

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

February 28, 2022

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: Baraniak, Butler, Gonzalez-George, Goerwitz, Pritchard, Stratmoen, and Quinnell. 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

- Hand in Hand Preschool, Early Ventures Learning Center, and Early Childhood Family Education will hold an open house and summer and/or fall registration night on Thursday, March 3 at the Northfield Community Education Center. Families can tour the building, see classrooms, and meet staff.
- The Knowledge Bowl team is going to the state tournament in April.
- Boys swim and dive placed third at the state True Team meet earlier this month.
- Wrestling won the section championship and advanced to the state tournament. Lainey Houts and Ella Pagel have qualified for the first-ever girls state wrestling tournament. Congratulations!
- Maggie Malecha, was named the Minnesota Senior Goalie of the Year and the Class AA Herb Brooks Award recipient.
- All School Arts Show continues at the Northfield Arts Guild gallery.
- The Middle School and High School concert was this past weekend and it was fantastic.

5. Items for Discussion and Reports

- a. Northfield High School Master Plan Presentation. Sal Bagley, Partner at Wold Architects and Engineers, informed the board about the task force and process in place to study the needs at Northfield High School. This task force will be asked to assess and prioritize identified needs and make a recommendation to the school board as to how to best address them. The Northfield High School Master Plan recommendation will be based on building capacity, current and projected enrollment, educational needs of the district, alignment with the district's strategic plan, safety and security, community recreation, and financial stewardship.
- b. Arcadia Charter School Contract. Laura Stelter, Director of Arcadia Charter School, and Dr. Hillmann shared the process and the timeline for renewing Arcadia Charter School's contract for five years, beginning with the 2022-23 school year.
- c. Budget Prioritization Process. Dr. Hillmann and Director Mertesdorf provided an update on the budget prioritization process and the first team meetings held last week. The purpose of the budget prioritization process is to adjust Northfield Public Schools expenditures to align with reduced revenue resulting from a projected decline in enrollment of 400 students over the next ten years. Three teams will make recommendations for a budget plan that includes an expenditure reduction of \$4.5 million over two years. The board will receive a budget report at the March 28, 2022 board meeting.
- d. Superintendent Operations and COVID-19 Update. Dr. Hillmann provided an update about district operations and COVID-19 data. The transition from required to recommended masking in district buildings

has gone well. The CDC has relaxed their masking requirement on school buses effective today. We will review the CDC guidance and the protocols at the Northfield Community Education Center based on these revised recommendations. Students and staff are encouraged to take at-home COVID tests prior to returning to school after spring break. These tests are available at the district and building offices. Equity Alliance-MN led district teaching staff in a professional development day earlier this month, and the district has 48 staff members accepted for training in the Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) program.

6. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

7. Consent Agenda

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

a. Minutes

- Minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on February 14, 2022

b. Gift Agreements

- \$1,000.00 from Lois Stratmoen for Stratmoen Family Scholarship
- \$2,600.00 from Defeat of Jesse James Days Committee to the special education button program towards the purchase of new button making machines
- \$1,073.75 from Northfield Fine Arts Booster Club, Inc. to fund t-shirt apparel for Northfield Middle School music students for their performances

c. Personnel Items

i. Appointments

1. Isabelle Balvin, Program Assistant with Community Education Recreation, beginning 2/19/2022-5/31/2022; \$10.50/hr.
2. Christian Blanck, 1.0 FTE Art Teacher at the High School, beginning 8/25/2022; MA, Step 10
3. Ryann Eddy, Program Assistant with Community Education Recreation, beginning 2/19/2022-5/31/2022; \$10.75/hr.
4. Nick Fredrickson-Program Assistant with Community Education Recreation, beginning 2/19/2022-5/31/2022; \$10.33/hr.
5. Mary Franz, Assistant 9th Grade Softball Coach for 2 hours/day for 4 days/week with High School Activities, beginning 3/14/2022; \$3,584-.90 FTE
6. Nancy Johnson, RRR Backstage and Pre Production Coordinator with the High School, beginning 2/23/2022; \$1,000 Stipend
7. Melodie Lane, 1.0 FTE Long Term Substitute ECSE Teacher at the NCEC, beginning 4/1/2022-6/9/2022; MA10, Step 10
8. Brenda Lau Toilolo, Child Nutrition Associate I for 3 hours/day at the High School, beginning 2/24/2022; \$19.28/hr.
9. Correction: Gunner Mattson, Special Ed EA PCA for 6.75 hours/day at the High School, beginning 1/13/2022; Step 4-\$17.52/hr.
10. Ryan Redetzke, Event Worker with High School Activities, beginning 12/1/2021.
11. Jebryan Sawyer, Lifeguard with Community Education Recreation, beginning 2/19/2022-5/31/2022; \$10.33/hr.
12. Martavia Thrower, Program Assistant with Community Education Recreation, beginning 2/19/2022-5/31/2022; \$10.75/hr.
13. Heather Tousignant, Special Ed EA PCA for 6.75 hours/day and General Ed EA for .25 hours/day at Spring Creek, beginning 2/28/2022; Spec Ed Step 4-\$17.52/hr. and Gen Ed Step 4-\$16.92/hr.
14. Kristin Wilson, Child Nutrition Associate I for 3.75 hours/day at the High School, beginning 3/14/2022; \$19.28/hr.
15. Community Education-Winter 2022 Brochure Instructors. See attached.

ii. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment

1. Samantha Becker, EA Media Center at the Middle School, add 9th Grade Softball Coach at the High School, effective 3/14/2022; Stipend \$3,983

2. Tracy Closson, Grounds Coordinator with the District, add Event Worker at the High School, effective 2/17/2022.
3. Tania Legvold, RRR Production Assistant at the High School, change to RRR Costumer at the High School, effective 2/2/2022; Stipend \$1,700 (balance of the \$3,000 stipend)
4. Correction: Gunner Mattson, Special Ed EA at the High School, add Community School Site Assistant for up to 6 hours/week at Greenvale Park, effective 1/25/2022-6/3/2022; Step 4-\$15.48/hr.
5. Heather Olivier, Teacher at the Middle School, add Rock and Roll Revival-Strings at the High School, effective 2/23/2022.Stipend \$700
6. Correction: Janet Smith, Teacher at the High School, add an overload for semester 2, in lieu of prep at the High School, 1/5 calculation, effective 1/31/2022-6/9/2022.
7. Rebecca Stoufis, 1.0 FTE Special Ed Portage Teacher with the District, add an overload in lieu of prep period- 1/5 calculation for 84 days, effective 10/4/2021-2/15/2022.
8. Christina Suhsen, Spec Ed EA at the NCEC, add Spec Ed EA Bus for 4.42 hrs/Friday's with the District, effective 2/25/2022-6/9/2022.
9. Cydney Ulvestad, Special Ed EA PCA at Greenvale Park, add Community School Site Assistant for up to 5 hours/week Mon.-Thurs. at Greenvale Park, effective 2/22/2022-6/3/2022; Step 4-\$15.48/hr.

iii. Leave of Absence

1. JoAnn Gilbert, CNA at the High School, Leave of Absence, effective 2/16/2022-3/1/2022.
2. Beth McClune, Special Ed EA at the Middle School, Family/Medical Leave of Absence, effective 2/14/2022-2/25/2022.
3. Danielle Olson, School Social Worker at the NCEC, Leave of Absence, effective 4/5/2022-approx. 5/10/2022.

iv. Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

1. Greg Gianopoulos, EA at the High School, resignation effective 2/23/2022.
2. Gail Kohl, Teacher at Bridgewater, retirement effective at the end of the 2021-2022 school year.
3. Ryan Oden, EA at the Middle School, resignation effective 3/4/2022.
4. Karl Stromley, EA at the Middle School, resignation effective 3/4/2022.
5. Earl Weinmann, Teacher at the Middle School, retirement effective 6/20/2022.

8. Items for Individual Action

- a. 2022-2023 Operating Capital and Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Budgets. On a motion by Goerwitz, seconded by Baraniak, the board approved the 2022-2023 Operating Capital and Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Budgets as follows:

	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
Operating Capital	\$1,928,213	\$2,176,096
Long-Term Facilities Maintenance	\$1,348,320	\$1,602,175

- b. Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Ten Year Plan. On a motion by Butler, seconded by Baraniak, the board approved the Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Ten Year Revenue and Expenditure Plan and the Indoor Air Quality Management Plan.

9. Items for Information

- a. March 14, 2022 School Board Meeting Packet. Superintendent Hillmann reviewed the anticipated timeline for the March 14 school board meeting packet.

10. Future Meetings

- a. Monday, March 14, 2022, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom
- b. Monday, March 28, 2022, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom
- c. Monday, April 11, 2022, 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, Northfield DO Boardroom

11. Adjournment

On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Goerwitz, the board adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Noel Stratmoen
School Board Clerk