

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

School Board Meeting  
January 8, 2007  
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 7:17 p.m. Cirksena and Smith were absent.
- II. Agenda Changes.  
The table file was added.
- III. Public Comment.  
There was none.
- IV. Approval of Minutes.  
On a motion by Berthelsen, seconded by Hager, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on December 11, 2006, were approved.
- V. Announcements.  
There were none.
- VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports
  1. Implementation of Wellness Policy.  
Food Services Coordinator Julie Kronabetter and Greenvale Park Principal Jeff Roland provided the Board with an update on the various activities that have been completed since approval of the wellness policy last year. The work of the Wellness Committee has focused on four main areas: (1) Physical Activity, (2) Vending, Concessions and Classrooms, (3) Food and Beverages - Reimbursable Meals, and (4) A la Carte. While much has been accomplished in the past year, the Wellness Committee hopes to take a closer look at vending machines and concessions during the remainder of this school year.
  2. Update on Federal Title Programs.  
Dr. Gary Lewis, Director of Student Services, presented an update on Federal Title programs within the District. The presentation included a brief description of each of the Title areas, current allocations, and how the District is utilizing those dollars.
  3. Enrollment Projection and Budget Development.  
Director of Business Affairs Tom Stringer reviewed the enrollment assumptions that drive the 2007-08 budget development and five-year financial forecast. The enrollment model uses a traditional cohort survival technique that measures the historical trend/growth of each class from one year to the next based on consistent October 1 counts. The model further averages the last four years of these "survival ratios" to project future grade sizes. In addition, the budget calendar for developing the 2007-08 budget was reviewed.
- VII. Superintendent's Report
  - A. Items for Individual Action
    1. Budget Calendar.  
On a motion by Hargis, seconded by Berthelsen, the Board approved the budget calendar for 2007-2008 as presented.

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

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

1. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments\*\*

1. Spencer Clements-Green, Student Site Assistant at Greenvale Park for 2.0 hours day, Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning December 29, 2006, through June 5, 2007, \$7.35/hour. There are no benefits with this position.
2. Jonathan Perkins, Student Site Assistant at Greenvale Park for up to 2.0 hours day, Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning December 29, 2006, through June 5, 2007, \$7.35/hour. There are no benefits with this position.
3. Duane Johnson, Workstation Specialist, beginning January 8, 2007, \$15.25/hour (992 hours for 2006-07).
4. Tricia Christopherson, Targeted Services Teacher for 4.0 hours per day, Mondays and Wednesdays at Sibley School, and for 4.0 hours per day, Tuesdays and Thursdays at Greenvale Park, for the period extending from January 3, 2007 through May 31, 2007, \$25.93 per hour.
5. Heather Kuchinka, Word & Design/Web Support Specialist, beginning January 8, 2007, Class III, step 1 of the wage scale for Office Employees, subject to revision when negotiations for 2006-07 are completed.
6. Stacey McGowan Olson, long-term substitute English Teacher at the ALC beginning January 2, 2007 through June 5, 2007, MA-5\*.
7. Co-Curricular Assignments  
Arnold Boich, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball Coach  
Patrick Middleton, Assistant PT 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball Coach (Hourly)  
Mark Langevin, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball Coach  
Daniel Behrens, Assistant PT 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball Coach (Hourly)  
Glen Lloyd, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball Coach  
Isaac Tut, Assistant PT 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball Coach (Hourly)  
Bob Gregory-Bjorklund, Rock 'n Roll Revival Assistant  
Shari Setchell, Rock 'n Roll Revival Choreographer  
Craig Wasner, Rock 'n Roll Revival Coordinator
8. Angela Wittenwyler, Early Childhood Special Ed Teacher at Longfellow School beginning January 2, 2007, BA lane, step 0\*.
9. Debra James, .5 Early Childhood Special Education Teacher at Longfellow School, beginning January 22, 2007, BA lane, step 6\*.

b. Leaves of Absence

1. Renae Schuster, FMLA leave of absence, November 27, 2006 – December 5, 2006.
2. Craig Johnson, FMLA Leave of absence, December 11, 2006 - December 22, 2006.
3. Shari Hagen, FMLA leave of absence, December 2, 2006-December 15, 2006.

c. Resignations / Retirement

1. Vicki Behr, resignation from Supervisory Educational Assistant position at Bridgewater and from Link Coordinator for the Connected Kids Mentoring Program. Her last day of work will be January 4, 2007.
2. Heather Silvis Carlin, Hand in Hand Preschool Teacher, resignation effective January 1, 2007.
3. Angela Nielsen, resignation from .3 Supervisory Educational Assistant (crossing guard) at Greenvale Park effective December 18, 2006. Ms. Nielsen will continue with her Special Ed EA position for 5.25 hrs/day at Greenvale Park.

4. Jericho Tabor, Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, resignation with last day of work December 22, 2006.
5. Jan Stahly, Early Childhood Special Education Teacher, resignation effective January 1, 2007.
6. Sophia Garcia, resignation from housekeeping position with last day to be January 5, 2007. Ms. Garcia will continue with her Food Service position.
7. Gretchen Colby, Middle School Youth Center Lead Assistant, resignation effective February 1, 2007.
8. Patrick Roohan, Head Custodian at Sibley School, retirement effective January 31, 2007.
9. Jennifer Trinko, Middle School Food Service, resignation with last day of work January 2, 2007.

\*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. Tackling Obstacles and Raising College Hopes (TORCH) Grant Received.  
The Northfield Public Schools, in collaboration with Familias en Accion, the Northfield Healthy Community Initiative and the Northfield Mentoring Coalition has received a \$39,945 grant from the State of Minnesota's Juvenile Justice Advisory Council - MN Department of Public Safety, to continue the work of TORCH. TORCH uses academic tutoring, mentoring, enrichment activities, out-of-school time programming, and family connectedness efforts to assure local Latino students remain in school, graduate from high school, and have access to postsecondary opportunities.
2. Paraprofessional Recognition Week, January 15 - 19, 2007.  
The Governor of the State of Minnesota has proclaimed the week of January 15-19 as Paraprofessional Recognition Week. Paraprofessionals, or in the Northfield School District, Educational Assistants, are persons who are essential to every school. They work in a variety of positions in a school district. Buildings will recognize the contributions of paraprofessionals during the week of January 15th.
3. Informational Meeting on Wind Turbine Project, January 12, 2007.  
The Northfield School District has received formal notification from the Internal Revenue Service that the fourteen school districts, including Northfield, who applied for CREBS funding for the construction of a wind turbine farm in partnership with Johnson Controls has been approved. These schools districts have until December 2007 to sell the bonds and begin the implementation of this project. Superintendent Richardson has been meeting with six of the fourteen schools on an informal basis during the last two months to discuss how the school district would need to proceed if the project was approved. Now that the formal approval has been received, the Superintendents have arranged two meetings in January for all fourteen districts to address several important concerns. Noel Stratmoen is the School Board representative for this project.

#### IX. Future Meetings

Monday, January 22, 2007, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield HS Media Center  
Monday, February 12, 2007, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield HS Media Center

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