

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
November 13, 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 no one.
- IV. Approval of Minutes.
On a motion by Hager, seconded by Cirksena, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on October 23, 2006, were approved.
- V. Announcements.
 - Five Northfield High School seniors have been named National Merit semi-finalists. They are Paul Carpenter, Ryan Davison-Reed, Felicia Hansell, Catherine Lyon and Celia Oney. In addition, Northfield High School seniors Aleta Kolan, Maia Larson and Colin Watkins have been named Commended Students.
 - Director of Community Services Hannah Puczko acknowledged the Northfield Rotary Club for sponsoring the 2006 Kids Voting project in the schools and Heather Ryden and Susan Sanderson for their role as curriculum and arrangements coordinators for the school district. Recognition also goes to the NHS Honor Society students who were volunteers at the polling places. Over 1100 students voted at the polls on Nov. 7.
 - The Bridgewater 5th graders went to Eagle Bluff ELC October 25 - 27. The group included 103 students, 20 chaperones and 7 Bridgewater staff members. Special thanks to the following chaperones: Doris Bailey, Kiwi Bielenberg, Kari Brown, Julie Corbett, Richard Falck, Dana Graham, Laura Greenlund, Anna Hagemeister, Larry Hoffer, Al Kloos, Jason Lemke, Renee Malecha, Renee Marlenee, Eric McMullen, Bruce Rippentrop, Edward Saunier, Carla Thompson, Mamie Tuma, David Warner, and Jennifer Welch. Special thanks to the following staff: April Ostermann, Gail Kohl, Adam Danielson, Brent Rauk, Lisa Nelson, Carolina Villamil, and Diane Kinneberg.
 - The following activities were recognized:
 - ✓ The Fall Play, "You Can't Take It With You.
 - ✓ The Middle School Orchestra and Choir Concert
 - ✓ The District Band Concert
 - Board Chair Nelson commended the music staff and spoke how music can bring meaning to lives. She also encouraged parents to check-out Parent Late Night at the Middle School, and recognized the work of the District Educational Parent Advisory Council.
 - The Girls Soccer team finished their season with a state tournament appearance, a Missota Conference Championship, a Section Championship and their best season record ever. They are coached by Troy Cohrs.
 - The Raider Volleyball team finished their best season ever with a section loss to number one seed Owatonna on Nov. 1. They are coached by Elizabeth Larson.

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- The Raider Football team became Section champs by defeating Faribault. It was a great come-from-behind victory. Unfortunately, the football team suffered a heartbreaking loss to St Thomas Academy last Friday night in the state quarterfinal game. They were defeated 15 to 12. Head football coach is Bubba Sullivan.
- Congratulations to the gator girls swimming & diving team for capturing 3rd place in section 1A finals on Friday night. The gators advance 5 swimmers to the state meet on Nov. 21st & 22nd. Exceptional swims by the girls included Claire Perrot in the 200 & 500 freestyle; Tanya Thomforde in the 200 IM & 100 free; Aleta Kolan in the 100 fly & Kim Gallagher in the 500 free. Tanya, Claire, Kim & McKenna Jones joined together to place 2nd & qualify for state in the 400 free relay. The Gators will compete in 7 events at State. They are coached by Katie Seleskie.

VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports

1. ARTech Charter School: 2005-2006 Overview.

Tim Goodwin, Director of ARTech Charter School, presented to the Board of Education an overview of ARTech's fourth year of operation as a charter school under the sponsorship of the Northfield Public Schools. This year ARTech is at full capacity and currently has a small waiting list. Mr. Goodwin outlined for the Board ARTech's program successes and challenges over the past four years.

2. Secondary and Area Learning Center Site Continuous Improvement Plan Presentations.

Northfield High School, Middle School and the Area Learning Center presented their site continuous improvement plans to the Board. The site continuous improvement plan presentations first focused on describing the site improvement goals and the data or evidence that was used to identify those goals. The High School and Middle School also presented their annual progress reports from the 2005-06 school year detailing the progress made on their school improvement goals from last year. The ALC did not present an annual progress report since this is the first year for developing and implementing site improvement goals.

The Board adjourned for a 5-minute recess.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. Resolution Canvassing the Results of the Election.

On a motion by Hager, seconded by Smith, the Board approved the Resolution Canvassing Returns of Votes of the School District Special Election held November 7, 2006, on the question of revoking the existing referendum authorization of the school district and approving a new authorization for taxes payable in 2007 (question 1) with a 'yes' vote of 6389 and a 'no' vote of 5132, and on the question of approving a capital project levy authorization for taxes payable in 2007 and thereafter (question 2) with a 'yes' vote of 5963 and a 'no' vote of 5481. Question 2 was contingent upon the passage of Question 1. Question 1 having carried and Question 2 having received the approval of at least a majority of such votes, Question 2 is hereby declared to have carried. Voting 'yes' was Berthelsen, Cirksena, Hager, Hargis, Nelson, Smith and Stratmoen. No one voted 'no.'

2. Resolution Canvassing Returns of Votes of School District Board Election.
On a motion by Smith, seconded by Cirksena, the Board approved the adoption of a Resolution Canvassing Returns of Votes of School District Board Election. Nelson (7060 votes), Stratmoen (6564 votes) and Berthelsen (6064 votes) were re-elected. Voting 'yes' was Berthelsen, Cirksena, Hager, Hargis, Nelson, Smith and Stratmoen. No one voted 'no.'
3. Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Certificates of Election and Directing School District Clerk to Perform Other Election Related Duties.
On a motion by Hager, seconded by Hargis, the Board approved the adoption of a Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Certificates of Election and Directing the School District Clerk to Perform Other Election Related Duties. Voting 'yes' was Berthelsen, Cirksena, Hager, Hargis, Nelson, Smith and Stratmoen. No one voted 'no.'
4. American Education Week Proclamation.
On a motion by Crikksena, seconded by Hager, the Board approved the following American Education Week Proclamation.

WHEREAS, public schools are the backbone of our democracy, providing young people with the tools they need to maintain our nation's precious values of freedom, civility and equality; and

WHEREAS, by equipping young Americans with both practical skills and broader intellectual abilities, schools give them hope for, and access to, a productive future; and

WHEREAS, education employees - be they custodians or teachers, bus drivers or librarians - work tirelessly to serve our children and communities with care and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, schools are community linchpins, bringing together adults and children, educators and volunteers, business leaders, and elected officials in a common enterprise;

Now, therefore, the Board of Education of the Northfield Public Schools, do hereby proclaim November 12-18 as the 85th annual observance of American Education Week.

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

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

1. Financial Reports - September 2006.
The Board approved paid bills totaling \$7,564,052.33, payroll checks totaling \$1,689,884.78, and the financial reports for September 2006. There were no bond payments made in September 2006.

2. Student Activity Account / Boys' Swimming and Diving.

The Board approved the transfer of money from the Boys' Swimming & Diving Student Activity Account into a payroll account to cover the cost of a person to work with the boys' swimming and diving team. No school funds will be used to pay this stipend. The NHS Boys' Swimming & Diving team has raised all funds.

3. School Assembly Program Application.

The Board approved the application from the Middle School to hold an assembly in January 2007 presented by the CLIMB Theatre Group. The assembly is called "A Part" and its objective is to provoke dialogue between students around the topic of differences.

4. Gift Agreements.

- The Sibley PTO has donated \$7,990 to Sibley Elementary School to be used for classroom supplies (\$3800) and other items on the staff wish list like Book-in-a-Bag books, white easel boards, history magazines for 5th grade, Spanish books for the media center and Book-in-a-Bag, playground balls, etc.
- The Greenvale Park PTO has donated \$3,600 to Greenvale Park Elementary School to be used for classroom start-up expenses.

5. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments**

1. Co-Curricular Assignments

Rachel Fink, Assistant 8th Grade Girls Basketball PT (Hourly)

Jennifer Rauk, PT Assistant 6th Grade Girls Basketball Coach (Hourly)

Daniel Blaise Douros, Assistant Girls Swimming Coach – Diving (11 weeks)

John Garvey, 9th Grade Boys Basketball Coach

Dave Abbott, 9th Grade PT Boys Basketball Coach (Hourly)

Blake Wergeland, Assistant Alpine Ski Coach (Split Stipend)

Greg Schultz, Assistant Alpine Ski Coach (Split Stipend)

Charles Simacek, Assistant Alpine Ski Coach (Split Stipend)

Craig Hall, Assistant Alpine Ski Coach (Split Stipend)

Hennessy Wadell, Assistant Alpine Ski Coach (Split Stipend)

Elisabeth Granquist, Assistant Speech Coach

2. Targeted Services Instructors

- Kari Gorr: 4.0 hours per week (includes prep time), Tuesdays & Thursdays at Greenvale Park, and 4.0 hours per week (including prep time), Mondays and Wednesdays at Sibley School, at an hourly rate of \$25.93, October 2006 through December 14, 2006.

- Laura Hedelson: 4.0 hours per week (includes prep time), Tuesdays & Thursdays at Greenvale Park, at an hourly rate of \$25.93, for the period extending from October 2006 through May 31, 2007.

- Elizabeth Valentine: 4.0 hours per week (includes prep time), Tuesdays & Thursdays at Greenvale Park, at an hourly rate of \$25.93, for the period extending from October 2006 through May 31, 2007.

3. Patrick Foley, long-term substitute for teacher on leave beginning October 23, 2006 through February 28, 2007, MA30-17.

4. Amy Sherwood, Early Childhood Family Ed Instructional Educational Assistant at the NCRC and Longfellow for up to 8.0 hours per week beginning October 30, 2006, Class II, step 1; and Site Assistant for Early Ventures at Longfellow for 4.5 hours per day, \$9.97 per hour subject to revision when negotiations for 2007 are completed. There are pro-rated benefits for the Site Assistant position.
 5. Patricia Rogne, Early Childhood Family Ed Instructional Educational Assistant at the NCRC and Longfellow for up to 9.0 hours per week beginning October 30, 2006, Class II, step 1. There are no benefits with this position.
 6. Diane Wendt, Early Childhood Family Ed Instructional Educational Assistant at the NCRC and Longfellow for up to 4.0 hours per week beginning October 30, 2006, Class II, step 1. There are no benefits with this position.
 7. Joanne Clites, long-term substitute Grade 6 Teacher at the Middle School beginning on or about December 12, 2006 through June 5, 2007.
 8. Breanna Clites, Student Site Assistant for KidVentures Targeted Services at Bridgewater for up to 2.0 hours per day, beginning November 7, 2006 through May 31, 2007, \$7.17 per hour subject to revision when negotiations for 2007 are completed. There are no benefits with this position.
 9. Leah Sand, .4 Health and Physical Ed Teacher at the High School beginning January 22, 2007 through June 5, 2007, MA-4*.
 10. Hannah Basinger, Special Ed Educational Assistant at the High School for 6.5 hours per day beginning November 13, 2006, Class III, step 1.
- b. Change in Hours for Non-Licensed Staff
1. Jacqueline Meyer, Special Ed Educational Assistant to accompany a student on the bus for 1.5 hours per day. Ms. Meyer will submit this time on payroll claim forms.
 2. Andrea Waldock, Special Ed Educational Assistant to accompany a student on the bus for 0.75 hour per day. Ms. Waldock will submit this time on payroll claim forms.
 3. Debra Kropf-Mastin, Greenvale Park Educational Assistant, increase supervisory time from .5 hours to 2.25 hours per day beginning October 30, 2006. Ms. Kropf-Mastin also is an Instructional Media EA for 3.25 hours per day and is eligible for pro-rated benefits.
 4. Starr Kahl, Special Ed Educational Assistant to accompany a student on the bus for 1.25 hours per day, shared position. Ms. Kahl will submit this time on payroll claim forms.
 5. Martha Waddell, Special Ed Educational Assistant to accompany a student on the bus for 1.25 hours per day, shared position. Ms. Waddell will submit this time on payroll claim forms.
- c. Leaves of Absence
1. Lisa Battaglia, FMLA leave from November 7, 2006 through November 22, 2006.

2. Brenda Hand, childcare leave from on or about March 7, 2007, through April 19, 2007.
- d. Resignations
1. Erin Nohava, Community Services Ventures Site Lead and Early Ventures Assistant, resignation with last day of work to be November 3, 2006.
 2. Angela Sletten, Supervisory Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, resignation with last day to be November 7, 2006.
 3. Patrick Arnold, Workstation Specialist, resignation effective November 20, 2006.
- e. Rates of Pay for Non-Licensed Substitutes. The recommendation was approved.
- f. The following personnel policies and practices for the period July 1, 2006 through July 30, 2008 were approved:
- Personnel Policies and Practices for the Parking Lot and Building Security Monitor and District Mail and Delivery Driver
 - Personnel Policies and Practices for Technology Employees
 - Personnel Policies and Practices for Coordinator of District Grounds, Coordinator of District Maintenance and District Electrician

*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. Recreation Proposal to the City of Northfield.

The City of Northfield has requested a proposal from the Community Services Division for the operation of the Recreation Program for 2007 with options with and without the outdoor pool operation. Recreation Coordinator Erin Mayberry and Community Services Director Hannah Puczko presented a proposal that includes a review of the history of the collaborative relationship with the City for the delivery of recreation services, data and details regarding the operation of the recreation program since 2003 when the Community Services Division took over the operation of the recreation program at the request of the City, and a proposal for the recreation program operation with and without the pool operation. The proposal was presented to the City Administration on November 9, will be reviewed with the Park and Recreation Board on November 14, and will be presented to the City Council in early December. The City is also considering a proposal from the Northfield Family YMCA as well as considering the possibility of the City operating the outdoor pool program on its own. The report shows that the recreation program has been financially and programmatically successful since 2003 when Community Services took over the operation.

2. Enrollment Options Report.

Student Information Systems Specialist Christine Neset has provided the 2006-2007 Enrollment Options Report. The Northfield Public Schools has 257 students attending our schools from other school districts this school year compared to 247

last year. 527 Northfield students are attending school elsewhere, including other public schools (147), charter schools (189) and non-public schools (191). This compares to 525 students last year.

3. Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences.

Attendance at this year's parent-teacher conferences was as follows:

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Greenvale Park	98%	98%
Sibley	98%	99%
Bridgewater	100%	99%
Middle School	73%	76%
High School	58%	56%

4. Enrollment Report for November 1, 2006.

IX. Future Meetings

Monday, November 27, 2006, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield HS Media Center

Tuesday, December 5, 2006, 7:00 PM, Truth in Taxation Hearing, Northfield HS Media Center

Monday, December 11, 2006, 6:30 PM, Reception for National Merit Scholars, NHS Cafeteria

Monday, December 11, 2006, 7:30 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield HS Media Center

X. On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Smith, the Board adjourned at 9:40 PM

Katy Hargis, Clerk