

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

School Board Minutes

December 11, 2017

Northfield High School Media Center

- I. Call to Order
Board Chair Julie Pritchard called the Regular meeting of the Northfield Board of Education of Independent School District 659 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present: Colangelo, Goerwitz, Hardy, Iverson, Pritchard, Quinnell and Stratmoen. No one was absent.
- II. Agenda Changes / Table File
The table file was added.
- III. Public Comment
There was none.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Goerwitz, minutes of the Public Hearing and Regular School Board meeting held on November 27, 2017, were unanimously approved.
- V. Announcements and Recognitions
 - Poetry Slam - Superintendent Hillmann had the opportunity to judge the third annual high school Poetry Slam on December 8. A sizeable crowd heard 21 students perform various kinds of poetry. Chris Lazaro was the winner. Many thanks to Jennifer Lompart for organizing this event.
 - Traditions Concert - The Northfield High School choir performed its annual Traditions Concert this past weekend in Skinner Chapel on the campus of Carleton College. It was an excellent concert and positively represented our choral musicians. We appreciate the continued partnership with our two local colleges in allowing our students to perform in awe-inspiring locations such as Skinner and Boe Chapels.
- VI. Items for Discussion and Reports
 1. Truth in Taxation Presentation for the Payable 2018 Property Tax Levy followed by Public Comment.
The amount of the proposed levy for 2018 is \$19,256,128.89 and represents a 23.62% increase from the prior year. Director of Finance Val Mertesdorf reviewed the levy and the current year's revised general fund budget. The public was invited to speak following the presentation. Victoria Roller urged the Board to rethink authorizing the final property tax levy because of the tax impact it will have on people who live on fixed incomes.
 2. Energy Efficiency Report.
Director of Buildings and Grounds Jim Kulseth shared information about the District's participation in the Xcel Energy Renewable*Connect program and cost savings as a result of installation of LED lighting at Northfield Middle School.
 3. Recap of the December 4th Work Session.
Superintendent summarized what was discussed at the December 4 work session and proposed next steps:
 - It is necessary to engage the community in determining next steps.
 - A Facilities Committee will be established in January to discuss facilities issues, including the Master Facilities Plan.
 - A workgroup would be formed. The workgroup would consist of a cross section of the community. Its task would be to analyze the Master Facilities Plan and chart the course for how the District moves forward.
 - The community would then be invited to review the proposed modifications to the approved building projects.
 - Staff would take the community feedback and prepare a report, including a timeline, that would be presented to the Board, probably in late Spring 2018.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. Certify Final 2017 Payable 2018 Property Tax Levy.

On a motion by Colangelo, seconded by Iverson, the Board unanimously certified to County Auditors the 2017 Payable 2018 Final Certified Levy Limitation and Certification Report in the amount \$19,256,128.89.

2. Fiscal Year 2017-2018 General Fund Budget Revision.

On a motion by Iverson, seconded by Goerwitz, the Board unanimously approved the revised 2017-18 general fund budget of revenues of \$50,388,093 and expenditures of \$51,418,052.

3. Resolution Establishing Combined Polling Places for Multiple Precincts and Designating Hours during which the Polling Places will Remain Open for Voting for School District Elections not Held on the Day of a Statewide Election.

On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Hardy, the Board unanimously to approved the Resolution Establishing Combined Polling Places for Multiple Precincts and Designating Hours during which the Polling Places will Remain Open for Voting for School District Elections not Held on the Day of a Statewide Election. Voting 'yes' was Goerwitz, Hardy, Iverson, Colangelo, Quinnell, Stratmoen and Pritchard. No one voted 'no.'

B. Items for Consent Grouping

On a motion by Colangelo, seconded by Goerwitz, the Board unanimously approved the following items listed under the Consent Grouping.

1. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments

1. Rachael Hibbs, Special Education EA-PCA for 6 hours/day at the Middle School, beginning 12/4/2017-06/07/2018; Spec Ed, Step 1-\$15.31/hr.
2. Gerald Johnson, Third Grade Reading Intervention Teacher for 15 hours/wk at Bridgewater, beginning 12/4/2017-3/23/2018; MA+30, Step 8.
3. Paul Bernhard, Assistant Girls Gymnastics Coach (hourly) at the High School, beginning 12/6/2017-2/24/2017; \$18.00/hr.

b. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment

1. Stephanie Balma, Early Venture Teacher-Step 2, \$15.81/hr. at Longfellow, change to Early Venture Teacher-Step 4, \$16.83/hr. at Longfellow, effective 07/01/2017.
2. Bonnie Johnson, Media EA at Sibley, change to 1.0 FTE Administrative Support Assistant with Community Services, effective 12/18/2017; Step 4-\$19.86/hr.
3. Daniel Lewis, Soccer Coach at the Middle School, add Knowledge Bowl Advisor at the Middle School, effective 12/6/2017-02/24/2018. Level L, Step 1.

c. Leave of Absence Requests

1. Correction: Mark Johnson, Teacher at the Middle School, FMLA beginning 12/01/2017-12/15/2017.

d. Resignations / Retirement

1. Bonnie Johnson, Media EA at Sibley, resignation from EA position and transferring to a position with Community Services, effective 12/18/2017.
2. Cindy Keogh, Supervisory EA at Bridgewater, resignation effective 12/18/2017. Cindy will continue employment with KidVentures.
3. Jeffrey Jasan, Custodian Engineer at Bridgewater, retirement effective 12/30/2017.

e. Seniority Lists

The Board approved the 2017-18 Principals/Assistant Principals Seniority List and the 2017-18 Teacher Seniority List.

* Conditional offers of employment are subject to successful completion of a criminal background check and pre-work screening (if applicable).

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VIII Items for Information

1. Enrollment Report – December 2017.

IX. Future Meetings

Monday, January 8, 2018, 7:00 PM, Organizational School Board Meeting followed by Regular School Board Meeting, NHS Media Center
Monday, January 22, 2018, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

Board Chair Pritchard acknowledged that this was the last School Board meeting for Donita Delzer since she is retiring December 31, 2017. She thanked her for her service.

- X. On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Colangelo, the Board adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Noel Stratmoen
School Board Clerk