

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
May 22, 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. No one was absent.
- II. Agenda Changes.
The table file was added.
- III. Public Comment.
There was none.
- IV. Approval of Minutes.
On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Cirksena, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on May 8, 2006, were approved.
- V. Announcements.
 - Middle School Choir had a fantastic concert on the 11th!
 - Middle School Band concert on the 16th was excellent! Also, the 8th grade band played at the opening ceremony of the Special Olympics at the Carleton Track last Saturday.
 - The High School Choir sang at the May 14 Twins game at the Metrodome. The choir is directed by Dwight Jilek.
 - The High School had a successful recognition assembly last Thursday. Approximately \$65,000 in scholarships was given to 50 students. Approximately 40 different companies/organizations/clubs presented scholarships to our seniors. A special thanks to all of the presenters and the generosity of the various Northfield organizations, clubs, and individuals who have supported the further education of the Class of 2006.
 - A special thank you to Thrivent Financial for Lutherans who funded the landscaping in the courtyard by the High School Media Center. Each year Thrivent has a "Join Hands Day", which is a multigenerational volunteer event that takes place in the community. This year they wanted to help make the high school a more beautiful place for students to learn, so through the perseverance of High School student Heather Hoffman and her mother and sister, Peggy and Jessica Hoffman, the group of the 13 high school students spent a total of 64 hours digging holes to plant 18 bushes, installing edging, trimming bushes, pulling weeds, transplanting hostas and hauling rock.
 - The High School play, *The Importance of Being Ernest* was exceptional.
 - Thank you for Roger Jenni and Zach Pelletier for a successful fifth grade band tour. The band did a nice job representing the Northfield Public Schools.
- VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports.
 1. Middle School Morning News - an Interview with Blake Peterson.
Director of Student Services Gary Lewis and Speech Pathologist Pam Palmquist showed the Board a video presentation of an interview with middle school special education student Blake Peterson. It demonstrated the use of a tablet PC that has specialized software and accessories to make it accessible, which enables Blake to do homework and generally communicate with people.

2. Proposed Budget for FY 2006-07.

A draft of the proposed 2006-07 General Fund budget that included minor updates to the 2005-06 projection was presented. The proposed budget includes the PBB (Program Based Budget) reductions and adjustments of \$707,158. No Board action was required at this meeting.

3. Summary of Levy Referendum Workshops.

The May 17, 2006, Referendum Rationale document was shared with the Board for discussion purposes. The document attempts to capture the key concepts discussed as part of the two previously held Board Levy Referendum Workshops. It links the District strategic plan and the Board assumptions with possible operating and capital projects levy proposals.

On a motion by Cirksena, seconded by Stratmoen, administration was directed to have ballot language drafted for a replacement operating levy in the amount of \$1,250 per student for 7 years, and, as a second question, to have ballot language drafted for a capital projects levy in the amount of \$750,000 per year for 7 years. Passage of the capital projects levy would be contingent on the passage of the operating levy. Voting 'yes' was Berthelsen, Hargis, Cirksena, Smith, Stratmoen and Nelson. Voting 'no' was Hager.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. Policy 533 - Wellness.

Berthelsen moved and Hargis seconded to approve Policy 533-Wellness, as modified on page 533-2 of the policy. See below.

9. ~~Vending machines will be available to only secondary education building sites and only outside of the school day.~~ **Vending machines will be available to high school students during the school day providing a variety of food and beverage choices. Vending machines will not be available during the school day for elementary and / or middle school students.** District employee lounges may be exempt from this requirement.

10. **Beginning with the 2007-2008 school year, the District Wellness Committee will develop guidelines for the food and beverage choices in all vending machines. The guidelines developed will consider having only healthy options available during school hours.**

Then, Smith moved and Cirksena seconded to amend the motion and change the language of items 9 and 10 on page 533-2 of the policy to the following.

9. Vending machines will not be available during the school day for elementary and / or middle school students. District employee lounges may be exempt from this requirement.

10. Beginning with the 2006-2007 school year, the District Wellness Committee will develop guidelines for the food and beverage choices in all vending machines. The guidelines developed will consider having only healthy options available during school hours.

Motion to amend carried on a four to three vote. Voting 'yes' to the amendment was Berthelsen, Cirksena, Smith and Nelson. Voting 'no' to the amendment was Hargis, Hager and Stratmoen.

Then, on a six to one vote, the Board approved Policy 533 - Wellness, as amended. Voting 'yes' was Berthelsen, Hargis, Cirksena, Smith, Stratmoen and Nelson. Voting 'no' was Hager.

2. Proposed Budgets for Community Services, Dental and Capital and Health and Safety.
On a motion by Berthelsen, seconded by Cirksena, the Board approved the proposed 2006-07 Community Services, Dental and Capital and Health and Safety Budgets as presented below.

	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
Community Services as presented	\$1,744,712	\$1,706,305
Kindergarten Plus*	267,600	267,600
Non-Public Aids**	26,300	26,300
Total Community Services Fund	\$2,038,612	\$2,000,205
Dental	\$ 388,536	\$ 340,638
Capital and H & S	\$1,470,679	\$1,496,701

* The Kindergarten Plus program is a part of the community services fund. It is a break-even, fee-based program at all three elementary schools.

** Non-public aids are provided to St. Dominic's and home schools in the Northfield area for textbooks, health services and guidance services. These funds flow through the District from state allocations.

3. ARTech Charter School Contract.
On a motion by Hargis, seconded by Stratmoen, the Board approved a three-year sponsorship contract with ARTech Charter School beginning with the 2006-07 school year.

Hager left at 8:40 PM

4. Resolution for Termination and Non-Renewal of Probationary Licensed Staff.
On a motion by Berthelsen, seconded by Smith, the Board adopted the Resolution related to the termination and non-renewal of teaching contracts of the probationary licensed teachers listed below effective at the end of the 2005-2006 school year.

Lauren Christel	Grade 1 Teacher	1.0 FTE
Margaret Fink	Special Ed Teacher (variance)	0.6 FTE
Candace Hard	Special Ed Teacher	1.0 FTE
Debra Herman	Special Ed Teacher (long-term sub)	0.5 FTE
Lois Kelly	Speech/Language Pathologist	0.5 FTE
Claudia Krohn	Special Ed Teacher	1.0 FTE
Billie Jo Weeg	ECFE Teacher	0.3 FTE
Larry Wachendorf	Band/Orchestra	0.25 FTE
Margaret (Peg) Witt	Grade 2 Teacher	0.25 FTE
Emileana Graupmann	Social Studies	1.0 FTE

Kathleen Hofmann	FACS	0.35 FTE
Jennifer Josephson	School Social Worker	0.9 FTE
Steve Taggart	Industrial Technology	0.5 FTE

This action was taken with the understanding that the following teachers will be offered a contract for the 2006-07 school year.

Emileana Graupmann	Social Studies	0.6 FTE
Kathleen Hofmann	FACS	0.25 FTE
Jennifer Josephson	School Social Worker	1.0 FTE
Steve Taggart	Industrial Technology	0.3 FTE

5. Advancement of Probationary Licensed Staff Beginning with the 2006-07 School Year.

On a motion by Cirksena, seconded by Berthelsen, the Board approved the advancement of probationary licensed staff beginning with the 2006-07 school year as listed below.

Tenure Status:

Emileana Graupmann, Kathleen Hofmann, Patricia Pfeiffer, Jennifer Lompart, Paul Ousley, Sam Wold, Travis Wiebe, Katie Parks, Jennifer Rauk, Kari Winter, Brenda Crissinger, Lindsey Downs, Jennifer Rudolph, Elizabeth Valentine

Third-year Probationary Status:

Lisa Hovden, Hilary Hagedorn, Daniel Riesgraf, David Lynch, Brian Stevens, Cynthia Austin, Laurie Larson, Shannon Flegel, Amanda Schrader, Mary Momberg, Christa Anderson, Deborah Bakke

Second-year Probationary Status:

Christopher Howard, Rebecca Klamert, Zachary Pelletier, Bruno Theisen, Dwight Jiliek, Rebecca Klamert, Emily LaFave, Steve Taggart, David Gilmore, Robert Honerman, Debra Herman, Renae Christenson, Jennifer Josephson

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

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

1. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments**

1. Joel Leer, High School Principal, 48 week work year, beginning July 1, 2006, \$99,198.00 (Subject to revision when negotiations with principals for 2006-08 have been completed.)
2. Elizabeth Ziemann, .5 Compañeros Elementary at Bridgewater long-term substitute for the 2005-06 school year, BA45 lane, step 7*.
3. Jennifer Josephson, 1.0 School Social Worker at Greenvale Park beginning with the 2006-07, MA lane, step 4*.
4. Jerome Jarvis, High School Custodian, 2nd Shift, beginning May 22, 2006, step 2 of the wage scale for custodians.
5. Summer Maintenance Workers
Brandon Christel, from 5/2/06 to approximately 8/25/06, \$9.00 per hour.
James Lewis, from 6/8/06 to approximately 9/1/06, \$9.00 per hour.
Karl Anderson, from 5/30/06 to approximately 9/1/06, \$9.25 per hour.

6. Co-Curricular Assignments
 1. April Ostermann, 2005-06 Coordinator and Supervising Teacher for Amity Institute Intern Teacher Program, \$500 stipend.
 2. Jennifer Lompart, TORCH Program Parent/Family Liaison, stipend \$2,000.
 3. Joan Lizaola, TORCH Program Parent/Family Liaison, stipend \$2,000.
 7. Betty Kline, Custodian at the Middle School, beginning June 7, 2006, step 2 of the 2005-06 custodian wage scale.
- b. Leaves of Absence
1. Deborah Winkelman, .2 leave of absence for the 2006-07 school year.
 2. Deborah Rasmussen, childcare leave from on or about October 21, 2006, through February 28, 2007.
 3. Elizabeth Larson, childcare leave from August 30, 2006 through January 1, 2007.
 4. Ellen Mucha, FMLA leave from April 25, 2006, through June 7, 2006.
 5. Daniel Foley, FMLA leave from May 15, 2006 through May 26, 2006.
 6. Mary Momberg, childcare leave from August 10, 2006 through September 22, 2006.
 7. Amanda Sieger, childcare leave from on or about October 2, 2006, through December 31, 2006.
- c. Retirements/Resignations
1. Mariaclara Kell, ABE Childcare Educational Assistant, resignation with last day May 3, 2006.
 2. Susan Swisher, Assistant Bookkeeper, retirement effective May 31, 2006. Ms. Swisher has been with the district since 1978.
 3. Julie Nielsen, Greenvale Park Elementary School Principal, effective at the end of the 2005-06 contract.
 4. Angie Vogt, Sibley Art Teacher, resignation effective at the end of the 2005-06 school year.
 5. Linda Goozen, Sibley Special Education Teacher, resignation effective at the end of the 2005-06 school year.
- d. New Assignments/Increase in Contract Time/Building Transfers for Licensed Staff beginning 2006-07
- Cynthia Austin, High School Mathematics, increase from .8 to 1.0 for the 2006-07 school year.
 - Karen Koester, High School Business Education, increase from .5 to .8 for the 2006-07 school year.
 - Rebecca Haar, transfer from Greenvale Park to Sibley and increase to full-time.
 - Christa Anderson, transfer from Bridgewater to .5 Kindergarten at Sibley.
- e. Discontinuance of Non-Licensed Staff Positions at the end of the 2005-06 school year
- Darline Rech, Sibley Housekeeper
 - Marcia Thomas, Greenvale Park Housekeeper

Sheri Acosta, Greenvale Park Building Volunteer Specialist
Julie Bubser, Sibley Building Volunteer Specialist
Michelle Hendel, Bridgewater Building Volunteer Specialist
LuAnn Larson, Middle School Study Center Education Assistant
Lupita Forsyth, Longfellow Educational Assistant
Emelyn Osborn, Longfellow Educational Assistant
Susan Nelson, Longfellow Educational Assistant
Margaret Huber, Longfellow Educational Assistant
Judy Jacobson, Longfellow Educational Assistant
Diane Wendt, Longfellow Educational Assistant
Wendy Trebelhorn, Middle School/Bridgewater Educational Assistant
Jennifer Turner, Greenvale Park Educational Assistant
Cindy Keogh, Sibley Educational Assistant, position eliminated

f. Changes in Hours/Work Year/Location for Non-Licensed Staff Positions for 2006-07

District

Christine Neset, Student Services Specialist, reduce work year from 211 to 206 days

Cynthia Samuelson, Technology Specialist, reduce from 1.0 to .9 FTE

Community Services

Karen Bublitz, Community Services Educational Assistant, increase from 5.0 to 6.0 hrs/day

Bridgewater

Rhea Miller, Bridgewater Nurse, reduce from 7.5 to 7.0 hours per day

Sandra Anderson, Educational Assistant, reduce from 4.6 to 4.0 hours/day

Kristin Basinger, Educational Assistant, increase from 3.6 to 6.0 hours/day

Dee Tomzik, Educational Assistant from 4.8 to 4.0 hours/day

Greenvale Park

Patti Schilling, Greenvale Park Nurse, reduce from 7.5 to 7.0 hours per day

Shari Acosta, Educational Assistant, reduce from 3.55 to 3.25 hours/day

Sophia Garcia, Housekeeper, transfer from Greenvale Park to Bridgewater

Angela Nielsen, Educational Assistant, reduce from 4.85 to 3.25 hrs/day

Jane Streitz, Educational Assistant, reduce from 6.35 to 6.05 hrs/day

Dorothy Steffens, Educational Assistant, reduce from 6.5 to 6.0 hours/day

Longfellow

Kathy Stordahl, Educational Assistant, increase from 5.2 to 6.4 hours/day

Shari Bridley, Educational Assistant, increase from 5.75 to 6.95 hours/day

Sibley

Jane Ehlers, Sibley Nurse, reduce from 7.5 to 7.0 hours per day

Julie Bubser, Educational Assistant, increase from 1.0 to 2.75 hrs/day

Coleen DeWall, Educational Assistant, reduce from 7.25 to 6.75 hours/day

Sherri Goehring, Educational Assistant, reduce from 7.25 to 6.75 hours/day

Karen Jensen, Educational Assistant, increase from 6.5 to 7.5 hours/day

Kara Scharrer, Educational Assistant, reduce from 7.25 to 6.75 hours/day
Sandra Valek, Educational Assistant, reduce from 7.5 to 7.0 hours/day
Sheila Winegardner, Educational Assistant, reduce from 7.25 to 6.75 hours/day
Lori Witt Macrae, Educational Assistant, increase from 5.75 to 6.75 hours/day

*Lane placement subject to verification by Professional Growth Committee.

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

VIII. Items for Information

1. May 1 Enrollment Report.

2. 2006 School Board Elections Filing Dates: July 5 - 18.

There will be three four-year positions available this year, with the term of office being from January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2010. The election will be held on Tuesday, November 7. Interested candidates must file an affidavit of candidacy with the school district at the Northfield Public Schools District Office, 1400 Division Street South, Northfield, during regular business hours, which is Monday through Friday, between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM. There is a filing fee of \$2 that must be paid at the time of filing. Candidates must be at least 21 years old, or will be on assuming office, an eligible voter, a resident of the Northfield School District for at least 30 days prior to the election and have not been convicted of an offense for which registration is required under Minnesota Statutes, section 243.166. These positions are currently held by Kari Nelson, Noel Stratmoen and Mike Berthelsen.

3. July 2006 - June 2007 School Board Meetings Schedule.

The schedule of school board meetings during the next fiscal year was distributed.

4. Grants Received from WINGS (Women in Northfield Giving Support).

- \$4,740 awarded to the Northfield Early Childhood Initiative Coalition, which is coordinated by Lynn Tchida. The grant will support the Babies and Blankets program that provides support and home visiting to at-risk new parents. The receipt of this grant also ensures an additional \$10,000 of funding support from Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation for the continued work of the Early Childhood Coalition.
- \$4,000 for materials and supplies for the Summer Kid Ventures/ Targeted Services Collaborative programming for elementary students.

IX. Future Meetings

Tuesday, May 30, 2006, 7:00 PM, Special School Board Meeting,

Northfield High School Media Center

Saturday, June 3, 2006, 5:00 PM, Meet for Graduation (HS Auditorium-inside),
which begins at 5:30 PM at Memorial Field

Monday, June 5, 2006, 7:00 PM, School Board Work Session,

Northfield High School Media Center

Monday, June 12, 2006, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting,

Northfield High School Media Center

X. On a motion by Berthelsen, seconded by Stratmoen, the Board adjourned at 8:50 PM.