

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

May 26, 2026

District Office Board Room

1. Call to Order

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

2. Agenda Approval/Table File

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

3. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

4. Announcements and Recognitions

- Over \$144,000 was awarded in the form of 100+ local scholarships at Northfield High School's Senior Awards Night. Congratulations to the senior class for their achievements, and thanks to the scholarship donors and the Northfield community for their support.
- This year's NHS Honors Arts Gallery is on display through June 6 at the Northfield Arts Guild. "You're Gonna Wanna See This" is the show theme for this year's gallery.
- The community is invited to a groundbreaking ceremony for the Reimagine Northfield High School project on Tuesday, June 9 at 4:00 p.m. in front of door 1 at the high school.
- The district's annual parent/caregiver satisfaction survey was conducted in April and showed a fourth consecutive year of improvement. There were 702 responses from 537 unique individuals, up from 457 responses in last year's survey, and the overall survey mean increased from 4.10 to 4.18. The "top two box" score, or the sum of those who agreed or strongly agreed to each statement, was 78.40%. The greatest strengths, as indicated by the survey results were, "I believe this school provides a safe environment for my child to learn," and "I believe my child's learning is a high priority at this school." The greatest opportunities for growth were, "I receive positive phone calls, emails, or notes about my child from school," and "I regularly receive feedback from school staff on how well my child is learning." Additionally, 278 "shoutouts" were given to staff members from the survey. The district thanks St. Olaf College for being our third-party survey administrator.
- Certificates of appreciation were presented to the senior members of the District Youth Council (DYC). The DYC provides connections between the school board, school, administration, and student body. They provide youth input on school district-related issues and serve on various committees throughout the district.

5. Items for Discussion and Reports

- a. Educators at Sea Program. Northfield High School Counselor Mark Ensrud and Northfield High School Mathematics Teacher and Coach Janet Smith presented to the board about their participation in the Educators at Sea program, which included an overnight stay on the USS Theodore Roosevelt aircraft carrier in the Pacific Ocean.
- b. District Youth Council 2025-26 Recap. DYC Co-Chairs Delphine Hawkins and Atticus Mayer provided an end-of-year recap of the 2025-26 school year.
- c. NHS Reimagine Project Update. Sal Bagley with Wold Architects and Engineers and George Sullivan with Knutson Construction provided an update on the Northfield High School Reimagine project, the value engineering process, and the rebidding schedule.
- d. Ice Arena Lease. Superintendent Hillmann presented a draft lease between the City of Northfield and Northfield Public Schools for the lease of the city's ice arena. At the May 13, 2024 meeting, the board approved a letter affirming the district's commitment to leasing the ice arena up to a maximum of \$250,000

annually (including ice time) for an estimated 20 years. The district will use its lease/levy authority to fund the annual payment. This will be an item for individual action at the June 8, 2026 board meeting.

- e. Later School Start Times Update. At the May 14, 2026 work session, the board reviewed later school start times options and began to develop a survey to send to parents and caregivers. Superintendent Hillmann presented an updated version of the survey to the board.
- f. Policy Committee Recommendations. Superintendent Hillmann presented the policy committee's recommended changes to policies 203, 209, 410, 442, 503, 509, 530, 532, 533, 535, 540, 560, 655, and 701. This will be an item for individual action at the June 8, 2026 board meeting.

6. Consent Agenda

On a motion by Epstein, seconded by Butler, the board unanimously approved the consent agenda.

- a. Minutes. Minutes of the regular school board meeting held on May 11, 2026.
- b. Gift Agreements. Gift agreements included in the board packet.
- c. Overnight Field Trip Request. Northfield High School French Teacher Hannah Ames requested board permission to take 12 students to Quebec City, Canada May 28-31, 2027 for the Languages and Friendships program.
- d. Personnel Items.
 - i. Appointments
 1. Joni Canney, Summer Plus Teacher for 3.5 hours/day at Greenvale Park beginning 6/17/26-7/30/2026. \$40/hr.
 2. Molly Knutelski, 1.0 FTE Grade 6 Launch Teacher at the Middle School beginning 8/27/2026. BA, Step 6.
 3. Claire Koenig, 1.0 FTE Long-Term Substitute Earth Science Teacher beginning 8/27/2026-6/11/2027. BA, Step 1.
 4. Greta Kortuem, Water Safety Instructor for Community Education/Recreation beginning 5/13/2026-5/31/2026. Step 2, \$17.45/hr.
 5. Avery Modory, Summer Instructor Assistant for Community Education/Recreation beginning 6/3/2026-8/31/2026. Step 1, \$15.02/hr.
 6. Oliver Otting, Summer Instructor Lead for Community Education/Recreation beginning 6/3/2026-8/31/2026. Step 2, \$16.37/hr.
 7. Kaj Overlie, Summer Plus Site Assistant for 6 hrs/day at Greenvale Park beginning 6/17/2026-7/30/2026. Step 1, \$18.71/hr.
 8. Ella Streiff, Summer KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 40 hrs/week at Spring Creek beginning 6/3/2026-9/4/2026. Step 1, \$18.71/hr.
 9. Xochitl Valdez, Summer Plus Site Assistant for 6 hrs/day at Greenvale Park beginning 6/17/2026-7/30/2026. Step 1, \$18.71/hr.
 10. Scott Van Epps, 1.0 FTE Mathematics Teacher at the High School beginning 8/27/2026. MA+20, Step 10.
 11. Ollie Waterland, Summer Instructor Assistant for Community Education/Recreation beginning 6/3/2026-8/31/2026. Step 2, \$15.29/hr.
 12. Ariana Vermilyea, Summer Blast Site Assistant for 6 hours/day at the Middle School beginning 6/17/2026-7/31/2026. Step 3, \$20.03/hr.
 13. Gabrielle Anderson, Special Education EA/PCA for 6.75 hours/day plus .25 hours/day supervisory at Spring Creek beginning 8/31/2026. Step 2, \$22.75/hr.
 14. Mariana Cruz, Summer Instructor Lead for Community Education/Recreation beginning 6/3/2026-8/31/2026. Step 3, \$16.64/hr.
 15. Mary Dobey, 1.0 FTE Social Studies Teacher at the High School beginning 8/27/2026. MA, Step 5.
 16. Rachel Eichhorn, Special Education EA/PCA for 6.75 hours/day at Bridgewater beginning 8/31/2026. Step 3, \$23.18/hr.
 17. Estella Freeman, Summer Instructor Assistant for Community Education/Recreation beginning 6/3/2026-8/31/2026. Step 3, \$15.56/hr.
 18. John Garvey, 1.0 FTE Grade 8 Social Studies Teacher at the Middle School beginning 8/27/2026. MA, Step 6.
 19. Jack Gustina, Assistant Boys Basketball Coach at the High School beginning 10/18/2026. \$5,655 stipend.
 20. Denise Halvorson, Summer Plus Teacher for 3.5 hours/day at Greenvale Park beginning 6/17/2026-7/30/2026. \$40/hr.
 21. Aubrey Heller, Summer Instructor Assistant for Community Education/Recreation beginning 6/3/2026-8/31/2026. Step 1, \$15.02/hr.

22. Greta Kortuem, Summer Water Safety Instructor for Community Education/Recreation beginning 6/3/2026-8/31/2026. Step 2, \$17.45/hr.
 23. Mary Lazaro-Hefer, Summer Child Nutrition Associate for up to 5 hours/day at Greenvale Park beginning 6/29/2026-7/30/2026. \$23.06/hr.
 24. Miles Martig, Summer KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 40 hours/week at Spring Creek beginning 6/3/2026-9/4/2026. Step 1, \$18.71/hr.
 25. Lee Miller, .8 FTE Social Studies Teacher at the High School beginning 8/27/2026. MA, Step 6.
 26. Brekken Modory, Assistant Knowledge Bowl Advisor at the High School beginning 9/8/2026. \$2,262 stipend.
 27. Ainsley Nutt, Grade 7 Math Teacher at the Middle School beginning 8/27/2026. BA, Step 1.
 28. Jill Petersen, 1.0 FTE Assistant Director of Special Services for the District beginning 7/1/2026. \$140,360/year + Step 4.
 29. Stephanie Rezac, Summer Blast Social Worker for 6 hours/day at the Middle School beginning 6/17/2026-7/30/2026. \$40/hr.
 30. Leila Sassine, ESY Special Education EA/PCA for up to 5.5 hours/day at the Middle School beginning 6/25/2026-7/17/2026. Step 4, \$23.51/hr.
 31. Tatum Sawyer, Summer KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 40 hours/week at Spring Creek beginning 6/3/2026-9/4/2026. Step 1, \$18.71/hr.
 32. Oliver Waters, Summer Instructor Assistant for Community Education/Recreation beginning 6/3/2026-8/31/2026. Step 3, \$15.56/hr.
- ii. Increase/Decrease/Changes in Assignment
1. Claire Edwards, Special Education EA at Spring Creek, add Summer KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 40 hrs/week at Spring Creek effective 6/11/2026-8/26/2026.
 2. Isabel Fleming, KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 15 hrs/week at Greenvale Park, change to Summer KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 40 hrs/week at Spring Creek effective 6/11/2026-9/4/2026.
 3. Ilana Forsgren, CNA I for 5 hrs/day at the High School, change to CNA II for 5.5 hrs/day at the High School effective 5/18/2026.
 4. Ilana Forsgren, KidVentures Site Assistant for 8.5 hrs/week at Bridgewater, change to Summer KidVentures Site Assistant on call, as needed effective 6/11/2026-8/26/2026.
 5. Jake Fox, KidVentures Student Site Assistant for up to 15 hrs/week at Spring Creek, change to Summer KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 40 hrs/week at Spring Creek effective 6/11/2026-9/4/2026.
 6. Aimee Gerdesmeier, KidVentures Site Leader for 35 hrs/week at Spring Creek, change to 40 hrs/week effective 6/11/26-9/4/2026.
 7. Madison Hansen, Substitute KidVentures Site Assistant, change to Summer KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 40 hrs/week at Spring Creek effective 6/11/2026-9/4/2026.
 8. Gretchen Heil, Teacher at Spring Creek, add Summer Plus Teacher for 3.25 hours/day at Greenvale Park effective 6/17/2026-7/30/2026. \$40/hr.
 9. Stephanie Hernandez Flores, Community School Student Site Assistant at Greenvale Park, change to Summer Plus Site Assistant for 6.5 hrs/day at Greenvale Park effective 6/17/2026-7/30/2026.
 10. Jaelyn Holz, KidVentures Student Site Assistant for up to 18 hrs/week at Spring Creek, change to Summer KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 40 hrs/week at Spring Creek effective 6/11/2026-9/4/2026.
 11. Liam Kline, KidVentures Student Site Assistant for up to 15 hrs/week at Spring Creek, change to Summer KidVentures Site Assistant on call, as needed effective 6/11/2026-9/4/2026.
 12. Josie Kuennen, KidVentures Student Site Assistant for up to 15 hrs/week at Bridgewater, change to Summer KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 40 hrs/week at Spring Creek effective 6/11/2026-9/4/2026.
 13. Briana Lanham, KidVentures Site Assistant for 28.5 hrs/week at Spring Creek, change to Summer KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 40 hrs/week at Spring Creek effective 6/11/2026-9/4/2026.
 14. Susie Lightfield, KidVentures Student Site Assistant for up to 15 hrs/week at Spring Creek, change to Summer KidVentures Site Assistant on call, as needed effective 6/11/2026-8/26/2026.
 15. Tammy McDonough, Substitute Teacher for the District, change to 1.0 FTE Long-Term Substitute Science Teacher at the High School effective 5/12/26-5/21/2026. Lane/step.
 16. Tonya Merritt Skluzacek, KidVentures Site Leader for 35 hrs/week at Bridgewater, change to 40 hrs/week at Spring effective 6/11/26-9/4/2026.
 17. Harper Miller, KidVentures Site Assistant on call, as needed for the District, change to Summer KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 40 hrs/week at Spring Creek effective 6/11/2026-9/4/2026.
 18. Theo Miller, KidVentures Student Site Assistant for up to 15 hrs/week at Greenvale Park, change to Summer KidVentures Student Site Assistant on call, as needed effective 6/11/2026-8/26/2026.
 19. Joshua Mogren, Community School Site Assistant at Greenvale Park, change to Summer Plus Site Assistant for 6.5 hrs/day at Greenvale Park effective 6/17/2026-7/30/2026.
 20. Lacey Neuman Bissonnette, KidVentures Site Leader for 35 hrs/week at Greenvale Park, change to on call, as needed effective 6/15/2026-8/26/2026.
 21. Marea Nielsen, KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 12 hrs/week at Greenvale Park, change to Summer KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 40 hrs/week at Spring Creek effective 6/11/2026-9/4/2026.
 22. Brody Nygaard, KidVentures Student Site Assistant for up to 15 hrs/week at Spring Creek, change to Summer KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 40 hrs/week at Spring Creek effective 6/11/2026-9/4/2026.

23. Oliver Otting, Summer Instructor Lead for Community Education/Recreation, add Summer Instructor Assistant effective 6/3/2026-8/31/2026. Step 2, \$15.29/hr.
24. Osiris Perez, Community School Student Site Assistant at Greenvale Park, change to Summer Plus Site Assistant for 6.5 hrs/day at Greenvale Park effective 6/17/2026-7/30/2026.
25. Nicole Rasmussen, KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 15 hrs/week at Bridgewater, change to Summer KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 40 hrs/week at Spring Creek effective 6/11/2026-8/26/2026.
26. Gina Swenson, Teacher at Greenvale Park, add Summer Plus Teacher for 6.5 hours/day at Greenvale Park effective 6/17/2026-7/30/2026. \$40/hr.
27. Isabella Townley, KidVentures Student Site Assistant for up to 15 hrs/week at Greenvale Park, change to Summer KidVentures Student Site Assistant for up to 40 hrs/week at Spring Creek effective 6/11/2026-9/4/2026.
28. Madison Warner, Substitute Early Ventures Teacher and Substitute KidVentures Site Assistant, change to Early Ventures Teacher and Summer KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 40 hrs/week at the NCEC/Spring Creek effective 6/11/2026-9/4/2026.
29. Alex Altermatt, Summer Instructor Assistant for Community Education/Recreation, add Summer Instructor Lead effective 6/3/2026-8/31/2026. Step 3, \$16.64/hr.
30. Michelle Anderson, Special Education EA/PCA at Greenvale Park, add ESY EA/PCA for up to 5.5 hours/day at Greenvale Park effective 6/25/2026-7/17/2026.
31. Nick Avila, Instructor Assistant for Community Education/ Recreation, add Instructor Lead effective 3/7/2026-5/31/2026. Step 6, \$17.45/hr.
32. Kaitlin Bell, Grade 3 Teacher at Bridgewater, change to Grade 3 Teacher at Greenvale Park effective 8/27/2026.
33. Kiwi Bielenberg, .45 FTE DAPE Teacher at Spring Creek and .55 FTE POHD Teacher for the District, change to .25 FTE DAPE at Spring Creek, . 2 FTE DAPE at the Middle School, and .55 FTE POHD for the District effective 8/27/2026-6/11/2027.
34. Emily Borgerding, Kindergarten Teacher at Greenvale Park, change to Grade 1 Teacher at Greenvale Park effective 8/27/2026.
35. Briana Bulfer, Grade 2 Teacher at Greenvale Park, change to .9 FTE Science Teacher at Greenvale Park and .1 FTE Science Teacher at Spring Creek for a total of 1.0 FTE effective 8/27/2026.
36. Jack Christy, Custodian at the Middle School from 11am-7pm, change to 6am-2:30pm effective 6/11/2026.
37. Anita Corwin, Early Ventures Site Assistant for 40 hours/week at the NCEC, change to up to 40 hours/week, generally 32 hours/week effective 6/12/2026-8/28/2026.
38. Caitlin David, Special Education SOAR Teacher at Greenvale Park, add Special Education ESY Teacher for up to 5.75 hours/day effective 6/25/2026-7/25/2026. Lane/step.
39. Jacob Dayneko, 1.0 FTE CTE Teacher at the High School, add a 1/6 overload teaching an additional section of Auto Mechanics for semester 1 only at the High School, effective 8/27/2026-1/22/2027.
40. Lindsey Dietiker, Child Nutrition Manager I at Greenvale Park, add Summer Child Nutrition Associate for up to 5 hours/day effective 6/22/2026-6/25/2026. \$23.06/hr.
41. Nicole Drexler, Long-Term Substitute Grade 5 Teacher at Bridgewater, change to Long-Term Substitute Grade 5 Teacher at Greenvale Park effective 8/27/2026-1/27/2027. BA, Step 2.
42. Antonia Duresky, CNA I for 5 hours/day at the High School, change to 5.5 hours/day effective 8/20/2026.
43. Tyler Faust, Special Education Teacher at Greenvale Park, add ESY Special Education Teacher for up to 5.75 hours/day at Greenvale Park effective 6/25/2026-7/17/2026. Lane/step.
44. Adria Fischer, Early Ventures Teacher for 40 hours/week at the NCEC, change to up to 40 hours/week, generally 16 hours/week effective 6/12/2026-8/28/2026.
45. Sara Gerdesmeier, Early Ventures Site Assistant for 32.5 hours/week, change to up to 40 hours/week effective 6/12/2026-8/28/2026.
46. Sarah Graff, CNA I for 3.25 hours/day at Bridgewater, change to CNA I for 5 hours/day at the High School effective 8/20/2026.
47. Stephanie Grundman, Title I Teacher at Spring Creek, change to Grade 2 Teacher at Greenvale Park effective 8/27/2026.
48. Becki Haar, 1.0 FTE Grade 4 Teacher at Spring Creek, change to .6 FTE Title I Teacher at Spring Creek/.2 FTE Title I Teacher at St. Dominic for a total of .8 FTE effective 8/27/2026-6/11/2027.
49. Inger Hanson, EL Teacher at the ALC/Greenvale Park, change to .7 FTE EL Teacher at the Middle School/.3 FTE EL Teacher at the ALC for a total of 1.0 FTE effective 8/27/2026.
50. Maria Hegland, Summer Instructor Lead for Community Education/Recreation, add Summer Instructor Assistant effective 6/3/2026-8/31/2026. Step 3, \$15.56/hr.
51. Hollis Holden, Summer Instructor Lead for Community Education/Recreation, add Summer Instructor Assistant effective 6/3/2026-8/31/2026. Step 2, \$15.29/hr.
52. Zoe Jesh, Early Ventures Teacher for 40 hours/week at the NCEC, change to up to 40 hours/week, generally 35.5 hours/week effective 6/12/2026-8/28/2026.
53. Anna Kelly, .8 FTE Science Teacher at Greenvale Park, change to 1.0 FTE Grade 5 Teacher at Greenvale Park effective 8/27/2026.
54. Kasie Larsen, Summer Instructor Lead for Community Education/Recreation, add Summer Lifeguard effective 6/3/2026-8/31/2026. Step 2, \$15.29/hr.

55. Kayla LaVoy, Grade 2 Teacher at Bridgewater, change to Grade 1 Teacher at Bridgewater effective 8/27/2026.
56. Darren Lofquist, Grade 2 Teacher at Bridgewater, change to Grade 3 Teacher at Bridgewater effective 8/27/2026.
57. Josh Malecha, Instructor Assistant for Community Education/Recreation, add Instructor Lead effective 3/7/2026-5/31/2026. Step 6, \$17.45/hr.
58. McKenzie Malecha, Early Ventures Teacher for 40 hours/week at the NCEC, change to up to 40 hours/week, generally 32 hours/week effective 6/12/2026-8/28/2026.
59. Shari Malecha, Custodian at the Middle School, change to Head Custodian at Greenvale Park effective 6/11/2026. Step 1, \$31.61/hr.
60. Lee Miller, .8 FTE Social Studies Teacher at the High School, change to 1.0 FTE effective 8/27/2026-6/11/2027.
61. Brekken Modory, .5 FTE English/Language Arts Teacher at the High School, change to .6 FTE effective 8/27/2026-6/11/2027.
62. Joan Odell, Long-Term Substitute Special Education EA/PCA at the High School, add ESY EA/PCA for up to 5.5 hours/day effective 6/25/2026-7/17/2027.
63. Jade Olson, Special Education EA/PCA for 3.2 hours/day at the NCEC and 3 hours/day at Greenvale Park, change to Special Education EA/PCA for 4 hours/day at Bridgewater, 3 hours/day at Greenvale Park and .25 hours/day General Education EA/PCA at Greenvale Park effective 5/21/2026-6/10/2026.
64. Jade Olson, Special Education EA/PCA at Greenvale Park/Bridgewater, change to ongoing Special Education EA/PCA for 6.75 hours/day at Greenvale Park effective 6/10/2026.
65. Eleanor Otting, Summer Water Safety Instructor for Community Education/Recreation, add Summer Lifeguard effective 6/3/2026-8/31/2026. Step 2, \$15.29/hr.
66. Sandy Pelava, Early Ventures Teacher for 40 hours/week at the NCEC, change to up to 40 hours/week, generally 34 hours/week effective 6/12/2026-8/28/2026.
67. Jen Peterson, School Social Worker at Bridgewater, add ESY Social Worker for up to 5.75 hours/day at Greenvale Park effective 6/25/2026-7/17/2026. Lane/step.
68. Kelli Rehbein, Early Ventures Teacher for 40 hours/week at the NCEC, change to up to 40 hours/week, generally 24 hours/week effective 6/12/2026-8/28/2026.
69. John Schiel, .8 FTE PE/DAPE Teacher at Greenvale Park, add .12 FTE DAPE Teacher at Spring Creek for a total of .92 FTE effective 8/27/2026-6/11/2027.
70. Jenna Schlatter, Grade 6 Launch Teacher at the Middle School, change to Grade 6 English/Language Arts Teacher at the Middle School effective 8/27/2026.
71. Alexa Schmidt, Early Ventures Teacher for 40 hours/week at the NCEC, change to up to 40 hours/week, generally 22 hours/week effective 6/12/2026-8/28/2026.
72. Angie Schewe, Early Ventures Teacher for up to 40 hours/week at the NCEC, change to up to 40 hours/week, generally 16 hours/week effective 6/12/2026-8/28/2026.
73. Scott Stanina, .5 FTE Assistant Knowledge Bowl Advisor at the High School, change to 1.0 FTE effective 9/8/2026.
74. Scott Stanina, Teacher at the High School, add Summer School Teacher for up to 50 hours/session at the ALC effective 6/12/2026-7/23/2026. Lane/step.
75. Andrea Stowe, Special Education BEST Teacher at Greenvale Park, change to Long-Term Substitute Kindergarten Teacher at Greenvale Park effective 8/27/2026-2/3/2027. BA, Step 4.
76. Jade Suhsen, Early Ventures Teacher for 18.74 hours/week at the NCEC, change to up to 40 hours/week effective 6/12/2026-8/28/2026.
77. Jonathan Thompson, Teacher at the High School, add Summer Blast Teacher for 6.5 hours/day at the Middle School effective 6/17/2026-7/30/2026.
78. Ellen Trotman, EL Teacher at the Middle School, change to .7 FTE Greenvale Park/.2 FTE St. Dominic/.1 FTE NCEC for a total of 1.0 FTE effective 8/27/2026.
79. Tegan Underdahl, Early Ventures Teacher for 40 hours/week at the NCEC, change to up to 40 hours/week, generally 31.5 hours/week effective 6/12/2026-8/28/2026.
80. Lori Warner, Occupational Therapist for the District, add ESY Occupational Therapist for up to 5.75 hours/week at Greenvale Park and the Middle School effective 6/25/2026-7/17/2026. Lane/step.

iii. Leave of Absences

1. Sean DuBé, Language Arts Teacher/Dean of Students at the High School, unpaid leave of absence for the 2026-27 school year. Sean has accepted the Interim Assistant Principal position at the High School for the 2026-27 school year.
2. Jennifer Peterson, School Social Worker at Bridgewater, FMLA leave of absence beginning 4/14/2026 and continuing on an intermittent basis for up to 60 work days.

iv. Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

1. Brittney Braucher, Summer Child Nutrition Associate at the Middle School, declined position effective 5/13/2026.
2. Kari Hartwig, Class III Office Specialist at the Middle School, resignation effective 6/15/2026.
3. Ellen Mucha, Assistant Knowledge Bowl Advisor at the High School, resignation effective 5/18/2026.
4. Michelle Bauer, Pre-K-12 Instructional Coach for the District, resignation effective 6/30/2026.
5. Anne Lehmkuhl, Assistant Volleyball Coach at the High School, resignation effective 5/22/2026.
6. Jody Mathews, CNA III at Spring Creek, resignation effective 6/10/2026.

- 7. Amy Randall, Speech Language Pathologist at Bridgewater, resignation effective 6/10/2026.
- 8. Linda Temple, Teacher at Bridgewater, retirement effective 5/22/2026.
- 9. Kaitlyn Townzen, Early Childhood Special Education Teacher at the NCEC, resignation effective 6/10/2026.
- v. District Administration recommends approval of the following employment agreements covering the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2028:
 - 1. Educational Assistants
 - 2. Principals
 - 3. Child Nutrition Associates
 - 4. Interpreters
 - 5. COTA/Speech Language Assistants
- vi. District Administration is Recommending the Approval of the Following Rates of Pay
 - 1. The following hourly rates apply to driver education instructors, including updated rates for Spanish-language instruction: \$30.50/hour for both classroom and behind the wheel instruction; and \$41.15/hour for behind the wheel instruction in Spanish.

*Conditional offers of employment are subject to successful completion of a criminal background check and Pre-work screening (if applicable)

7. Items for Individual Action

- a. Renewal of Contract Between Northfield Public Schools and Prairie Creek Community School. On a motion by Miller, seconded by Butler, the board unanimously approved to renew the contract between Northfield Public Schools and Prairie Creek Community School for the time frame of July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2031. Simon Tyler, director of Prairie Creek Community School, and Daryl Kehler, the district’s charter school authorizer lead, provided an overview of the proposed contract at the May 11, 2026 board meeting.
- b. Bid for NHS Reimagine Project. On a motion by Butler, seconded by Miller, the board unanimously approved the special inspection services bid from Braun Intertec in the amount of \$215,091.00 for the NHS Reimagine Project.
- c. Resolution Proposing to Place Tenured Licensed Staff on Unrequested Leave of Absence. On a motion by Butler, seconded by Epstein, the board adopted by roll call the resolution related to the proposed placement of the following teachers on unrequested leave of absence effective at the end of the 2025-26 school year. Voting “yes” were: Butler, Epstein, Miller, Quinnell, and Gonzalez-George. No one voted “no.”

<u>Name</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Position</u>
Taylor-Libbey, Lori	0.60 FTE	High School Spanish
Taylor-Libbey, Lori	0.20 FTE	High School ADSIS
Taylor-Libbey, Lori	0.20 FTE	EL at St. Dominic’s

This action is taken with the understanding that the following individuals will be offered a contract for the 2026-2027 school year as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Position</u>
Taylor-Libbey, Lori	0.60 FTE	High School Spanish
Taylor-Libbey, Lori	0.20 FTE	High School ADSIS

- d. Resolution Establishing Dates for Filing Affidavits of Candidacy. On a motion by Butler, seconded by Miller, the board adopted by roll call the Resolution Establishing Dates for Filing Affidavits of Candidacy. Voting “yes” were: Butler, Epstein, Miller, Quinnell, and Gonzalez-George. No one voted “no.” The Notice of Filing Dates will be posted and advertised in the Northfield News, according to the deadlines indicated on the election calendar published by the Minnesota Secretary of State’s Office. Affidavits of Candidacy for the three (3) school board vacancies may be filed at the District Office, 201 Orchard Street South, beginning Tuesday, July 14, 2026 and ending Tuesday, July 28, 2026. An election will be held to fill three (3) vacancies with four-year terms. The terms of Ben Miller, Jenny Nelson, and Jeff Quinnell expire on January 4, 2027.

8. Items for Information

- a. Graduation Dates. The ALC graduation is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 4 in the Middle School Auditorium. Northfield High School’s graduation is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 7 at Memorial

Field.

9. Future Meetings

- a. Thursday, June 4, 2026, 6:00 p.m., ALC Graduation, Northfield Middle School Auditorium
- b. Sunday, June 7, 2026, 2:00 p.m., High School Graduation, Memorial Field
- c. Monday, June 8, 2026, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom
- d. Wednesday, June 24, 2026, 5:15 p.m., Special School Board Meeting, Approve bids for the NHS Reimagine project, Northfield DO Boardroom
- e. Monday, July 13, 2026, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Epstein, the board unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.



Maggie Epstein
School Board Clerk