 2020, 7:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting
- C. Monday, July 13, 2020, 7:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting

X. Adjournment

On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Goerwitz, the Board approved adjournment by roll call at 9:09 p.m. Voting 'yes' were Baraniak, Goerwitz, Hardy, Iverson, Pritchard, Quinnell and Stratmoen. No one voted 'no'.

Noel Stratmoen
School Board Clerk

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Summer 2020 Brochure Instructors

Victor Albrecht	Kate McGrogan
American Red Cross	Michelle Michaud
Doug Bengtson	Minnesota Twins
Carly & John Born	Erik Myran
Lukas Bruiher	North Star Haidong Gumdo
Cannon River Sportsmen's Club	Northfield Arts Guild
Community Services Staff	Northfield Basketball Association
Concordia Language Village	Northfield Skating School Staff
Cornerstone on the Vermillion	Northfield Tennis Association
Kevin Dahle	Northfield High School Cheer Team
Wesley Dayus	Nfld High School Weightlifting Staff
Laura DeGroot	Nate Page
Michael Detjen	Prairie Fire Children's Theatre
Drama Lab	Project ABLE Staff
Ashley Drobney	Pure-Blend Bar-Bend
Sheriff Troy Dunn	Renee Reinardy
Paul Eddy	Ring the Bell Fitness
Shahar Fearing	Steve Ryan
Four Winds Dog Training	Darrell Sawyer
Dave Gilmore	Kyle Scanlon, Northfield Golf Club
Peter Gittins	Skyhawk Sports

Tracy Giza

Lori Hameister

Heartwork Yoga Studio

Nick Hupton

International Soccer Camp

Jesse James Lanes

Marty Johnson

Christopher Kauffield

Robert Knutson

Mad Science of Minnesota

Zandra Malecha

Sylvia Marccarelli

Sports Unlimited

Heidi Streiff

Bubba Sullivan

Thomsen Systems/Tech Academy

Carey Tinkelenberg

Tim Torstenson

Touchdown Club

Richard Truman

Uniquely Fit Lifestyle, LLC

Watch Me Create

Mark Welinski

Youth Enrichment League Staff