

**NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**School Board Minutes**

School Board Meeting  
April 10, 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 7:05 p.m. Paul Hager was absent.
- II. Agenda Changes.  
The table file was added.
- III. Public Comment.  
Beth Kroll and her son, Blake, spoke about how beneficial the Village School has been to Blake. (Beth and Blake Kroll live at 14128 - 315th Street in Cannon Falls. They are residents of the Cannon Falls School District.)
- IV. Approval of Minutes.  
On a motion by Cirksena, seconded by Berthelsen, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on March 23, 2006, were approved.
- V. Announcements.
  - Congratulations to Angie Vogt and Becky Gainey for organizing a wonderful "Beyond Words... A Celebration of Art and Literacy" event at Sibley Elementary School. The event included an art gallery, artist trading cards, bookmaking, "Camp Caldecott", a storyteller and the Poetry Cafe.
  - On Thursday, March 30th, several 6th graders attended Regional History Day at the Minnesota State University in Mankato. Of those students, three will advance to State History Day competition at the University of Minnesota on April 30th. Congratulations to all students for their hard work! Finalists include Maren Zach, Dana O'Donnell and Sami Ohaks - good luck to them as they advance to State History competition!
  - Congratulations to the Middle School Academic Triathlon Team for a great job at their meet on Saturday! The team of Jakob Anderson, Martha Crippen, Beret Amundson, Jamie Rossow and Brian Jacobel are State Champions as they placed first in their division.
  - The Raider Speech team will be going to State for the third year in a row. At the Section 1AA tournament held April 6th in Rosemount, seven of the fifteen Raider Speech entries qualified for Section Finals. State competition for Class AA will be Friday, April 21 at Bloomington Jefferson High School. Results were as follows: Marcia Barck (State Competitor, Serious Poetry), Elisabeth Granquist (State Competitor, Original Oratory), Charlie Behr (State Competitor, Humorous Interpretation).
  - Congratulations to Sam Estenson who won the German trip.
  - Arts a la Carte was terrific - show casting a variety of arts.
  - Currently there is the Art Show at the NAG.
- VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports.
  1. Update on Companeros Program.  
The Companeros teachers provided the Board with a brief history of the Companeros program and a description of the current program. Dr. Tara Fortune and Dr. Dee Tedick of the University of Minnesota did a study and presented findings and recommendations as

they relate to the District's Companeros program a year ago. This year's presentation gave the follow-up status on these recommendations.

2. Village School External Visit Presentation.

Wayne Jennings and David Dudycha, two members of the external evaluation team for the Village School, provided the Board with an overview of their evaluation and answered questions from the Board on the study's findings. The results of this study will be considered along with the data collected from the Village School's self study, the achievement data available on the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) website, the report from the MDE visitation at the Village School and information from the Northfield Police Department in determining whether the Northfield Public Schools will renew the sponsorship of the Village School for another three-year term.

The Board also set the date for the Village School Informal Hearing for Thursday, May 18 at 7:00 PM in the High School Media Center. The standard hearing format will be followed that allows any individual that wants to make a statement or provide testimony to speak. The Board will continue to hear testimony until all individuals wishing to address the Board have been heard. The Board will not enter into dialogue or debate with any individual providing testimony.

The date for the final decision on Village School sponsorship renewal has been set for Tuesday, May 30 at 7:00 PM in the High School Media Center. The only item on the Board agenda will be the renewal vote and no additional public comment will be taken at this special Board meeting.

3. Proposed Trust Fund Budget 2006-2007.

Tom Stringer presented information about the 2006-2007 Trust Fund Budget. The Trust fund accounts for all donations made to the District for specified purposes. The majority of the activity is for student scholarships. No action was required by the Board.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. Tentative ARTech Sponsorship Renewal.

On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Hargis, the Board tentatively approved the renewal of the ARTech Charter School sponsorship for an additional three-year period.

2. Authorization to Advertise for Bids on Re-roofing at Sibley, Longfellow and portions of the High School.

On a motion by Berthelsen, seconded by Cirksena, the Board authorized the advertisement for bids on the re-roofing at Sibley, Longfellow and portions of the High School.

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

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

1. Grant Applications.

- Board approved a \$4780 grant application to WINGS for Babies and Blankets, a home visiting program intended to connect with at-risk mothers of newborn babies.
- Board approved a \$14,747 grant request to United Way (\$14,347) and Healthy Community Initiative (\$400) for the Bridges to Kindergarten program.
- Board approved a \$5000 grant request to WINGS to provide all participants in the Summer Ventures program a hot lunch during the school day as well as to offset field trip costs.

2. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments\*\*

1. Emelyn Osborn, Special Ed Educational Assistant at Longfellow School for 6.5 hours per day, 3 days per week, beginning April 4, 2006, Class III, step 1. There are no benefits with this position.
2. Judy Jacobson, Special Ed Educational Assistant at Longfellow School for 22.5 hours per week, beginning April 3, 2006, Class III, step 2, pro-rated benefits.
3. Wendy Wustenberg and Jodi K. Lundell, Middle School Volunteer Pilot Project Coordinators, shared position, not to exceed 90 hours for a 9-week pilot period extending from April 6, 2006, through June 2, 2006, at an hourly rate of \$11.79. There are no benefits.
4. Scott Trebelhorn, Summer Maintenance Worker, beginning April 17, 2006 through October 13, 2006, \$10.00 per hour. There are no benefits with this position.
5. Co-Curricular Assignments  
Jerry and Teffaney Behr, Assistant Boys and Girls Track Coach, shared position.

b. Leaves of Absence

1. Amanda Tracy, childcare leave of absence for the 2006-07 school year.
2. Amy Moeller, childcare leave of absence from on or about April 28, 2006, through June 30, 2006.
3. Julie Mitchell, Food Service, leave of absence without pay for the 2006-07 school year. The administration supports this leave.
4. Dawn Jandro, leave of absence without pay for the 2006-07 school year.
5. Carrie Zupfer-Rice, .5 leave of absence without pay for the 2006-07 school year.
6. Kristen Cade, leave of absence without pay for the 2006-07 school year.
7. Stephen Cade, leave of absence without pay for the 2006-07 school year.
8. Laura McManus, leave of absence without pay for the 2006-07 school year.
9. Amanda Heinritz, .2 leave of absence without pay for the 2006-07 school year.
10. Ellen Mucha, .2 leave of absence without pay for the 2006-07 school year.
11. Debra Reynolds, .4 leave of absence without pay for the 2006-07 school year.
12. Nancy Pillsbury, 3-year leave of absence without pay, 2006-07 – 2008-09.

c. Job Share Arrangements

1. Pamela Charlton, Grade 2 at Bridgewater, .5 job share position for 2006-07, with the other .5 job share teacher to be determined by administration.

- d. Retirements/Resignations/Terminations
  - 1. Bruce Santerre, High School Principal, retirement effective June 30, 2006. Mr. Santerre has been with the district for 9 years.
  - 2. Jackie Carlander, Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, resignation effective April 18, 2006.
  - 3. Larry Edwards, High School Custodian, resignation effective April 28, 2006.
  - 4. Angela Arndt, School Social Worker, resignation effective at the end of the 2005-06 school year.
  - 5. Yesica Porras Louis, separation effective March 15, 2006.
  
- e. Increase in Hours
  - 1. Suzanne Cowles, Targeted Services Teacher, increase hours from 5.0 hours per week to 10.0 hours per week, through the end of the 2005-06 school year for classes at Greenvale Park and Bridgewater Elementary Schools to cover hours previously covered by another teacher.

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

VIII. Items for Information

- 1. Set Date for Village School Informal Hearing.  
May 18, 2006, 7:00 PM, High School Media Center
  
- 2. Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences.

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
High School	52%	48%
Middle School	69%	73%
Bridgewater	98%	98%
Greenvale Park	96%	93%
Sibley	98%	98%

IX. Future Meetings

- Monday, April 10, 2006, Immediately Following Regular School Board Meeting, Closed Negotiations Strategy Session, District Office Conference Room
- Monday, April 24, 2006, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center
- Monday, May 1, 2006, 7:00 PM, School Board Work Session, Northfield High School Media Center
- Monday, May 8, 2006, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center
- Tuesday, May 9, 2006, 7:00 PM, School Board Work Session, Northfield High School Media Center

- X. On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Berthelsen, the Board adjourned at 9:20 PM.