

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

September 11, 2023
District Office Boardroom

1. Call to Order

School 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, Goerwitz, Gonzalez-George, Miller, Nelson, 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 unanimously approved the agenda.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Announcements and Recognitions

- The board observed a moment of silence for those victims of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and their families.
- The district's adult basic education program began offering free adult English classes on Sept. 5. More than twenty people attended the first session.
- The Cannon Trophy, the symbol of the Rice County football rivalry between Northfield and Faribault high schools, remains with the Raiders. Northfield beat Faribault, 39-0, on Friday night.

5. Items for Discussion and Reports

- a. Elementary Schools' Continuous Improvement Plan. Elementary School Principals Nancy Antoine, Scott Sannes, and Sam Richardson presented to the board the continuous school improvement plan for the elementary schools. The presentation included a progress report on the goals set for the 2022-2023 school year as well as new goals set for the 2023-2024 school year.
- b. High School Continuous Improvement Plan. High School Principal Shane Baier and Assistant Principals Becca Bang and Rico Bohren presented to the board the continuous school improvement plan for the high school department. The presentation included a progress report on the goals set for the 2022-2023 school year as well as new goals set for the 2023-2024 school year.
- c. District Safety Drill Update. Superintendent Hillmann reviewed the state-required safety drills and led a discussion on the district's "duck and cover" drill as required by new legislation.
- d. Activities Sponsor Partner Agreement. The board reviewed an agreement with Community Resource Bank. The bank has agreed to pay \$20,000 to be the sole sponsor of a new scoreboard at the district's swimming pool. Director of Finance Mertesdorf negotiated this agreement which would cover the entire cost of the scoreboard in exchange for ten years of advertising for Community Resource Bank.

6. Consent Agenda

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

- a. Minutes. Minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on August 28, 2023.
- b. Gift Agreements. Gift agreements included in the board packet.
- c. Boys Track & Field Non-Exclusive Cooperative Sponsorship with Arcadia Charter School. The board approved the non-exclusive cooperative sponsorship with Arcadia Charter School for boys track and field beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.
- d. Personnel Items

i. Appointments

1. Elijah Allen, Recreation Instructor Lead or Swim Lead, Monday/Thursday for 2.25 hours, effective 9/6/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$15.75/hour.
2. Wilberto Arenas, Assistant Boys Soccer Coach at the High School for 2.5 hours/day, effective 8/14/2023 through 11/15/2023. \$4,844.
3. Alix Bettin, On-call KidVenture Site Assistant over the summer, change to KidVenture Site Assistant for up to 15 hours/week at Greenvale Park, effective 9/5/2023.
4. Sherri Boese, Special Education EA/PCA bus route for 5 hours/week, effective 9/11/2023. Step 4, \$18.05/hour + prorated PCA stipend.
5. Riley Butcher, Recreation Instructor Lead or Swim Lead, Monday/Thursday for 2.25 hours/day, effective 9/6/2023. \$15.75/hour.
6. Alijah Cruel, Recreation Instructor Lead or Swim Lead, Monday/Thursday for 2.25 hours, effective 9/6/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$15.75/hour.
7. Tyler Dimond, Recreation Instructor Lead or Swim Lead, Monday/Thursday for 2.25 hours, effective 9/6/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$15.75/hour.
8. Daniel Dupay, 8th grade Assistant Football Coach at the Middle School, effective 9/5/2023. \$2,691, plus step 10.
9. Sean Finger, 9th Grade Football Coach at the High School for 2.5 hours/day, effective 8/23/2023. \$4,306 stipend.
10. Gabriel Fisher-Navarro, Recreation Instructor Assistant or Swim Assistant, effective 9/16/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$14.25/hour.
11. Ana Gallego, Special Education EA/PCA at Greenvale Park, add KidVenture Site Assistant on Tuesdays for 1.5 hours/week.
12. Giovanni Green, Recreation Instructor Lead or Swim Lead, Monday/Thursday for 2.5 hours/day, effective 9/6/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$15.75/hour.
13. Jacob Halek, Recreation Instructor Lead or Swim Lead, Monday/Thursday for 2.25 hours/day, effective 9/6/2023. \$15.50/hour.
14. Matthew Hestorff, Recreation Instructor Lead or Swim Lead, Monday/Thursday for 2.25 hours/day, effective 9/6/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$15.75/hour.
15. Grant Hutton, Recreation Site Supervisor as needed, effective 9/1/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$15.00/hour.
16. Kimberly Koahut, Community School Site Leader at Greenvale Park, effective 9/11/2023, Step 2, \$22.38/hour.
17. Jay Kuivinen, Recreation Lifeguard, effective 9/1/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$15.25/hour.
18. Grade LaCanne, Recreation Instructor Lead or Swim Lead, effective 9/16/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$15.25/hour.
19. Cooper Long, Recreation Instructor Lead or Swim Lead, Monday/Thursday for 2.25 hours/day, effective 9/6/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$15.75/hour.
20. Elijah Paton, Recreation Instructor Lead or Swim Lead, Monday/Thursday for 2.25 hours/day, effective 9/6/2023. \$15.75/hour.
21. Lorenzo Riley-Combs, Recreation Instructor Lead or Swim Lead, Monday/Thursday for 2.25 hours/day, effective 9/6/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$15.75/hour.
22. James Ryan, Recreation Instructor Lead or Swim Lead, Monday/Thursday for 2.25 hours/day, effective 9/6/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$15.75/hour.
23. Bryon Sauvy, Recreation Instructor Lead or Swim Lead, Monday/Thursday for 2.25 hours/day, effective 9/6/2023. \$15.75/hour.
24. Grant Selchow, Recreations Instructor Assistant or Swim Assistant as needed, effective 9/1/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$14.25/hour
25. William Skemp, Recreation Instructor Lead or Swim Lead, Monday/Thursday for 2.25 hours/day, effective 9/6/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$15.75/hour.
26. Deonta Thomas, Recreation Instructor Lead or Swim Lead, Monday/Thursday for 2.25 hours/day, effective 9/6/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$15.75/hour.
27. Veronica Thomas, Special Education EA/PCA at Spring Creek for 4.38 hours/day, effective 9/5/2023. Step 4, \$18.05/hour, plus prorated PCA stipend.
28. Martavia Thrower, Recreation Instructor Lead/Swim Lead, effective 9/6/2023, \$15.75/hour.
29. John Watkins, Recreation Building Supervisor, effective 9/11/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$18.39/hour.

30. Nic Zabel, Assistant Boys Basketball Coach at the High School for 2.5 hours/day, effective 11/20/2023 through 3/15/2024. \$5,383 Stipend.
 31. Lincoln Bramwell, Middle School Youth Center Site Assistant for 2 hours/day Monday through Thursday, effective 9/28/2023 through 5/16/2024. Step 1 - \$14.90/hour.
 32. Lindsey Erickson, Event worker at Northfield Middle School, effective 9/13/2023.
 33. Elleigh Flannery, Targeted Services Site Assistant at the Middle School Youth Center for 2 hours/day Monday through Thursday, effective 9/28/2023 through 5/16/2023. Step 1, \$14.90/hour.
 34. Emma Hoelscher, Community School Site Assistant at Bridgewater for up to 12 hours/week, effective 9/25/2023. Step 2 - \$15.29/hour.
 35. Brian Link, Custodian at the Middle School, effective 9/13/2023. Step 1, \$19.63/hour.
 36. Trey Peterson, Recreation Instructor Lead or Swim Lead on Monday/Thursday for 2.25 hours/day, effective 9/14/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$15.75/hour.
 37. Bradley Prestemon, Assistant Boys Basketball Coach at the High School, effective 11/20/2023. \$5,383 stipend.
 38. Samantha Shimota, .83 FTE Licensed Building Nurse, year round position at NCEC, effective 9/27/2023. ADN/LPN Step 4, \$35.18/hour.
 39. Jessica Toft, Special Education EA/PCA at Bridgewater for 4.0 hrs/day, effective 9/14/2023. Step 4, \$18.05/hour plus prorated PCA stipend.
 40. Annie Welch, Community School Site Assistant at Greenvale Park for up to 12 hours/week, effective 9/25/2023. Step 2 - \$15.29/hour.
- ii. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment
1. Trish Beacom, Early Ventures Teacher at NCEC for up to 40 hours/week, change to Early Venture teacher at NCEC for 40 hours/week.
 2. Amy Boecker, Special Education EA/PCA at NCEC, add KidVenture Site Assistant at Greenvale Park for 7.25 hours/week, effective 9/5/2023.
 3. Amelia Brandt, KidVenture Site Assistant at Spring Creek for up to 40 hours/week, change to KidVenture Site Assistant at Bridgewater for up to 26 hours/week, effective 9/5/2023.
 4. Haanah Braun, EarlyVenture Site Assistant at the NCEC for up to 40 hours/week, change to EarlyVenture Site Assistant for 40 hours/week, effective 8/28/2023.
 5. Valorie Carter, General Education EA at Bridgewater for 2.0 hours/day, ending 6/9/23, change to General Education EA at Bridgewater for 2.0 hours/day ongoing, effective 8/28/23.
 6. Katie Casson, 1.0 FTE German Teacher at the High School, add a ½ overload in lieu of prep period for the 2023-2024 school year, 173 days.
 7. Vicky Chlan, 1.0 FTE Math Teacher at the High School, add Ski Club Chaperone, effective 8/23/2023 through 5/31/2024. \$500 Stipend.
 8. Anita Corwin, EarlyVenture Site Assistant at the NCEC for up to 40 hours/week, change to EarlyVenture Site Assistant at the NCEC for 40 hours/week.
 9. Lindsey Dietiker, CNA III at Spring Creek for 6.5 hours/day, change to Child Nutrition Manager I at Greenvale Park for 8 hours/day, effective 8/28/2023. Salary changes from \$25.24/hour to \$26.54/hour.
 10. Claire Edwards, Special Education EA/PCA for 7.0 hours/day and KidVenture Site Assistant for up to 40 hours/week at Spring Creek, change to Special Education EA/PCA at Spring Creek for 7 hours/day and KidVenture Site Assistant on call as needed, effective 9/5/2023.
 11. Julie Erickson, EarlyVenture Teacher for up to 40 hours/week at the NCEC, change to EarlyVenture Teacher for 40 hours/week at the NCEC, effective 8/28/2023..
 12. Ilana Forsgren, CNA I at Greenvale Park for 3.75 hours/day, add KidVenture Site Assistant at Bridgewater for up to 8.5 hours/week, effective 9/5/2023. Step 4 - \$16.35/hour.
 13. Sara Gerdesmeier, EarlyVenture Site Assistant at the NCEC for up to 40 hours/week. Change to Early Venture Site Assistant for 40 hours/week at the NCEC, effective 8/28/2023.
 14. Leah Grisim, Girls Soccer Coach at the Middle School - due to lack of participants, the girls soccer program will not run for the 2023-24 school year. Leah has been reassigned to coach boys soccer at the Middle School, effective 9/5/2023 through 11/15/2023.
 15. Mariah Grisim, KidVenture Site Assistant at Spring Creek and Early Venture Teacher at NCEC, change to an on-call status for both KidVenture and EarlyVenture programs, effective 8/28/2023.
 16. Grant Hutton, Recreation Site Supervisor, add Instructor Assistant/Scorekeeper, effective 8/31/2023. Step 2, \$14.25/hour.
 17. Kailyn Ims, KidVenture Site Assistant at Spring Creek for up to 40 hours/week, change to Kid Venture Site Assistant for 15 hours/week at Bridgewater, effective 9/5/2023.

18. Monica Irwin, Special Education Teacher and EA/PCA at Greenvale Park, change EA/PCA hours from 3.55 hours/day to 3.80 hours/day, effective 9/5/2023.
19. Jill Keeley, EarlyVenture Teacher at the NCEC for up to 40 hours/week, change to EarlyVenture Teacher at the NCEC for 40 hours/week, effective 8/28/2023.
20. Rylie Lager, KidVenture Site Assistant at Spring Creek on an on-call basis, change to KidVenture Site Assistant for up to 15 hours/week at Bridgewater, effective 9/5/2023.
21. Briana Lanham, KidVenture Site Assistant at Spring Creek for up to 40 hours/week, change to KidVenture Site Assistant at Spring Creek for 28.5 hours/week, effective 9/5/2023.
22. Quinn Line, KidVenture Site Assistant at Spring Creek for up to 40 hours/week, change to Site Assistant at Spring Creek for up to 28.5 hours/week, effective 9/5/2023.
23. Jody Matthews, CNA I at Spring Creek for 3.25 hours/day, change to CNA III at Spring Creek for 6.50 hours/day, effective 9/1/2023. \$25.24/hour.
24. Tonya Merritt, KidVenture Site Lead at Spring Creek for up to 40 hours/week, change to KidVenture Site Lead at Bridgewater for 35 hours/week, effective 9/5/2023.
25. Lacey Neuman Bissonnette, KidVenture Site Lead on call as needed at Spring Creek Elementary, change to KidVenture Site Lead at Greenvale Park for 35 hours/week, effective 9/5/2023.
26. Belen Ocampo, EarlyVenture Teacher at the NCEC for up to 40 hours/week, change to EarlyVenture Teacher at the NCEC for 40 hours/week, effective 8/28/2023.
27. Nicole Rasmussen, KidVenture Site Assistant for up to 40 hours/week at Spring Creek and Bridgewater, change to KidVenture Site Assistant for up to 10 hours/week at Bridgewater, effective 9/5/2023. Nicole also works at Bridgewater as a Special Education EA/PCA.
28. Kelli Rehbein, EarlyVenture Teacher at the NCEC for up to 40 hours/week, change to EarlyVenture Teacher for 40 hours/week, effective 8/28/2023.
29. Angie Schewe, Early Venture Teacher at the NCEC for 40 hours/week, change to EarlyVenture Teacher on call as needed with both EarlyVentures and KidVentures, effective 8/28/2023.
30. Grant Selchow, Recreation Instructor Assistant, add Recreation Site Lead, Step 2, \$15.25/hour.
31. Melissa Spitzack, Grade 3 Teacher at Spring Creek, add Recreation Building Supervisor as needed, effective 8/29/2023, \$18.39/hour.
32. Veronica Thomas, Special Education EA/PCA at Spring Creek for 4.63 hours/day, add a Special Education EA/PCA bus route for 3 hours/week, effective 9/5/2023 through 6/6/2024.
33. Veronica Thomas, Special Education EA/PCA at Spring Creek for 4.63 hours/day and bus route for 3 hours/week, add Special Education EA/PCA at Spring Creek for 4.74 hours/week, effective 9/7/2023.
34. Veronica Thomas, Special Education EA/PCA at Spring Creek and bus route EA, add .25 hours/day general education supervisory time, effective 9/5/2023.
35. John Watkins, Recreation Building Supervisor, add Recreation Site Supervisor, Step 6, \$16.25/hour, and Game Official, \$30/game, effective 9/6/2023 through 5/31/2024.
36. Liz A. Winter, EarlyVenture Teacher at the NCEC for up to 40 hours/week, change to EarlyVenture Teacher for 40 hours/week, effective 8/28/2023.
37. Cori Yamry, Middle School Girls Volleyball Coach, due to lack of participants, the program will not run for the 2023-24 school year.
38. Russel Boyington, General Education EA and KidVenture Site Assistant, add Community School Club Leader for 8 hours/week, effective 10/2/2023 through 5/17/2024. \$24.30/hour.
39. Rikki Drewitz, Special Education EA/PCA at the Middle School, add Targeted Services Youth Center Site Assistant at the Middle School, effective 9/28/2023 through 5/16/2023. Step 2, \$15.29/hour.
40. Ilana Forsgren, CNA I at Greenvale Park for 3.75 hours/day, change to CNA I at the High School for 5.0 hours/day, effective 9/25/2023.
41. Kay Goodrich, Special Education EA/PCA at the High School, add Event Worker at the High School, effective 9/8/2023.
42. Julene Johnson, Media Educational Assistant at the High School, add Pep Band co-advisor at the High School for 25% stipend, effective 9/8/2023.
43. Karl Viesselman, Math Teacher at the High School, add Event Worker at the High School, effective 9/8/2023.
44. Tamara Wunderlich, Custodian at the Middle School from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., change to 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., effective 9/7/2023.

45. Cori Yamry - correction - a PCN was previously submitted stating that Cori would not be coaching Middle School volleyball for the 2023-24 school year due to lack of participants. There has now been an influx of participants so Cori will coach Middle School volleyball for the 2023-24 school year.

iii. Leave of Absence

1. Stacey Garry, Special Education EA/PCA at Spring Creek, medical leave of absence beginning on 8/30/23 and extending on an intermittent basis through the 2023-24 school year.
2. Annie Breyer, Special Education EA/PCA at Bridgewater, medical leave of absence beginning 9/11/2023.
3. Tiffany Kortbein, Kindergarten Teacher at Greenvale Park, extending FMLA leave of absence through October 23, 2023.

iv. Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

1. Josephine Beacom, KidVentures Site Assistant, resignation effective 8/23/2023.
2. Patrick Bullard, Mail Delivery Driver, retirement effective 11/10/2023.
3. Danielle Donkers, Special Education EA/PCA at Bridgewater, declined position effective 8/29/2023.

7. Items for Individual Action

- a. Superintendent's Focus Areas 2023-2024. On a motion by Butler, seconded by Miller, the board unanimously approved Superintendent Dr. Hillmann's 2023-2024 Focus Areas.
- b. Co-Curricular Add. On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Goerwitz, the board unanimously approved the addition of an assistant boys cross country coach for the 2023-24 season at an anticipated cost of \$4,306 prorated to the number of days worked.

8. Items for Information

- a. Right to Read Screening. On Wednesday, September 20 at 6:00 p.m. the Northfield Public Library will host a screening of the documentary *Right to Read*, a film about teaching children using the science of reading and as it related to equity in education. A discussion with Superintendent Hillmann will follow the film.
- b. Northfield International Day of Peace. The United Nations International Day of Peace is celebrated annually around the world on September 21. This year's Northfield observance and celebration will be held on Thursday, September 21 at Central Park/Weitz Center. It is sponsored by the Stassen Fund from Carleton College and Cannon Valley Friends Meeting in collaboration with over 25 local organizations and individuals. The theme for the 2023 International Day of Peace is Actions for Peace.

9. Future Meetings

- a. Monday, September 25, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom
- b. Monday, October 9, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom
- c. Monday, October 23, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Butler, the board unanimously approved to adjourn at 8:28 p.m.



Amy Goerwitz
School Board Clerk