

# **NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

## **School Board Minutes**

November 10, 2025  
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, Goerwitz, Gonzalez-George, Miller, Nelson, and Quinnell. Absent: None. 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 Goerwitz, the board approved the agenda.

3. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

4. Announcements and Recognitions

- Congratulations to school board member Amy Goerwitz, who has been named to the MSBA All-State School Board. Selection is based on a board member's exemplary leadership, service, and commitment to advancing public education. This annual award is given to a select group of distinguished board members in Minnesota each year to recognize their outstanding service.
- Congratulations to the boys soccer team, who tied for third place in the state tournament on Wednesday, Oct. 29.
- Congratulations to the girls cross country team, who placed third at the state meet on Saturday, Nov. 2.
- Congratulations to the football team, who finished second in the section on Friday, Oct. 31.
- The Northfield High School Theater Department's fall performance, *Sense and Sensibility*, continues this weekend, with performances at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, November 14 and 15 and at 2:00 on Sunday, November 16.
- Numerous programs were held throughout the district to celebrate Veteran's Day. Greenvale Park Elementary held their program Monday, Nov. 10; Bridgewater Elementary held their program Tuesday, Nov. 11; Northfield Middle School hosted their annual program on Tuesday, Nov. 11, with the program also streaming live on NorthfieldLive; and Spring Creek held their veterans lunch on Wednesday, Nov. 12.

5. Items for Discussion and Reports

- a. Summary of Public Hearing Regarding the 2024-25 Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness (CACR) and Achievement & Integration Results. ALC Director Daryl Kehler summarized the 2024-25 Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness (CACR) and Achievement & Integration results, and the 2025-26 goals, presented at the public hearing that preceded the regular school board meeting.
- b. Total Special Education System (TSES) Plan Review. Director of Special Services Sara Pratt reviewed the recently updated Total Special Education System (TSES) plan for the Northfield Public School District. The TSES plan outlines how Northfield Public Schools identifies, evaluates, and serves students with disabilities.
- c. Policy Committee Recommendations. Superintendent Hillmann presented the policy committee's recommended updates to policies 502, 505, 513, 513.1, 513.2, 513.3 and 514. This will be an item for individual action at the November 24 board meeting.

6. Consent Agenda

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

- a. Minutes. Minutes of the regular school board meeting held on October 27, 2025.
- b. Gift Agreements. Gift agreements included in the board packet.
- c. Personnel Items.

i. Appointments

1. William Baragary, Community School Student Site Assistant at Spring Creek up to 10 hours/week effective 11/10/2025-5/14/2026. Step 3, \$17.32/hour.
2. Joshua Bisel, .5 FTE Assistant Nordic Ski Coach at the High School beginning 11/11/2025. \$2,217.50 stipend, subject to change upon the settlement of the 2025-27 NEA Agreement.
3. Mikaela Girard, .5 FTE Assistant Softball Coach at the High School beginning 3/9/2026. \$2,217.50 stipend, subject to change upon the settlement of the 2025-27 NEA Agreement.
4. Ellyssa Novak, .5 FTE Assistant Softball Coach at the High School beginning 3/9/2026. \$2,217.50 stipend, subject to change upon the settlement of the 2025-27 NEA Agreement.
5. Laurie Sadowski, Building Supervisor with Community Education/Recreation as needed beginning 11/5/2025. \$20.31/hour.
6. Zachary Spindler-Krage, Speech Judge at the High School as needed, beginning 12/1/2025. \$100/event.
7. Alexandra Bornhauser, Building Supervisor with Community Education/Recreation as needed beginning 11/30/2025. \$20.31/hour.
8. Robyn Dietz, Long-term Substitute Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park for 19 hours/week effective 11/17/2025-2/20/2026. General Ed, Step 4, \$21.44/hour, Special Ed, Step 4, \$23.51/hour.
9. Joshua Mogren, Community School Site Assistant at Greenvale Park up to 10 hours/week effective 11/17/2025-5/14/2026. Step 2, \$19.37/hour.
10. Brent Ruuska, Instructor Assistant and Swim Assistant with Community Education/Recreation up to 4 hours/week effective 11/9/2025-5/31/2026. Step 4, \$16.10/hour.
11. Isaac Wagner, Long-term Substitute Special Education EA/PCA at Greenvale Park for 5 hours/day effective 11/12/2025-1/9/2026. Step 1, \$21.86/hour.
12. Randell Zick, Softball/Basketball Official with Community Education/Recreation for 4 hours/week effective 11/9/2025-5/31/2026. \$30/game.

ii. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment

1. Paul Bernhard, 1.0 FTE Physical Education Teacher at Bridgewater, add .8 FTE Assistant Alpine Ski Coach effective 11/11/2025. \$3,992 stipend.
2. Ray Coudret, 1.0 FTE RRR-Director at the High School, change to .5 FTE RRR-Director and .4 FTE RRR-Production Coordinator effective 12/1/2025.
3. Sam Dwyer, .8 FTE RRR-Production Coordinator at the High School, change to .4 FTE RRR-Production Coordinator and .6 FTE RRR-Vocal Director effective 12/1/2025.
4. Anne Fossum, Assistant Girls Hockey Coach at the High School, add Assistant Softball Coach effective 3/9/2026. \$5,544 stipend.
5. Bob Gregory-Bjorklund, .75 FTE RRR-Vocal Director at the High School, change to .4 FTE RRR-Vocal Director effective 12/1/2025.
6. Shari Setchell, .2 FTE RRR-Choreographer at the High School, change to .2 FTE RRR-Choreographer, .5 FTE RRR-Director, and .2 FTE RRR-Production Coordinator effective 12/1/2025.
7. Pete Maus, 1.0 FTE LTS Math Teacher at the ALC, change position end date from 12/19/2025 to 3/20/2026.
8. Laurie Sadowski, Building Supervisor with Community Education/Recreation as needed, add Site Supervisor as needed, effective 11/5/2025-5/31/2026. Step 6, \$18.51/hour.
9. Bubba Sullivan, .5 FTE Assistant Softball Coach and .5 FTE 9th Grade Softball Coach at the High School, change to 1.0 FTE Assistant Softball Coach effective 3/9/2026. \$5,544 stipend.
10. Lisa Weis, 1.0 FTE Health Teacher at the Middle School, add Assistant Middle School Speech Coach effective 11/4/2025. \$2,772 stipend.
11. Shane Baier, Interim Principal at Bridgewater - continue as Interim Principal at Bridgewater as needed for the remainder of the 2025-26 school year.
12. Zandra Bornhauser, Building Supervisor for Community Education/Recreation as needed, add Site Supervisor as needed effective 11/30/2025-5/31/2026. \$18.24/hour.
13. Zandra Bornhauser, Building Supervisor and Site Supervisor for Community Education/Recreation as needed, add Instructor Assistant as needed, effective 11/30/2025-5/31/2026. \$16.10/hour.
14. Adam Danielson, Behavior Coach/Interim Associate Principal at Bridgewater - continue as Interim Associate Principal as needed at Bridgewater for the remainder of the 2025-26 school year.
15. Nick Gerhardt, Event Worker at the High School as needed, add Instructor Assistant (Scorekeeper) with Community Education/Recreation as needed effective 11/9/2025-5/31/2026. \$16.37/hour.
16. Katrina Warner, EA for 7.25 hours/day at Bridgewater, add Substitute Kid Ventures Site Assistant on call, as needed effective 11/10/2025.

iii. Leave of Absence

1. Jessie Huebsch, Instructional Services Support Specialist at the District Office, FMLA leave of absence beginning 12/10/2025, continuing for up to 60 work days.
2. Jordan Streiff, Administrative Support Assistant for Special Services at the District Office, FMLA leave of absence beginning 12/10/2025 through 2/4/2026.
3. Nancy Antoine, Principal at Bridgewater, extending FMLA leave through 1/2/2026.

iv. Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

1. Theresa Wilson, Assistant Alpine Ski Coach, resignation effective 10/29/2025.

2. Joshua Anderson, Long-term Substitute Kindergarten Teacher at Bridgewater, resignation effective 12/1/2025.
  3. Josh Spitzack, Assistant 8th Grade Football Coach at the Middle School, resignation effective 11/5/2025.
- v. 2026 Winter/Spring Instructors List  
The list of the Northfield Community Education Winter/Spring 2026 Brochure Instructors was attached.

7. Items for Individual Action

- a. Superintendent's Mid-Year Evaluation Tool. On a motion by Butler, seconded by Goerwitz, the board unanimously approved the revised mid-year superintendent evaluation tool as presented.

8. Items for Information

- a. Enrollment Options and History Report. Student Information Systems Specialist Christine Neset and Director of Finance Val Mertesdorf provided the 2025-26 Enrollment Options and History Report. Superintendent Hillmann reviewed this report with the board.
- b. Enrollment Report. Superintendent Hillmann reviewed the November 2025 enrollment report.
- c. Construction Update No. 18. Superintendent Hillmann provided an update on the NHS construction project.
- d. American Education Week. American Education Week was November 17-21, 2025. American Education Week presents all Americans with an opportunity to celebrate public education and honor individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every child receives a quality education. Northfield Public Schools recognizes and appreciates the team of people who work each day to prepare every student for lifelong success by developing critical thinkers who are curious and ready to engage in our society during this weeklong celebration of public education.

9. Future Meetings

- a. Monday, November 24, 2025, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom
- b. Monday, December 8, 2025, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom
- c. Monday, January 12, 2025, 6:00 p.m., Organizational Board Meeting followed by the Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Nelson, the board approved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 7:21 p.m.



Amy Goerwitz  
School Board Clerk