

February 22, 2016

Members of the Northfield Board of Education,


Please accept this letter as my official notice that I will be retiring from my position as Superintendent of the Northfield Public Schools at the end of my current three year contract. My last day of work will be June 30, 2016. I believe this will give you ample time to consider and select my replacement.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my twelve years as your superintendent which brings to a close 35 years as a superintendent in six different communities and three different states. I have dedicated my 46 year career to the education of children and the support and professional development of teachers and administrators. I am proud of my accomplishments and even prouder of the achievements of the students, teachers and administrators that I have been honored to lead, support and mentor.

During my time in Northfield, I have been pleased to have taken an active role in implementing an enhanced Compañeros program, Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), Response to Intervention (RtI), Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS), Multi-Tier Systems of Support (MTSS), Transformational Technology, ThoughtExchange, and expanded the use of data for measuring student proficiency and growth as well as staff development and evaluation efforts. In addition, I have been honored to support the implementation and expansion of TORCH, Accelerate Northfield, the Ninth Grade Academy, the Northfield Promise and the Greenvale Park Community School while maintaining our role as an authorizer for Prairie Creek and Arcadia Charter Schools. I am also pleased to have been a part of bringing Northfield Public Schools out of Statutory Operating Debt (SOD) and back to financial stability, passing two operating and capital projects levy campaigns, and preparing the district to commit to a Master Facilities Plan that will take us 20 years into the future.

I believe that I am leaving you with a quality school district poised to continue its successful journey and wish you the best as you strive each day to deliver educational excellence that empowers all learners to participate in our changing world.

Respectfully,



L. Chris Richardson, Ph.D.  
Superintendent  
Northfield Public Schools