

# NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## School Board Minutes

October 26, 2020

Northfield High School Media Center

### 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. Present: Baraniak, Goerwitz, Hardy, Iverson, Pritchard, Quinnell and Stratmoen. In accordance with Governor Walz's Stay Safe Plan, this meeting was set up in accordance with the plan's social distancing guidelines. In addition, all those present wore face coverings the duration of the meeting. Present at this meeting was Dr. Matt Hillmann, Superintendent, Anita Aase, Executive Administrative Assistant, and Hope Langston, Director of Instructional Services. Present via video conference was Erin Bailey, Director of Community Education; and Val Mertesdorf, Director of Finance. This meeting was live-streamed and recorded, and access to the recording was posted to the school district website.

### II. Agenda Approval/Table File

The district's attorney is reviewing the Memorandum of Understanding Between the ALC and Randolph & Tri-City United High Schools, and therefore, Superintendent Hillmann requested the board postpone consideration of this Item for Individual Action. On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Iverson, the Board approved the amended agenda.

### 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 October 26, 2020. All submissions that followed the district policy regarding public comment would be read by Chair Pritchard at this time. There was no public comment.

### IV. Announcements and Recognitions

- Thank you to Sheldahl Flexible Technologies for their donation of 700 masks to Northfield Public Schools.
- Congratulations to the Section 1AA champion boys soccer team; to Martin Brice, Nathan Amundson, Nicole Theberath and Anna Forbord who qualified for the State Cross Country tournament which is canceled this year; and to Liv Fossum, Lindsay Sunday, Ellen Varley and Anna Sheglowski who broke the 200 medley relay pool record by 0.10.
- Rashod Bateman of the University of Minnesota football team changed his uniform number to 0 as a symbol to indicate "there is zero tolerance for racism in Minnesota's culture and it is a call to action to end racism in our society." The Northfield Raider football team has decided to support the zero Initiative by wearing zero stickers on the backs of their helmets and committing themselves to tolerate zero racism on their team and in their community.
- On Saturday, October 31, Northfield High School will perform the radio broadcast "War of the Worlds".

### V. Items for Discussion and Reports

#### A. Summary of Public Hearing Regarding the 2020-2021 World's Best Workforce Plan

Director of Instructional Services Hope Langston summarized the 2020-2021 World's Best Workforce Plan and responded to questions from the Board. There was no community feedback received at the World's Best Workforce Plan public hearing that preceded the regular board meeting.

#### B. Policy Committee Recommendations

Dr. Hillmann presented the policy committee's recommendations on Policies 419, 516 and 607. This will be an item for individual action at the next board meeting.

#### C. Financial Update

Director of Finance Val Mertesdorf provided a financial update. We have submitted applications for the Federal CARES Funding which includes the Coronavirus Relief funding, ESSER funding and GEAR

funding. We did apply for approximately \$267,000.00 to cover the cost of the emergency childcare from last spring and we were notified that this application had been approved. The auditors were on site last week and the audit results will be presented at the December board meeting. We submitted an application for additional CARES funding available from Goodhue County.

D. Operations Update

Dr. Hillmann provided an operations update. On the third Wednesday of each month District staff use Professional Learning Community time to discuss racial equity and anti-racism issues. Staff use reflection questions provided by the district to deepen their understanding of one of the three key commitments outlined in the framework: symbolism, individual behavior, and system behavior. The District administered a 30-day “pulse” survey of parents/guardians and employees. Superintendent Hillmann reviewed the data results and the comments are being reviewed for themes. We have observed rising COVID-19 infection rates and Dr. Hillmann reviewed the process and factors used to consider a learning model change.

VI. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

VII. Consent Agenda

On a motion by Iverson, seconded by Goerwitz, the Board approved the following Consent Agenda.

A. Minutes

- Minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on October 12, 2020

B. Personnel

a) Appointments

1. Katherine Kreft, Special Ed EA-PCA for 2.8 hours/day at the NCEC, beginning 10/19/2020-6/10/2021; Spec Ed Step 2-\$16.41/hr.
2. Mallory Fuchs, Assistant Dance Team Coach for 2 hours/day for 3 days/week at the High School, beginning 11/9/2020; Hourly-\$14.00/hr.
3. Shari McCabe, .2 FTE Physical Education Teacher and .2 FTE Study Hall Teacher at the Middle School, beginning 11/2/2020-6/10/2021; BA, Step 2
4. Joanna McLees, Special Ed EA-PCA for 3.6 hours/day at the NCEC, beginning 10/19/2020-6/10/2021; Spec Ed Step 1-\$16.05/hr.
5. Teresa Morris, General Ed EA-Literacy Support for 4 hours/day at Sibley, beginning 10/19/2020-6/10/2021; Gen Ed Step 4-\$16.72/hr.
6. Victoria Rivera, Fall, Winter & Spring Recreation Position with Community Education, beginning 10/16/2020-5/31/2021; \$11.75/hr.
7. Anna Runestad, Early Childhood Screener Substitute for up to 4 days/month at the NCEC, beginning 11/2/2020; \$22.00/hr.
8. Larry Sanftner, Site Supervisor Position with Community Education, beginning 9/9/2020-5/31/2021; \$15.39/hr.
9. Bailey Shimota, Special Ed EA-PCA for 6.75 hours/day at the Middle School, beginning 11/2/2020-6/10/2021; Spec Ed Step 1-\$16.05/hr.
10. Rebecca Stoufis, 1.0 FTE Long Term Substitute Special Ed EBD Teacher at Bridgewater, beginning 10/19/2020-11/20/2020; Daily Sub Rate \$150.00/day
11. Taylor Strelow, 1.0 FTE Community School Coordinator with Community Education, beginning 10/27/2020; \$47,439/year-prorated for 2020-2021.
12. Tara Vondrasek, .2 FTE Title I Teacher at Greenvale Park/St. Dominic, beginning 10/23/2020-6/10/2021; MA, Step 10
13. Lindsey Davis, Assistant Dance Teach Coach for 2 hours/day for 3 days/week at the High School, beginning 11/9/2020; Level F, Step 1
14. Laura Greenlund, Special Ed EA Bus PCA for 1 hour/day for 1 day/week, with the District, beginning 10/23/2020-6/10/2021; Spec Ed Step 4-\$17.31/hr.
15. Karen Rodriguez Rojas, ESL EA for 6.5 hours/day at the High School, beginning 10/28/2020; Gen Ed Step 2-\$15.81/hr.

16. Karen Rodriguez Rojas, Targeted Services PLUS Site Assistant for 1.25 hours/day for 4 days/week with Community School, beginning 10/23/2020-6/10/2021; Step 2-\$14.01/hr.

b) Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment

1. Sohair Abboud, Early Childhood Spec. Ed EA at the NCEC, add Community School Evening Site Assistant for up to 3 hours/day Tues. and Thurs. at Greenvale Park, effective 10/26/2020-6/10/2021; Step 4-\$14.98/hr.
2. Zane Anway, EL EA at the Middle School, change to Tier II Teacher with the District, effective 10/19/2020-6/10/2021; BA, Step 1-prorated
3. Katherine Bauer, Full Time Teacher Substitute with the District, add Targeted Services PLUS Teacher for up to 1.25 hours/day for up to 4 days/week at Greenvale Park, effective 10/26/2020-6/5/2021; Yr. 1-\$27.11/hr.
4. Russel Boyington, KidVentures Site Assistant at Bridgewater, add Community School Site Assistant for up to 6 hours/week at Greenvale Park, effective 10/19/2020-6/10/2021; Step 4-\$14.98/hr.
5. Russel Boyington, KidVentures Site Assistant at Bridgewater, add Community School Evening Club Leader for up to 6 hours/week at Greenvale Park, effective 10/27/2020-6/10/2021; \$22.27/hr.
6. Margaret Christiansen, Child Nutrition at Bridgewater, add Special Ed EA PCA Bus for .83 hours/day with the District, effective 10/21/2020-6/10/2021; Spec Ed Step 1-\$16.05/hr.
7. Noreen Cooney, School Social Worker at Sibley, add Supervision of School Social Worker at the NCEC and ALC, effective 9/8/2020-6/10/2021; \$1,500 stipend
8. Natalie Czech, Teacher at Bridgewater, Add Targeted Services PLUS Teacher for up to 6 hours/week Mon.-Thurs. at Bridgewater/Portage, effective 11/15/2020-5/6/2021; Yr. 4-27.73/hr.
9. Kevin Dahle, Social Studies Teacher at the High School, add National Honor Society Advisor at the High School, effective 10/13/2020-6/10/2021; Level I, Step 1
10. Robert Garcia, Teacher at Greenvale Park, add Targeted Services PLUS Teacher for 1.25 hours/day for 4 days/week at Greenvale Park, effective 10/26/2020-6/10/2021; Yr. 10-\$28.22/hr.
11. Roger Helgeson, Night Lead Engineer at the High School, change to Head Custodian at Bridgewater, effective 10/16/2020; Step 4-\$26.21/hr.
12. Todd Ledman, Custodian at the High School, change to Night Lead Custodian Engineer w/o license at the High School, effective 10/22/2020; Step 4 Custodian Engineer w/out license
13. Mollie Schwartz, Vocal Music Teacher at Sibley, add Vocal Music Activity at Sibley, effective 10/1/2020; Level M, Step 1- $\frac{1}{2}$  Stipend
14. Josh Spitzack, Teacher at Greenvale Park, add Targeted Services PLUS Teacher for 1.25 hours/day for 4 days/week at Greenvale Park, effective 10/26/2020-6/10/2021; Yr. 6-\$27.73/hr.
15. Michelle Steele, 1.0 FTE Phy Ed/DAPE Teacher +overload through 10/14/2020 at the Middle School, change to 1.0 FTE Phy Ed/DAPE Teacher +overload through 10/30/2020 at the Middle School, effective 10/19/2020-10/30/2020.

c) Leave of Absence

1. Updated-Paige Haley, Teacher at Bridgewater, Family Medical/Leave of Absence, effective 11/3/2020-11/27/2020.
2. Updated-Michelle Sonnega, Teacher at the High School, Leave of Absence, effective 8/30/2021-12/22/2021.
3. Kristin Hummel, Teacher at Bridgewater, Family/Medical Leave of Absence, effective on 10/20/2020 and will continue on an intermittent basis for up to 60 work days.
4. Lisa Robb, Teacher at the High School, Family/Medical Leave of Absence, effective on 10/21/2020 and will continue on an intermittent basis for up to 60 work days.
5. Kim Medin, Teacher at Bridgewater, Leave of Absence, effective 11/23/2020-12-11/2020.
6. Shawna Molloy, Teacher at the High School, Family/Medical Leave of Absence, effective on 10/22/2020-1/3/2021.
7. Carina Zick, EA at Sibley, Family/Medical Leave of Absence, effective 10/22/2020-11/6/2020.

d) Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

VIII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. World's Best Workforce 2020-2021 Annual Report. On a motion by Goerwitz, seconded by Hardy, the Board approved the 2020-2021 World's Best Workforce Annual Report. Voting 'yes' were Baraniak, Goerwitz, Hardy, Iverson, Pritchard, Quinnell and Stratmoen. No one voted 'no'.

VIII. Items for Information

- A. Construction Update #35. Superintendent Hillmann updated the Board on the District's construction projects.

IX. Future Meetings

- A. Monday, November 9, 2020, 7:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, NHS Media Center and Zoom
- B. Friday, November 13, 2020, 1:00 p.m., Special Board Meeting
- C. Monday, November 23, 2020, 7:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, NHS Media Center & Zoom

X. Adjournment

On a motion by Baraniak, seconded by Quinnell, the Board adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Noel Stratmoen  
School Board Clerk