

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

November 22, 2021

District Office Boardroom

1. Call to Order

Board Chair Julie Pritchard called the Regular meeting of the Northfield Board of Education of Independent School District No. 659 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present: Baraniak, Butler, Gonzalez-George, Goerwitz, Pritchard, Quinnell and Stratmoen. Absent: None. 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 was public comment.

4. Announcements and Recognitions

- The girls swim 4x100 relay team competed at the state tournament last weekend.
- The district was selected as one of the recipients of a \$288,000 Grow Your Own Program Grant to assist persons of color obtaining a teaching license.
- Youth on Boards was highlighted in an article written by Jennifer Brooks in *The Star Tribune*.

5. Items for Discussion and Reports

- Northfield Middle School Roof Replacement Bonding The district is seeking to issue General Obligation Facilities Maintenance (FM) Bonds to finance the roof replacement project at the Northfield Middle School. Debt service payments for FM Bonds for this purpose does not result in an additional property tax. A portion of the district's annual Long Term Facilities Maintenance (LTFM) revenue will be used to make the required Debt Service payments. Director of Finance Val Mertesdorf reviewed the proposal and preliminary \$3.1 million finance plan provided by Ehlers.
- School Resource Officer Contract. Superintendent Hillmann presented the school resource officer contract with the City of Northfield for the 2022-2024 calendar years. This will be an item in the consent agenda at the next board meeting.
- Start Time for School Board Meetings. Board Chair Pritchard facilitated a discussion about the potential of starting regular school board meetings earlier than the existing 7:00 p.m. start time. The recommendation of Chair Pritchard is to begin regular board meetings at 6:00 p.m. This will be an item for individual action at the next board meeting.
- Five-Year Strategic Plan. Superintendent Hillmann presented the second draft of the district's five-year strategic plan. The board held a work session on November 18 and focused on the strategic commitments. The first ten district and community benchmarks are both academic and non-academic, and match exactly the Northfield Promise benchmarks. The remaining benchmarks focus on employee and parent satisfaction, financial stability, and community education. This will be an item for individual action at the next board meeting.
- Superintendent Operations and COVID-19 Update. Dr. Hillmann provided an update about district operations and COVID-19. The number of COVID-19 cases continues to increase. The district hosted a vaccination clinic with Rice County Public Health on November 18 at the NCEC, and we continue to prioritize continuous in person learning, offer Vault tests to our school families, and operate the on site CUE

testing clinic. The Rock N' Roll Revival event will be held this winter and will be included in the revised budget.

6. Committee Reports

Baraniak provided committee reports on the Human Rights Commission and on Northfield Forward. This year's recipient of the Human Rights Award is Superintendent Dr. Matt Hillmann. Superintendent Hillmann was nominated by a group of many in the Hispanic community and will receive his award at the January 2022 MLK Celebration.

7. Consent Agenda

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

a. Minutes

Minutes of the World's Best Workforce Public Hearing held on November 8, 2021

Minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on November 8, 2021

b. Gift Agreements

- \$10,500 from Cardinal Glass Industries, Inc. to the High School Robotics team
- \$6,000 from Kevin and Nanette Rodgers: \$1,000 for each school building in the district (ALC, HS, MS, BW, GVP and SC)

c. Personnel Items

i. Appointments

1. Carley Benjamin, Special Ed EA PCA for 4 hours/day at Spring Creek, beginning 11/15/2021-6/10/2022; Step 4-\$17.52/hr.
2. Jennifer Borchers, .4 Assistant Gymnastics Coach for 2 hours/day and 2.5 days/week at the High School, beginning 11/18/2021; Level 2, Step 3-40% Stipend
3. Daniel Hollerung, Building Supervisor with Community Education Recreation, beginning 11/22/2021-5/31/2022; \$17.41/hr.
4. Andrea Peterson, .3 Assistant Gymnastics Coach for 2 hours/day and 2 days/week at the High School, beginning 11/18/2021; Level 2, Step 1-30% Stipend
5. Paula Seeberg, 1.0 FTE Long Term Substitute Second Grade Teacher at Spring Creek, beginning 1/3/2022-4/1/2022; MA+40, Step 10.
6. Tiffany Donkers, EarlyVentures Teacher for 40 hours/week at the NCEC, beginning 11/29/2021; Step 2-\$17.76/hr.
7. Ben Pownell, Program Assistant with Community Education Recreation, beginning 12/12/2021-5/31/2022; \$10.08/hr.

ii. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment

1. Tyler Balow, .2 Winter Weight Room Assistant Coach at the High School, change to .3 Winter Weight Room Assistant Coach at the High School, effective 11/5/2021.
2. Tom Dickerson, .4 Winter Weight Room Assistant Coach at the High School, change to .3 Winter Weight Room Assistant Coach at the High School, effective 11/15/2021.
3. Leslie Hayden, Special Ed EA at the Middle School, add Assistant Wrestling Coach at the Middle School, effective 11/15/2021; Stipend \$2,489
4. Isabela Hernandez-Perez, Special Ed EA for 6.75 hours/day and Gen Ed for .50 hours/day at Greenvale Park, change to Special Ed EA for 6.50 hours/day and Gen Ed for .25 hours/day at Greenvale Park, effective 11/11/2021.
5. Averie Line, Substitute EA with the District, change to Special Ed EA PCA for 6.50 hours/week Mon.-Wed. at the NCEC, effective 11/23/2021-6/10/2022; Step 1-\$16.17/hr.
6. Angela Schewe, Early Ventures Teacher at the NCEC, add Event Worker for Community Education, effective 11/19/2021.
7. Bubba Sullivan, .2 Winter Weight Room Assistant Coach at the High School, change to .3 Winter Weight Room Assistant Coach at the High School, effective 11/15/2021.
8. Winston Vermilyea, Special Ed EA for 6.75 hours/day at Spring Creek, add Gen Ed for .25 hours/day at Spring Creek, effective 11/2/2021-6/8/2022; Step 1-\$15.57/hr.
9. Jodi DiMaggio, Due Process Clerical at the NCEC, change to Administrative Assistant Class IV at the NCEC, effective 12/17/2021; Step 3 -\$22.20/hr.

10. Scott Haley, 1.0 Assistant Girls Hockey Coach at the High School, change to .5 Assistant Girls Hockey Coach at the High School, effective 11/23/2021.
11. Kelly Hebzynski, Teacher at the Middle School, add Portage Online Content Tutor Math with the District, effective 11/22/2021-6/8/2022; \$10,500/yr. prorated.
12. John Kromschroeder, Head Custodian at the Middle School, change to Night Custodian Engineer at the Middle School, effective 11/22/2021.
13. Rita Lattimore, Night Custodian Engineer w/o License at the Middle School, change to Night Custodian at the Middle School, effective 11/22/2021.
14. Janet Smith, Assistant Track Coach at the High School, change to Head Girls Track Coach at the High School, effective 11/18/2021. Level 1, step 10
15. Ellen Trotman, Teacher at the Middle School, add MSYC Teacher at the Middle School, effective 11/29/2021-5/13/2022; Yr. 7-\$27.73/hr.

iii. Leave of Absence

1. Updated: Caitlin David, Special Ed Teacher at Bridgewater, Family/Medical Leave of Absence beginning on 11/12/2021 extending to 3/11/2022..
2. Steven Rinderknecht, Custodian at Bridgewater, Family/Medical Leave of Absence beginning 12/27/2021-3/18/2022.

iv. Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

1. Deb Wagner, Assistant Girls Lacrosse Coach, termination effective 11/17/2021.
2. Jodi DiMaggio, Due Process Clerical at the NCEC, resignation due to acceptance of another position with the District, effective 12/16/2021.
3. Danielle Olson, Mental Health Navigator with the District, resignation effective 12/3/2021.

d. Overnight Field Trip

Northfield High School Activities Director Joel Olson and Girls High School Hockey Head Coach Paige Haley requested board approval for an overnight trip for the 2021-22 school year.

7. Items for Individual Action

- a. Resolution to Authorize the Issuance of Facilities Maintenance Bonds On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Baraniak, the board adopted the Resolution Relating to \$3,120,000 General Obligation Facilities Maintenance Bonds, Series 2022A; Stating Official Intent To Proceed With And Authorizing The Issuance And Sale Thereof And Providing For Credit Enhancement With Respect Thereto. On a roll call vote, voting 'yes' was Baraniak, Butler, Gonzalez-George, Goerwitz, Pritchard, Quinnell and Stratmoen. No one voted 'no'.
- b. Policy Approval. On a motion by Baraniak, seconded by Butler, the board approved policy 501 as presented.
- c. Charter School Authorizer Goals. On a motion by Butler, seconded by Baraniak, the board adopted the district's charter school authorizer goals.

8. Items for Information

9. Future Meetings

- a. Monday, December 13, 2021, 7:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom
- b. Monday, January 10, 2022, 7:00 p.m., Organizational Board Meeting followed by the Regular Board Meeting
- c. Monday, January 10, 2022, 7:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Quinnell, the board adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Noel Stratmoen
School Board Clerk