

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
January 23, 2006
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.
There was no one.
- IV. Approval of Minutes.
On a motion by Hager, seconded by Stratmoen, the minutes of the Organizational School Board meeting held on January 9, 2006, were approved. On a motion by Cirksena, seconded by Hargis, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on January 9, 2006, were approved.
- V. Announcements.
 - Shari Schreck, HCI Board member and personal banker at Community National Bank, led Northfield's application effort to be named one of "Minnesota's Best Communities for Young People". She introduced William Doniz and Cindy Barrientos, who presented Superintendent Richardson and Chair Kari Nelson with a commemorative plaque.
 - Soy Scents Candles, run by the entrepreneurial students at the Area Learning Center, donated its profit of \$513.50 to the Northfield Community Action Center Food Shelf.
 - Congratulations to Northfield High School's newest Scholastic Art Award Winners! Elizabeth Pittman won a Silver Key for her ceramic man with umbrella and Morgan Ekstrand won a Gold Key for her ceramic box. Morgan's artwork will be exhibited in N.Y. City and she will get an award at Carnegie Hall in June.
 - There are impressive numbers from the Middle School of students participating in activities.
Spelling Bee: 19 students will be participating at the 22nd Annual Spelling Bee on Feb 7.
Math League: Math League placed 2nd at their final meet. Overall for the season they took third place!
Winter Sports: 189 students are participating in basketball and wrestling!
 - An ESL student, Pantip Mounquan obtained her certified nurse assistant certification from our Adult Basic Education Program on January 17. She has accepted employment with a local healthcare facility and began work as a CNA two days later on January 19. The CNA program is a career training program that we offer through the Dakota Prairie Adult Basic Education Consortium and local healthcare facilities.
 - This year's school district Northfield United Way campaign raised a total of \$13,007, a 14% increase over last year. The site with the greatest percentage of increase was Northfield Middle School with an 8% increase over last year's giving.
 - Both the Community Services Winter/Spring brochure and the Family Services Winter/Spring brochure were distributed to the community in late December. Kudos to Ellen Haberoth, Publications Design Support Person, for the excellent work she did on the layout

and design of both publications. Praises also go to the Community Services staff Mark Etzell, Susan Sanderson, Erin Mayberry, Linda Oto, Mary Hansen, Carmen Brooks, and Lynn Tchida for the all of the work that goes into providing these fine programs to the community.

- Thank you to the organizers and participants of two recent community events: the Volunteer festival on January 21 and the Martin Luther King Celebration on January 17.

VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports.

1. eMint Grant Presentation.

Middle School Teachers Jeanne Hanzlik and Judi Vitito presented their final project from the eMint Grant that they worked on during the 2004-2005 school year. The purpose of this grant was to enhance student learning through technology.

2. New KidVentures Program Model.

Family Services Coordinator Lynn Tchida and Area Learning Center Coordinator Matt Bullard presented the new seamless programming model for Kid Ventures that incorporates the previous after school enrichment programs with new programs provided for at-risk students using Targeted Services funding.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. Finance Committee Recommendation.

On a motion by Hager, seconded by Berthelsen, the Board approved the recommendation of the Finance Advisory Committee that administration identify \$1,000,000 (approximately 4%) of possible reductions and that \$700,000 be cut from the 2006-2007 District budget.

2. Budget Reduction Process Proposal.

On a motion by Cirksena, seconded by Stratmoen, the Board approved the Budget Reduction Process Proposal as presented.

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

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

1. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments**

1. Billie Jo Weeg, Targeted Services Teacher, 10.0 hours per week, for 2005-06 school year.
2. Lahna Tran, Targeted Services Teacher, 5.0 hours per week, for 2005-06 school year.
3. Christa Anderson, Targeted Services Teacher, 5.0 hours per week, for 2005-06 school year.
4. Marcia Thomas, transfer from a 3.0 hours per day FSA I position to a 4.25 hours per day, FSA II position at the Middle School, beginning January 12, 2006, at \$12.87 per hour.
5. Sheri Acosta, Special Ed Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park Elementary for 3.25 hours per day, student days, Class III, step 1. There are no benefits with this position. This is in addition to her Building Volunteer position.

5. Robert Knutson, Driver Education Behind the Wheel Instructor, for .25 FTE, beginning February 1, 2006, \$20.50 per hour. There are no benefits with this position.

- b. Increase in Hours and Increase in Contract Time
 1. Susan Nelson, Special Ed Educational Assistant at Longfellow, increase from 2.4 to 4.6 hours per day, beginning January 30, 2006.
 2. Erica Triebenbach, Early Childhood Special Education Teacher, increase in contract time from 0.5 FTE to 0.75 FTE, effective January 30, 2006.

- c. Leaves of Absence
 1. Donita Delzer, FMLA leave from January 31, 2006 – February 21, 2006.
 2. Gilbert Ross, FMLA leave from January 23, 2006 - April 17, 2006.
 3. Andrew Gilbertson, unpaid leave of absence beginning February 1, 2006, through March 2, 2006.

- d. Resignations/Elimination of Position
 1. Sommer Dunn, KidVentures Site Leader and Supervisory Education Assistant, resignation with January 20, 2006, as last day of work.
 2. Emelyn Osborn, Special Ed Education Assistant, position eliminated due to student leaving the district. Her last day of work was January 13, 2006.
 3. Melissa Quinnell, Special Ed Education Assistant at Longfellow School, resignation with January 20, 2006, as last day of work.
 4. Eva Nelson, resignation from High School Assistant Speech Coach position.
 5. Sharon Hup, Special Ed Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, resignation with January 20, 2006, her last day of work.

- e. Changes in Policy Documents
 1. Retitle "Supervisors & Other Staff" as "Community Services Staff"
 2. Move Kim Bauer (security) and Gene Wilson (mail delivery) to their own agreement simply called "Other Staff."
 3. Community Services Coordinators (formerly Community Ed Coordinators) Add Mentoring Grant Coordinator and Venture Coordinator (formerly Kid Ventures Program Supervisor)

*Lane placement subject to verification by the Professional Growth Committee

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

VIII. Items for Information.

1. Performance Indicators for Charter Schools Sponsored by the Northfield Public Schools. Superintendent Richardson distributed a draft of the performance indicators to be used by the Board in determining whether to re-sponsor a charter school when they come up for their three-year evaluation. The performance indicators focus on successful student achievement, accountability in finance and operations and the provision of a safe school environment. These indicators should be reviewed by the Board over the next two weeks for possible approval at the February 13, 2006 Board meeting.

2. School Board Committees Appointments.

The Committee Appointments for 2006 were distributed to the Board.

IX. Future Meetings

Monday, February 13, 2006, Regular School Board Meeting, 7:00 PM

Northfield High School Media Center

Monday, February 27, 2006, Regular School Board Meeting, 7:00 PM

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X. On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Cirksena, the Board adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Katy Hargis, Clerk