

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
October 10, 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. Hargis was absent.
- II. Agenda Changes.
The table file was added.
- III. Public Comment.
There was no one.
- IV. Approval of Minutes.
On a motion by Cirksena, seconded by Stratmoen, minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on September 26, 2005, were approved.
- V. Announcements.
 - Noel Stratmoen received the "Good Neighbor" award from the Northfield Rotary Club for his community service.
 - Congratulations to Anders Loven-Holt, our National Merit Scholar semi-finalist for this year and to the ten commended students. They are: Nathaniel Allister, Joseph Amerman, Kelsey Cowdin, Athena Currier, Casey Davis-Van Atta, Elisabeth Granquist, Sarah Lee, Alyssa Ness, Sarah Rinehart and Ashley Wentworth.
 - Lockdown drills will occur in the middle school and our elementary schools in October. (The high school has already practiced a lockdown drill.)
 - Seventy students in grades 3,4 and 5 from Sibley Elementary School participated in the Prairie Fire Theater performance of Tom Sawyer September 30th and October 1st. Jodi Lundell and Deborah Kessler, parent volunteers, coordinated the event this year.
 - The boys soccer team has been seeded #1 in their section and begins section play on Saturday at Memorial Stadium, while the girls soccer team has been seeded #2 in their section and begins section play this Thursday.
 - The girls tennis team has been seeded #1 in Section 1AA, after winning the Missota Conference Championship, and will play Rochester Mayo in the Team sub-section final tomorrow at the Bloomington Racquet Club. The Section Individual tournament begins on Thursday.
 - The Gators Girls Swim team will host the True Team Section meet on Saturday at our Middle School pool with 8 teams competing.
 - The elementary parent breakfasts have begun and are a wonderful way to connect with your student's school. They've been extended to the middle school.
 - Congratulations to Mary Williams, who was profiled in the October 8th edition of the Northfield News.

VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports.

1. Prairie Creek Community School.

Caroline Jones, Director of Prairie Creek Community School, presented a review of their third year of operation as a charter school under the sponsorship of the Northfield Public Schools and an overview of this current school year.

2. Friends of Residential Environmental Learning.

Tim Hanson of the Friends of Residential Environmental Learning (FREL) reported that \$5,000 has already been raised to support fifth grade students attending the Eagle Bluff environmental education program and that once all the pledges have been received, they will have met the \$7,500 goal by the October 15 deadline.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. Memorial Field Transfer Agreement.

On a motion by Berthelsen, seconded by Smith, the Board approved the transfer agreement with the City of Northfield for the old Memorial Field property.

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

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

1. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments

1. Sandra Russler, Food Service Associate I (temporary position) at the High School for 3.5 hours per day (Thursday & Friday), beginning October 13, 2005, through June 2, 2006, at an hourly rate of \$11.47. There are no benefits with this position.
2. Brenda Ohaks, Special Ed Educational Assistant at Longfellow for 3.0 hours per day, 4 days per week, beginning September 28, 2005, step 6 of the Class III wage scale for Educational Assistants. This is in addition to her Educational Assistant position at Bridgewater.
3. Kara Scharrer, Special Ed Educational Assistant at Sibley School for 7.25 hours per day beginning October 4, 2005, step 1, of the Class III wage scale.
4. Co-Curricular Assignments
Scott Davis, High School Yearbook Advisor
Craig Sweet, Part-time Assistant Middle School Wrestling Coach (Hourly)
Terry Bestul, 6th Grade Football Coach (Hourly)
5. Community Services Fall 2005 Instructor List. Three names were inadvertently omitted. They are Clifford E. Clark, Gary Wagenbach and Pat Allen, who will be facilitators for The New Northfield: A Video and Community Dialog Project.
6. Barbara Schumacher, Early Childhood Special Ed Educational Assistant at Longfellow School for 6.5 hours per day, 4 days per week, beginning October 25, 2005, Class III, step 1, pro-rated benefits.
7. Timothy Cahalan, Custodian Engineer at Longfellow School for 8.0 hours per day beginning October 24, 2005, step 3 of the wage scale for custodian engineers.
8. Laura McManus, 0.5 Long-term Substitute First Grade Companeros Teacher at Bridgewater School beginning October 10, 2005, for up to 120 days.

b. Change of Assignments

1. Jeff St. Martin, transfer from a Custodian Engineer position at Longfellow School to a second shift Custodian Engineer position at the Middle School beginning September 27, 2005.
2. Cindy Huschle, Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, increase 0.25 hour/day special education time, for a total of 6.75 hours/day beginning October 3, 2005.
3. Tammy Schwagerl, Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, increase 0.25 hour/day special education time, for a total of 6.75 hours/day beginning October 3, 2005.
4. Ruth Morgan Malecha, Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, increase 0.25 hour/day special education time, for a total of 6.75 hours/day, beginning October 3, 2005.
5. Terri Quint, Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, increase 0.25 hour/day special education time, for a total of 6.75 hours/day, beginning October 3, 2005.
6. Sharon Hup, Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, increase 1.0 hour/day special education time, for a total of 4.5 hours/day, beginning October 3, 2005.
7. Bonnie Johnson, Educational Assistant at Sibley School, voluntary reduction from 7.25 to 5.0 hours per day (Special Ed) beginning October 5, 2005.
8. Kimberly Tousignant, Educational Assistant at Sibley School, voluntary reduction from 7.25 to 4.0 hours per day (Special Ed) beginning October 5, 2005.
9. Cindy Keogh, Educational Assistant, transfer from 1.75 Supervisory EA at Greenvale Park to 7.25 hours per day at Sibley School (5.5 Special Ed, 1.75 Supervisory), beginning October 4, 2005, step 2 of the wage scales.

c. Leaves of Absence

1. Hannah Puczko, leave of absence under FMLA beginning October 7, 2005, through October 21, 2005.
2. Andrew Gilbertson. .5 leave of absence under FMLA beginning October 10, 2005, for up to 120 days.

d. Resignations

1. Cindy Keogh, Greenvale KidVentures Site Leader, resignation effective October 3, 2005. Ms Keogh has accepted a position as an Educational Assistant at Sibley.
2. Michael Allen, Part-time Assistant Middle School Wrestling Coach (Hourly)
3. Andrew Gilbertson, 6th Grade Football Coach (Hourly)

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

2. Purchased Personnel Services Agreements.

The agreement between Northfield Public Schools and ARTech and the agreement with The Village School of Northfield for the purpose of providing purchased Educational Speech and Language Pathology services to students attending these charter schools during the 2005-06 school year was approved.

3. Rental Agreement.

The rental agreement between the Northfield Public Schools and the City of Northfield for the rental of the ice arena for the Northfield High School hockey program was approved.

VIII. Items for Information

1. Enrollment Report.

As of October 1, 2005, enrollment in the Northfield School District is 3832 students compared to 3817 as of October 1, 2004. The District had projected enrollment to be 3825.

2. Closed Negotiations Strategy Session was set for immediately following the October 24, 2005, School Board meeting in the District Office Conference Room.

IX. Future Meetings

Monday, October 24, 2005, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting,
Northfield High School Media Center

Monday, November 14, 2005, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting,
Northfield High School Media Center

X. On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Smith, the Board adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Katy Hargis, Clerk