

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
February 28, 2005
Northfield High School Media Center

- I. Call to Order.
Chairperson Kari Nelson called the meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District 659 to order at 7:00 p.m. No one was absent.
- II. Agenda Changes.
The table file was added.
- III. Public Comment.
No one addressed the Board.
- IV. Approval of Minutes.
On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Smith, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on February 14, 2005, were approved.
- V. Announcements.
 - Congratulations to Ann Eckhoff and Marja Lum who will be attending Girls' State and David Beck and Bjorn Norgaard who will be attending Boys' State.
 - Greenvale Park's Tsunami Relief Efforts raised \$1,122. The funds raised were sent to U.S. Funds for UNICEF. The student body created buttons and then donations were accepted.
 - Alpine Skier and 7th Grader, Ajay Gersemehl competed at the State Alpine Ski Meet and finished #17 in the State! The Alpine Ski head coach is Bill Sonnega.
 - Gymnasts, Hannah Dvorak and Julia Holm competed at the state gymnastics meet last Saturday. Julia placed 3rd on the beam and Hannah was 9th on the vault.
 - The Gator Boy's Swimming and Diving team finished 2nd in the Section 1A Championships on Saturday.
 - The High Kick Dance Team placed 3rd in the state at the State Danceline Tournament. The Dance Team head coach is Kristen Cade.
 - The One-Act Play Festival proved to be a very successful event with its largest audiences ever. Advisors for the plays are Charlie Black and Ellen Mucha.
 - Middle School students raised \$1400 for Shepherds Way Farm.
 - Three wrestlers competed at the State Wrestling Tournament last weekend. They are Chad Nelson, Jeff Marschall and Tyler Faust. They are coached by Cliff Casteel.
- VI. Items for Discussion and/or Reports
 1. Technologies that Enhance Family Home Access.
Technology Director Denise Griffith demonstrated five technology resources that are available to enhance home/family communications:
 - Skyward Family Access to attendance, grades, and food service accounts,
 - School Center Teacher Web Pages,
 - Sagebrush - an online catalog of all district media center resources,
 - Community Education Class registration, and
 - Food Service payments.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. 2005-2006 School Year Calendar.

On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Smith, the Board approved the 2005-2006 school year calendar as presented.

2. Graduation Costs.

On a motion by Cirksena, seconded by Hager, the Board approved a graduation fee of \$18.00 for the 2005 graduating class.

3. Board Policies.

Policy 423, Employee-Student Relationships, was removed because it refers to policies not yet approved by the School Board.

On a motion by Hager, seconded by Boardman, the Board approved the following School Board Policies as presented:

Policy 405 - Veteran's Preference; Hiring

Policy 406 - Public and Private Personnel Data

Policy 407 - Employee Right to Know - Exposure to Hazardous Substances

Policy 408 - Subpoena of a School District Employee

Policy 409 - Employee Publications, Instructional Materials, Inventions and Creations

Policy 410 - Family and Medical Leave Policy

Policy 412 - Expense Reimbursement

Policy 413 - Harassment and Violence

Policy 414 - Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse

Policy 415 - Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults

Policy 417 - Chemical Use/Abuse

Policy 418 - Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School

Policy 419 - Tobacco-Free Environment

Policy 421 - Gifts to Employees

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

On a motion by Hager, seconded by Hargis, the Board approved the following items listed under the Consent Grouping.

1. Agreement with Minnesota State University, Mankato, School of Nursing.

The Board approved the Memorandum of Agreement with the School of Nursing at Minnesota State University, Mankato, establishing the Northfield School District as an educational site for nursing students.

2. Teaching American History Summer Workshop Contract.

The Board approved a workshop contract with Teachers' Curriculum Institute to provide a seminar this summer for elementary school teachers as part of the Teaching American History grant.

3. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments*

1. Michele Hendel, Building Volunteer Coordinator at Bridgewater School, from February 25, 2005, through June 3, 2005, at an hourly rate of \$11.39.
2. Co-Curricular Assignments
Suzanne McDowell, Middle School Spelling Bee Advisor
Kim Slegers, High School Boys and Girls Track Coach (1/2 Stipend)
Cliff Casteel, High School Boys and Girls Track Coach (1/2 Stipend)
Brent Rauk, Assistant Baseball Coach (transfer from Assistant Baseball Coach-Hourly)
Mike Allen, Assistant Baseball Coach - Hourly (transfer from Assistant Baseball)
Jay Larsen, 6th-7th Grade Track Coach (transfer from Asst 6th-7th Grade Track Coach)
Troy Midboe, 6th-7th Grade Assistant Track Coach
3. Dee Tomczik, Mentoring Grant Liaison in Networking Kids LINK, for up to 10 hours per week/52 week year, beginning February 28, 2005, \$12.42 per hour. This is in addition to her Educational Assistant and Kids C.A.F.E. positions.

b. Leaves of Absence

1. Kari Gorr, childcare leave of absence from on or before April 11, 2005, through June 6, 2005.
2. Donald Warhol, leave of absence from March 7, 2005, through April 4, 2005.
3. Pamela Roberts, leave of absence beginning February 2, 2005, through June 3, 2005.
4. Mary Bleckwehl, extension of leave of absence from March 1, 2005, through June 3, 2005.

c. Resignations

1. Jodi Hiatt-Laudestein, Educational Assistant at Sibley School. Her last day of work was February 11, 2005.
2. Susan Johnson, Media Educational Assistant at the High School. Her last day of work will be March 2, 2005.

d. Retirements

1. Roberta Peterson, Grade 2 Teacher at Sibley School, retirement effective at the end of the 2004-05 school year. Ms. Peterson has been with the district for 34.5 years.
2. Priscilla Hasler, Reading Recovery Teacher at Bridgewater. Ms. Hasler has been with the district for 27 years.
3. Daniel Larson, Grade 5 Teacher at Sibley School. Mr. Larson has been with the district for 36 years.

*These conditional offers of employment are subject to successful completion of a criminal background check.

4. Field Experience Contractual Agreement.

The Board approved the Contractual Agreement with Luther College's Department of Education in Decorah, Iowa, for its student teaching program for the 2005-2006 school year.

VIII. Items for Information.

1. Board Policies.

The Board Policy Review Committee met and presented the following policies for review and comment:

Policy 420 -	Employees with Communicable or Infectious Diseases
Policy 424 -	License Status
Policy 425 -	Staff Development
Policy 430 -	Recruitment and Selection of Employees
Policy 436 -	Formerly Policy GCN - Professional Staff Performance Evaluation (Board is asked to approve the renumbering of this policy that was approved on May 10, 2004.)
Policy 438 -	Student Teachers
Policy 439 -	Summer School Teachers

Over the next two weeks, Board members and individuals were invited to react to these policies. Discussion and final action by the School Board on these policies is scheduled for the March 14, 2005, regular School Board meeting.

IX. Future Meetings

- Tuesday, March 1, 2005, 4 PM - 9 PM, Budget Review Committee, Northfield Community Resource Center, SS 104/106
- Monday, March 14, 2005, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center
- Tuesday, March 15, 2005, 7:00 PM, Public Hearing, Northfield High School Auditorium
- Monday, March 21, 2005, 5:30 PM, Special School Board Meeting to approve construction bids, District Office Conference Room
- Monday, March 28, 2005, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center
- Monday, April 4, 2005, 7:00 PM, Special School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

X. Adjournment

On a motion by Smith, seconded by Stratmoen, the Board adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Jean Boardman, Clerk