

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

January 9, 2023

Northfield District Office Boardroom

1. Call to Order

The Organizational meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 659 was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Acting Chair Claudia Gonzalez-George for the purpose of organizing the board for the 2023 calendar year. Present: Butler, Goerwitz, Gonzalez-George, Miller, Nelson and Quinnell. Absent: None.

2. Grace Ryden, District Youth Council representative, read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

3. Seat New Board Members

Acting Chair Gonzalez-George administered a ceremonial oath of office to newly elected board members Jenny Nelson and Ben Miller, and re-elected board member Jeff Quinnell.

4. Agenda Approval / Table File

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

5. Items for Individual Action

a. Election of Officers

i. Election of board chair.

Butler moved that Claudia Gonzalez-George be nominated as board chair. There were no further nominations. Claudia Gonzalez-George was the only candidate nominated for the office of chair, and was hereby declared elected by acclamation. Motion carried 6/0. Acting Chair Gonzalez-George directed the acting clerk to so record in the minutes. Board Chair Gonzalez-George then chaired the remainder of the Organizational board meeting.

ii. Election of vice-chair.

Gonzalez-George moved that Corey Butler be nominated as vice-chair. There were no further nominations. Corey Butler was the only candidate nominated for the office of vice-chair, and was hereby declared elected by acclamation and Chair Gonzalez-George directed the acting clerk to so record in the minutes. Motion carried 6/0.

iii. Election of clerk.

Quinnell moved that Amy Goerwitz be nominated as clerk. There were no further nominations. Amy Goerwitz was the only candidate nominated for the office of clerk, and was hereby declared elected by acclamation and Chair Gonzalez-George directed the acting clerk to so record in the minutes. Motion carried 6/0.

iv. Election of treasurer.

Goerwitz moved that Jeff Quinnell be nominated as treasurer. There were no further nominations. Jeff Quinnell was the only candidate nominated for the office

of treasurer, and was hereby declared elected by acclamation and Chair Gonzalez-George directed the clerk to so record in the minutes. Motion carried 6/0.

- b. Set Dates, Times, and Location for Regular Board Meetings
On a motion by Butler, seconded by Miller, the board approved the schedule for school board meetings January 2023 - January 2024. Regular meetings of the Northfield School Board will begin at 6:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays in January, February, April, May, August, September, October and November, and will be held in the District Office Boardroom. One meeting will be held the first Monday of the month in March, June, July and December. Motion carried 6/0.
 - c. School Board Member Stipends
On a motion by Goerwitz, seconded by Miller, the board approved to increase the stipends for board members to \$4,000 annually \$330 per month, and \$5,000 annually \$416 per month for the board chair. Motion carried 6/0.
 - d. Designate the Official District Newspaper
On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Goerwitz , the board designated the *Northfield News* as the official newspaper of the district. Motion carried 6/0.
 - e. Designate Legal Counsel
On a motion by Butler, seconded by Goerwitz, the board designated Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger, P.A. as the official legal counsel for Northfield Public Schools and Dorsey & Whitney, LLP as the official bond attorneys for Northfield Public Schools. Persons authorized to contact legal counsel are the Superintendent, the Director of Human Resources, the Director of Finance, the Director of Special Services, and other district level administration only after receiving Superintendent approval. Motion carried 6/0.
 - f. Authorization of Use of Facsimile Signatures
On a motion by Goerwitz, seconded by Miller, the board authorized that facsimile signatures of officers of the board be utilized in signing school district checks and documents. Motion carried 6/0.
 - g. Mileage Reimbursement Rate
On a motion by Butler, seconded by Goerwitz, the board approved the mileage reimbursement rate for use of private automobiles on school district business will be 65.5 cents per mile effective January 1, 2023. This is the new mileage rate established by the Internal Revenue Service. Motion carried 6/0.
6. Items for Information
- a. Policy 209 Code of Ethics Board members are expected to familiarize themselves with Policy 209 Code of Ethics. The purpose of this policy is to assist board members in understanding the role of individual board members and the contribution that each must make to develop an effective and responsible school board.
 - b. Board Committee Memberships. Board member committee appointments, representatives to various organizations and school liaisons, as well as a brief description of each committee or

organization for calendar year 2023 was attached. This will be an action item at the Jan. 23 regular board meeting.

7. Adjournment

On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Miller, the board adjourned the Organizational meeting at 6:13 p.m.

Amy Goerwitz
School Board Clerk