

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

January 23, 2023

District Office Boardroom

1. Call to Order

Board Chair Claudia Gonzalez-George called the Regular meeting of the Northfield Board of Education of Independent School District No. 659 to order at 6:00 p.m. Present: Butler, Coleman, Gonzalez-George, Miller, Nelson and Quinnell. Absent: Goerwitz. 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 Butler, the board unanimously approved the agenda.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Announcements and Recognitions

- Over fifty community members were invited to participate in the Legislative Action Committee.

5. Items for Discussion and Reports

- a. Financial Forecast. Director of Finance Val Mertesdorf provided an updated financial forecast and the schedule for 2023-24 budget presentations to the board.
- b. Summary of Superintendent's Mid-Year Evaluation. Board Chair Claudia Gonzalez-George shared her summary of the superintendent's mid-year performance evaluation July 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022. Board members gave Dr. Hillmann a very strong performance rating across all key areas. His overall average score was 4.7 on a 5.0 point scale across 48 job responsibilities organized around eight major topics and five goals. Board members cited Dr. Hillmann's exceptional work in two key areas: instructional leadership and staff relations.
- c. Superintendent Operations & Strategic Plan Update. Dr. Hillmann provided an update about district operations which included the family engagement pulse survey, Governor Walz's education proposal, and the progress of the career technical education advisory task force.

6. Consent Agenda

On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Coleman, the board unanimously approved the consent agenda.

a. Minutes

- Minutes of the Organizational School Board meeting held on January 9, 2023
- Minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on January 9, 2023

b. Gift Agreements

- \$2,320.00 for two individual Pat Lamb and Ele Hansen Scholarships from Pat Lamb and Ele Hansen Charitable Fund of Northfield SHARES
- \$2,000.00 for Hudl software from Northfield Raider Touchdown Club
- \$1,030.00 from Merchants Bank Northfield for Angel Funds for student lunches

c. Personnel Items

i. Appointments

1. William Heywood, KidVentures Site Assistant for up to 15 hours/week at Greenvale Park, beginning 1/18/2023-6/9/2023. Step 3-\$15.26/hr.

2. Augustus Lehn, Speech Judge as needed at the High School, beginning 2/1/2023. \$77/event
 3. Mariah Thomas-McCarty, Lifeguard Monday evenings for 2.5 hours/day with Community Ed Recreation, beginning 1/9/2023-5/31/2023. \$10.64/hr.
 4. Emily Torres, General Ed EA-Media for 7 hours/day at the Middle School, beginning 1/25/2023. Step 4-\$17.70/hr.
 5. Diana Camargo, EL Educational Assistant for 6.5 hours/day at the High School, beginning 01/25/2023. Step 4- \$17.70/hr.
 6. Jade Fransen, 1.0 FTE Long Term Substitute Grade 6 Teacher at the Middle School, beginning 2/7/2023-3/17/2023. BA, Step 3.
 7. Hope Kordahl, 1.0 FTE Long Term Substitute Special Ed Teacher EBD/ABS at the High School, beginning 2/20/2023-on or about 4/21/2023. MA40, Step 10.
- ii. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment
1. Erin Blanck, ECFE EA for 18 hours/week at the NCEC, change to ECFE EA for 14.1 hours/week at the NCEC, effective 1/9/2023.
 2. Jennifer Jones, Community School Coordinator for 22 hours/week at Bridgewater, change to Community School Coordinator for 30 hours/week at Bridgewater, effective 1/17/23.
 3. Gretta Kunze, Summer Bridges to Kindergarten Teacher with the District, add Screening Substitute as needed at the NCEC, effective 1/12/23.
 4. Joanna McLees, EA for 33.5 hours/week at the NCEC, change to EA for 13.5 hours/week at the NCEC and add .56 FTE LTS Early Childhood Teacher at the NCEC, effective on or around 2/4/2023 until 7 weeks after starting date.
 5. Mallory Nysteuin, Special Ed EA PCA at Spring Creek, add Special Ed EA PCA Extracurricular/Nonacademic support with the District, effective 1/18/2023-6/9/2023.
 6. Andrea Redder, EA/PCA for 35.75 hours/week (not including bus route) at the NCEC, change to EA for 22 hours/week (not including bus route) at the NCEC and add .44 FTE LTS Early Childhood Teacher at the NCEC, effective on or around 2/4/2023 until 7 weeks after starting date.
 7. Karen Lorena Rodriguez Rojas, .45 FTE Community School Coordinator at Bridgewater, change to 1.0 FTE Community School Coordinator at Greenvale Park, effective 1/17/2023.
 8. Karen Lorena Rodriguez Rojas, Attendance Liaison for 20 hours/week at the High School, change to Attendance Liaison for 15 hours/week at the High School, effective 1/18/2023-6/9/2023.
 9. Mariah Thomas-McCarty, Lifeguard with Community Ed Recreation, add Program Supervisor with Community Ed Recreation, effective 1/16/2023-5/31/2023. \$11.14/hr.
 10. Juan Trinidad Ramos, Custodian at the Middle School, change to Night Custodian Engineer w/o license at the Middle School, effective 1/11/2023-approximately 1/27/2023.
 11. Correction: Dianne Wolbeck, CNA II for 7.75 hrs/day at the High School, change to CNA II for 8 hrs/day at the High School, effective 12/15/2022-6/9/2023.
 12. Craig Johnson, 1.0 Science Teacher at the High School, add a ⅓ overload in lieu of a supervision for semester 2, at the High School, effective 1/25/2023-6/9/2023.
- iii. Leave of Absence
1. Monika Burkhead, Teacher at the Middle School, Family/Medical Leave of Absence beginning 1/30/2023-approximately 3/17/2023.
 2. Caitlin David, Teacher at Bridgewater, FMLA leave beginning on or about 4/1/2023-5/26/2023.
 3. Donna Torgeson, EA at the Middle School, FMLA beginning 11/8/2022 and continue on an intermittent basis for up to 60 work days.
- iv. Retirements/Resignations/Terminations
1. Cheryl Hall, Director of Special Services, retirement effective 6/30/2023.
 2. Jennifer Quinnell, CNA I at the Middle School, resignation effective 1/20/2023.
 3. Benjamin Siegel, TS MSYC Site Assistant at the Middle School, declined position effective 1/17/2023.

7. Items for Individual Action

- a. Dissolution of Girls Hockey Cooperative Sponsorship. On motion by Butler, seconded by Quinnell, the board unanimously approved the dissolution of the girls hockey cooperative sponsorship with Randolph Independent School District 195 beginning with the 2023-2024 school year due to no girls from Randolph ISD 195 currently participating in this program.
- b. Policy Committee Recommendation. On a motion by Coleman, seconded by Miller, the board unanimously approved the policy committee's recommended updates to policy 801 as presented.

- c. Board Committee Assignments. On a motion by Butler, seconded by Miller, the board unanimously approved member committee appointments and representation to various organizations and school liaisons for calendar year 2023 as presented.

8. Items for Information

- a. Board Workshop. The board will hold a workshop on Saturday, February 4, 2023, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the Northfield DO Boardroom.
- b. Paraprofessional Recognition Week 2023. Governor Tim Walz has proclaimed the week of January 23–29, 2023 as Paraprofessional Recognition Week. Northfield Public Schools appreciates our educational assistants and the support and services they provide to enhance student achievement. Educational assistants have stepped up in many ways over the past few years — supporting school-age care, assisting with virtual learning, helping deliver meals for students and more. We are grateful for their commitment to meeting the needs of students.

9. Future Meetings

- a. Saturday, February 4, 2023, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Board Workshop, Northfield DO Boardroom
- b. Monday, February 13, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom
- c. Monday, February 27, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Coleman, seconded by Quinnell, the board adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Amy Goerwitz
School Board Clerk