

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

September 9, 2024
District Office Boardroom

1. Call to Order

School Board Vice-Chair Corey Butler called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 659 to order at 6:00 p.m. Present: Butler, Goerwitz, Hardy, Nelson and Quinnell. Absent: Gonzalez-George and Miller. 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 Goerwitz, seconded by Quinnell, the board unanimously approved the agenda.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Announcements and Recognitions

- Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan, Commissioner of Education Willie Jett, and State Representative Kristi Pursell helped serve Greenvale Park Geckos lunch on the first day of school, greeted students, and wished everyone a fantastic start to the 2024-25 school year.
- Congratulations to the Northfield FFA members who received ribbons and plaques and the Minnesota State Fair! Members also assisted with parking and admissions at the Rice County Steam and Gas Show. We are proud of the impact FFA is having on our community.
- Our NHS Animal Science class students are fully engaged in learning about the care and management of Northfield High School's latest community members — the Raider Goats! Five goats live in the courtyard near the V wing until the MEA break on Oct. 14 and will return after spring break.
- The Sesquicentennial Minute: At each board meeting, the superintendent will share a snippet from Bruce Colwell's "City of Schools" book about the history of the school district.

5. Items for Discussion and Reports

- a. Northfield Middle School Improvement Showcase. Middle School Principal Greg Gelineau provided the board with an overview of the middle school's successes and highlights in 2023-2024 and the focus areas for the 2024-2025 school year.

Board member Miller arrived at 6:45 p.m.

- b. NHS Activities Department Improvement Showcase. Activities Director John Mahal provided the board with an overview of the activities department's successes and highlights in 2023-2024 and the focus areas for the 2024-2025 school year.
- c. LMR Media Update and Contract Extension. LMR Media's Lance Reisetter presented an update on identifying, pricing, and selling advertising opportunities within the district. Director of Finance Mertesdorf presented a proposed extended contract with LMR Media and a draft sponsorship agreement with NCC Builders.
- d. Fall 2024 Bond Referendum. Superintendent Hillmann updated the board on the bond referendum informational campaign and highlighted upcoming events.

6. Consent Agenda

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

- a. Minutes. Minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on August 26, 2024.
- b. Gift Agreements. Gift agreements included in the board packet.
- c. Personnel Items

i. Appointments

1. Riley Butcher, Instructor Lead with Community Ed Recreation, beginning 9/4/2024-5/31/2025. Step 4-\$16.32/hr.
2. Guadalupe Gallego, Community School Site Assistant for up to 15 hours/week at Greenvale Park, beginning 9/30/2024-5/15/2025. \$15.66/hr.
3. Giovanni Green, Instructor Lead with Community Ed Recreation, beginning 9/4/2024-5/31/2025. Step 4-\$16.32/hr.
4. Jacob Halek, Instructor Lead with Community Ed Recreation, beginning 9/4/2024-5/31/2025. Step 4-\$16.32/hr.
5. Kiera Hasan, Targeted Services MSYC Site Assistant for 2 hours/day Mon.-Thurs. at the Middle School, beginning 9/24/2024-5/15/2025. Step 3-\$19.06/hr.
6. Megan Holleran, Yearbook Advisor at the High School, beginning 8/28/2024. \$3,326 stipend.
7. Correction: Amy Kolars, 1.0 FTE Special Education Resource Room Teacher at the Middle School, beginning 8/19/2024. BA10, Step 7.
8. Jackson LeBlanc, Instructor Lead with Community Ed Recreation, beginning 9/4/2024 - 5/31/2025. Step 4-\$16.32/hr.
9. Elijah Paton, Instructor Lead with Community Ed Recreation, beginning 9/4/2024-5/31/2025. Step 4-\$16.32/hr.
10. Bryon Sauvy, Instructor Lead with Community Ed Recreation, beginning 9/4/2024-5/31/2025. Step 4-\$16.32/hr.
11. Deonta Thomas, Instructor Lead with Community Ed Recreation, beginning 9/4/2024-5/31/2025. Step 4-\$16.32/hr.
12. Esosa Edo-Ononba, Instructor Assistant with Community Ed Recreation, beginning 9/21/2024-5/31/2025. Step 4-\$15.28/hr.
13. Charlie Iyegha, Instructor Lead with Community Ed Recreation, beginning 9/12/2024-5/31/2025. Step 4-\$16.32/hr.
14. Trey Petersen, Instructor Lead with Community Ed Recreation, beginning 9/9/2024-5/31/2025. Step 4-\$16.32/hr.
15. Madelyn Raabolle, Instructor Assistant with Community Ed Recreation, beginning 9/21/2024-5/31/2025. Step 1-\$14.50/hr.
16. Erika Velasquez, Targeted Services MSYC Club Leader for 2.25 hours/day Mon.-Thurs. at the Middle School, beginning 9/23/2024-5/15/2025. \$25.53/hr.
17. John Watkins, Site Supervisor with Community Education Recreation, beginning 9/9/2024-5/31/2025. Step 6-\$17.87/hr.

ii. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment

1. Nives Bakkic, Educational Assistant at the Middle School, add Targeted Services MSYC Site Assistant for 7 hours/week Mon.-Thurs. at the Middle School, effective 9/24/2024-5/15/2025. Step 4-\$19.71/hr.
2. Liz Brewer, Educational Assistant at the Middle School, add Targeted Services MSYC Site Assistant for 1.75 hours/day Mon.-Thurs. at the Middle School, effective 9/24/2024-5/15/2025. Step 4-\$19.71/hr.
3. Sebastian Bursert, Cultural Liaison with the District, add Boys Head Soccer Coach at the Middle School, effective 9/3/2024. \$3,326 stipend.
4. Rikki Drewitz, Media Center EA at the Middle School, add Targeted Services MSYC Site Leader for 8 hours/week Mon.-Thurs. at the Middle School, effective 9/23/2024-5/15/2025. Step 2-\$19.72/hr.
5. Marilyn Frey, Special Ed EA for 6.50 hours/day and Gen Ed Flex Supervision for .50 hours/day at the High School, change to Special Ed EA for 7 hours/day at the High School, effective 8/26/2024.
6. Kay Goodrich, Special Ed EA for 6.50 hours/day and Gen Ed Flex Supervision for .50 hours/day at the High School, change to Special Ed EA for 7 hours/day at the High School, effective 8/26/2024.
7. Brianna Grabinger, ECFE EA Sib Care for 14.5 hours/week at the NCEC, change to ECFE EA Sib Care for 22.25 hours/week at the NCEC, effective 9/16/2024.
8. Bethany Jensen, Special Ed EA for 6.75 hours/day at the Middle School, add Gen Ed Crossing Guard AM for .25 hours/day at the Middle School, effective 8/3/2024.
9. Shelly Kruger, Special Ed EA for 6.50 hours/day and Gen Ed Flex Supervision for .50 hours/day at the High School, change to Special Ed EA Job Coach/LI for Job Coach 3.38 hours/day and LI for 3.62 hours/day at the High School, effective 8/26/2024.
10. Meghan Kuechenmeister, Special Ed EA LI for 6.75 hours/day at the High School, change to Special Ed EA LI for 7 hours/day at the High School, effective 8/26/2024.

11. Heather Kuehl, English Teacher at the Middle School, add Assistant Boys Soccer Coach at the Middle School, effective 9/3/2024. \$2,772 stipend.
12. Dolly Larsen, Special Ed EA for 6.75 hours/day and Gen Ed Supervision Bus for .25 hours/day at Spring Creek, change to Special Ed EA for 6.75 hours/day and Gen Ed Supervision Bus for .25 hours/day at the Middle School, effective 9/03/2024-9/13/2024.
13. Teri Quamme, Special Ed EA for 6.50 hours/day and Gen Ed Supervision for .50 hours/day at the High School, change to Special Ed EA for 7 hours/day at the High School, effective 8/26/2024.
14. Jessica Rushton, Special Ed EA for 6.75 hours/day at Spring Creek, change to Special Ed EA for 6.75 hours/day and Gen Ed Supervision for .25 hours/day at Spring Creek, effective 9/3/2024.
15. John Sand, Phy Ed Teacher at the High School, change to .90 FTE Phy Ed Teacher and .10 FTE Health Teacher at the High School, effective 8/22/2024-6/6/2025.
16. Leah Sand, Health/Phy Ed Teacher at the High School, change to .70 FTE Phy Ed Teacher and .30 FTE Health Teacher at the High School, effective 8/22/2024-6/6/2025.
17. Tammy Schwagerl, Special Ed EA for 5.75 hours/day, Special Ed Bus Duty for 1.25 hours/day and Gen Ed Flex Supervision for .50 hours/day at the High School, change to Special Ed EA for 6.25 hours/day and Special Ed Bus EA for 1.25 hours/day at the High School, effective 8/26/2024.
18. Pilar Sullivan, Hand in Hand Gen Ed EA for 7.50 hours/day at the NCEC, change to Hand in Hand Gen Ed EA for 7.75 hours/day at the NCEC, effective 9/3/2024.
19. Tori Swedin, ECFE EA Sib Care for 5 hours/week at the NCEC, change to ECFE EA Sib Care for 6 hours/week at the NCEC, effective 9/16/2024.
20. Karrie Vogel, Special Ed EA for 6.75 hours/day and Gen Ed Supervision for .25 hours/day at Spring Creek, change to Special Ed EA for 6.5 hours/day and at Spring Creek, effective 9/3/2024.
21. Sarah Wolfe, ECFE EA Sib Care for 15 hours/week at the NCEC, change to ECFE EA Sib Care for 9 hours/week at the NCEC, effective 9/16/2024.
22. Brent Yule, Health/Phy Ed Teacher at the High School, change to .30 FTE Phy Ed Teacher and .70 FTE Health Teacher at the High School, effective 8/22/2024-6/6/2025.
23. Shari Bridley, Special Ed EA/PCA in Hand in Hand for 37.50 hours/week, add Building EA Mentor at the NCEC, effective 9/3/2024-6/6/2025. EA Mentor \$500 stipend.
24. Noreen Cooney, Social Worker at Spring Creek, add Supervision of LICSW for a minimum of 50 hours for the 24-25 school year at Spring Creek, effective 9/3/2024-6/6/2025. \$2,500 stipend.
25. Bob Gregory-Bjorklund, .75 FTE Fall Musical Director at the High School, change to .55 FTE Fall Musical Director at the High School, effective 9/11/2024-11/17/2024. \$2,744.50 stipend.
26. Inger Hanson, EL Teacher .50 FTE ALC/.50 FTE Spring Creek, change to EL Teacher .50 FTE ALC/.50 FTE Bridgewater, effective 9/9/2024.
27. Juley Jenkinson, Gen Ed EA Media for 5.50 hrs/day at Spring Creek, add .25 hrs/day Gen Ed EA Supervisory at Spring Creek, effective 9/5/2024.
28. Katie Lovrien, Will Program Teacher at the Middle School, add MSYC Teacher for up to 2 hours/day Mon.-Thurs. at the Middle School, effective 9/23/2024.-5/15/2025. \$40/hr.
29. Heidi Melnychuk, Special Ed EA for 6.50 hours/day and Gen Ed Flex Supervision for .50 hours/day at the High School, add Building EA Mentor at the High School, effective 9/3/2024-6/6/2025. \$500 Stipend.
30. Katie Remyey, Special Ed EA for 6.75 hours/day at the Middle School, add Building EA Mentor at the Middle School, effective 9/3/2024-6/6/2025. \$500 Stipend.
31. Darrell Sawyer, Social Studies Teacher at the Middle School, add Private Lesson Instructor with Community Education Recreation, effective 9/9/2024-5/31/2025. Individual Lessons \$54/individual/hour, Group up to 5 per group \$36/individual/hour.
32. Melissa Spitzack, Grade 2 Teacher/building supervisor at Spring Creek/Community Education, add Raider Fitness Instructor with Community Ed Recreation, effective 9/5/2024-5/31/2025. \$55/per participant.
33. Jane Streitz, Special Ed EA for 6.75 hours/day and Supervision for .50 hours/day at Greenvale Park, add Building EA Mentor at Greenvale Park, effective 9/3/2024-6/6/2025. \$500 Stipend.
34. Laura Vind, Special Ed EA NB/ASD for 5.75 hours/day and Gen Ed Flex Supervision for .50 hours/day at the High School, change to Special Ed EA NB/ASD for 6.0 hours/day and Gen Ed Flex Supervision for .50 hours/day at the High School, effective 9/6/2024.
35. Carina Zick, Special Ed EA for 6 hours/day and Spec Ed EA Bus for 1.50/hrs. at Spring Creek, add Building EA Mentor at Spring Creek, effective 9/6/2024-6/6/2025. \$500 stipend.
36. Lynn Ziegler, Special Ed EA for 6.75 hours/day and Supervision for .50 hours/day at Bridgewater, add Building EA Mentor at Bridgewater, effective 9/3/2024-6/6/2025. \$500 stipend.

iii. Leave of Absence

1. Katherine Norrie, Teacher at the High School, FMLA Leave of Absence beginning 9/18/2024 and continue on an intermittent basis as needed for up to 60 work days.

iv. Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

1. Molly Archambault, Special Ed EA at the High School, resignation effective 8/26/2024.
2. Michele Cruz, Special Ed EA at the Middle School, resignation effective 8/26/2024. Will continue as a CNA at the Middle School.

7. Items for Individual Action

- a. Superintendent's 2024-2025 Focus Areas. On a motion by Miller, seconded by Goerwitz, the board unanimously approved the superintendent's 2024-2025 focus areas as presented.
- b. Co-Curricular Adds. On a motion by Hardy, seconded by Miller, the board authorized administration to hire an additional assistant coach for boys cross country for the 2024-25 season at a cost of \$4,435.

8. Items for Information

- a. Retired Educators Luncheon. Board members are invited to attend the district's annual retired educators' luncheon on Friday, October 4. The luncheon will be held at Ruth's on Stafford beginning at 11:30 a.m. If you plan to attend please RSVP to Anita Aase no later than Sept. 26.

9. Future Meetings

- a. Monday, September 23, 2024, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom
- b. Monday, October 14, 2024, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom
- c. Monday, October 28, 2024, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Nelson, the board unanimously approved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 8:21 p.m.



Amy Goerwitz
School Board Clerk