

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
September 10, 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 7:00 p.m. Hager 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 Smith, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on August 27, 2007, were approved.
- V. Announcements and Recognitions.
 - Superintendent Richardson thanked staff for a great start to the 2007-08 school year. Everything, including transportation, has gone very smoothly.
 - Nelson reported that she had attended a brainstorming session for the Parent Communications Network. She encouraged any interested adult to get involved with the youth of this community. Visit HCI.org for information.
- VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports
There were no items.
- VII. Superintendent's Report
 - A. Items for Individual Action
 1. 2007-09 Master Agreement with Northfield Education Association.
Superintendent Richardson presented highlights of the contract. The two-year contract provides for a three percent salary enhancement in each year of the contract. The contract also includes an increase in the District amount paid toward health benefits in each year, but also increases the amount that employees will pay.
On a motion by Cirksena, seconded by Berthelsen, the Board approved the 2007-09 Master Agreement with Northfield Education Association as negotiated.
 - 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. Grant Of Easement For Water And Sewer Utilities – Northfield Middle School.
The legal description of the written easement for the City of Northfield for water and sewer utilities at the new Middle School was approved by the Board. The City of Northfield has approved this easement as proposed by the District. The easement was required as part of the Subdivision Agreement between the City of Northfield and the Northfield Public Schools when the new Middle School site was developed. The agreement additionally provides for an adjacent property owner to connect to city utilities located on the School District's property.
 2. Grant Requests.
 - The grant application submitted by the Tackling Obstacles and Raising College Hopes (TORCH) collaborative for an "Intervention for College Attendance Program" (ICAP) grant from the Minnesota Office of Higher Education was approved by the Board. The request is for

\$42,000 per year for the next two years. If funded for two additional years, the major change to TORCH will be an expansion to open the program to all Northfield youth in grades 6-12 who would be first-generation college students.

- The grant application submitted by the Rice County Growing Up Healthy Collaborative (Community Services is a partner) for \$150,000 over a 3-year period from the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation was approved by the Board. The goal of this project is to "increase the protective factor of community connectedness in marginalized families with young children in Rice County."

3. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments**

1. Sarah Yantzer, School Readiness Teacher Hand in Hand Preschool, for up to 37.0 hours per week, 183 days per year, beginning August 29, 2007, \$20.35/hour.
2. Julie Ann Ochs, Building Nurse at Greenvale Park, for 7.0 hours/day, beginning September 10, 2007, \$20.90/hour.
3. Abby Swanson, 0.5 FTE long-term substitute Grade 4 teacher at Greenvale Park for the 2007-08 school year, BA-0.
4. Anne Jarzyna, Long-term Substitute Kindergarten Teacher at Bridgewater Elementary School from September 19, 2007 through November 19, 2007, BA-0.
5. Cory Johnson, 0.25 Physical Ed Teacher at the Alternative Learning Center, pending licensure, September 5, 2007 – January 18, 2008, BA-0.
6. Flavia Berg, long-term substitute ECFE Early Childhood Teacher, for up to 25.0 hours/week, 160 days/year beginning August 30, 2007, 20.35/hour.
7. Allyson Bernstorff, Special Ed Educational Assistant for 6.6 hours per day at Bridgewater School, beginning August 29, 2007, Class III, step 1.
8. Joshua Holm, Special Ed Educational Assistant for 7.25 hours per day at Bridgewater School, beginning August 29, 2007, Class III, step 1.
9. Laura Berdahl, Site Specialist at Greenvale Park, for up to 720 hours and 200 days per year, beginning September 4, 2007, \$12.42/hour. There are no benefits with this position.
10. Victoria Cortes, Site Assistant for EarlyVentures at Longfellow for 26.5 hours per week, beginning September 27, 2007, \$10.50/hour, pro-rated benefits.
11. Vanessa Grave, Site Leader for KidVentures at Bridgewater School for 15.0 hours/week, beginning September 4, 2007, \$13.08/hour. There are no benefits with this position.
12. Kristin Basinger, Site Assistant for EarlyVentures at Longfellow for 7.5 hours per week, beginning September 4, 2007, \$10.77/hour. There are no benefits with this position.
13. Jacob Hargis, Student Site Assistant for KidVentures at Bridgewater and Greenvale Park for up to 5.0 hours/day not to exceed 19 hours per week, beginning September 4, 2007, \$7.55/hour.
14. Matt Hargis, Student Site Assistant for KidVentures at Sibley for 2.75 hours/day, beginning September 4, 2007, \$7.55/hour. There are no benefits with this position.
15. Emily Marks, Student Site Assistant for KidVentures at Sibley for 2.75 hours/day, beginning September 4, 2007, \$7.55/hour. There are no benefits with this position.
16. Meara O'Neill, Student Site Assistant for KidVentures at Greenvale Park for 2.75 hours/day, beginning September 4, 2007, \$7.55/hour. There are no benefits with this position.
17. Daniel Sanderson, Student Site Assistant for KidVentures at Sibley and Greenvale Park for up to 5.0 hours/day not to exceed 19 hours per week, beginning September 4, 2007, \$7.55/hour.

18. Sara Tromsness, Site Assistant for KidVentures at Bridgewater School for 2.0 hours/day, beginning September 4, 2007, \$10.50/hour. There are no benefits with this position.
19. Laura Velasquez, Student Site Assistant for KidVentures at Sibley for up to 2.5 hours/day, beginning September 4, 2007, \$7.55/hour.
20. Angie Moss, Site leader for KidVentures at Sibley for 27.25 hours/week, beginning September 10, 2007, \$13.08/hour.
21. Julia Johnson, Special Ed/Supervisory Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park for 7.25 hours/day, beginning September 4, 2007, Class I & III, step 1.
22. Annie Oftedahl, Special Ed Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park for 6.75 hours/day beginning September 17, 2007, Class III, step 1.
23. Amelia (Amy) Pantze, Special Ed/Supervisory Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park for 3.83 hours/day, beginning September 4, 2007, Class I & III, step 1.
24. Lois Kelly, Speech Language Assistant at the High School for 8.0 hours/week beginning September 5, 2007, \$19.64/hr. There are no benefits with this position.
25. Patricia Rogne, ECFE Early Childhood Teacher for up to 5.0 hrs/wk and up to 160 days pending verification of licensure, \$20.35/hr. There are no benefits with this position.
26. Kathleen Bussert-Pleschourt, Special Ed Educational Assistant (Job Coach) at the High School 7.0 hrs/day, beginning, September 4, 2007, Class III, step 1.
27. Sarah Corbin, Special Ed Educational Assistant at the High School, 6.5 hrs/day, 4 days/week, beginning September 4, 2007, Class III, step 1, pro-rated benefits.
28. Joyce Mode, Special Ed Educational Assistant at the High School for 6.5 hrs/day, 1 day/week, beginning September 4, 2007, Class III, step 1. There are no benefits with this position.
29. Christine Gounaikis, ECFE Educational Assistant for up to 16 hours/week and up to 160 days/year beginning September 12, 2007, Class II, step 1. There are no benefits with this position.
30. Aaron Stauffer, Middle School Youth Center Site Assistant for up to 12.0 hours /week, beginning September 10, 2007, through May 29, 2007. There are no benefits with this position
31. Darrin Corbin, Extended Summer Maintenance Worker, from September 10, 2007, through approximately October 31, 2007, \$10.25/hr. There are no benefits with this position
32. Hannah Basinger, Special Ed Educational Assistant at Bridgewater School for 6.75 hrs/day, beginning September 4, 2007, Class III, step 2. Ms. Basinger is transferring from the High School.
33. Co-Curricular Assignments
 - David Ludescher, Middle School Chess Coach
 - Melissa Larsen, Middle School Knowledge Masters Advisor
 - Reggie McDonald, Middle School Math League Advisor
 - Earl Weinmann, MS Advisor for SCOPE, JR Posse, Jr. Curators, Museum (.075) based on lane/step
 - Rachel Haider, Middle School Play/Musical Advisor
 - Chris O'Neill, Middle School Newspaper Advisor
 - Krista Betcher, Middle School Science Olympiad Advisor
 - Rose Turnacliff/Lisa Hovden, Middle School Speech (shared stipend)
 - Amy Sieve, Middle School Spelling Bee Coordinator
 - Mick Hamilton, Middle School Student Council Advisor
 - Roger Jenni, Assessment/Testing Coordinator (.25 FTE based on MA60-17)
 - Roger Jenni, History Grant Assessment/Testing Coordinator- Grant Extension Year, hourly to maximum of \$2,300.
 - Geri Schlecht, one extra class, first semester, no supervision (revised 9/10/07)

Mark Auge, one extra class, first semester, no supervision
Paul Eddy, one extra class, first semester, no supervision
Craig Johnson, one extra class, second semester, no supervision.
Leah Sand, one extra class, all year-every other day, no supervision
Rachel Hoffelt, two extra classes, all year, no supervision
Brenda Neibuhr, two extra classes, all year, no supervision
Karl Viesselman, two extra classes, all year, no supervision

- b. Decrease or Increase in Hours/Change in Assignment for Non-licensed Staff
 - 1. Brenda Ohaks, Special Ed/Supervisory Educational Assistant, increase from 4.8 to 6.5 hours per day (4.7 hrs/day Special Ed/1.8 hrs/day Supervisory), beginning September 4, 2007.
 - 2. Michael Berger, add .75 hour Supervisory Educational Assistant to current hours.
 - 3. Tammie Warner, transfer from SummerVentures Site Leader to EarlyVentures Site Assistant, 7.5 hours/day, beginning August 27, 2007, \$11.05/hour.
 - 4. Nicole Pettersen, add Site Assistant at Early Ventures for 12.0 hrs/week at Longfellow, \$10.50/hr. This is in addition to her Site Leader position.
 - 5. Christine Belsheim, Special Ed Educational Assistant (Job Coach), increase from 4.0 to 7.0 hrs/day, beginning September 4, 2007.
 - 6. Karen Jensen, Educational Assistant at Sibley School, add .25 hour supervisory time, beginning September 7, 2007.
 - 7. Martha Waddell, Educational Assistant at Sibley School, add 1.0 hour special ed time and .25 hour supervisory time beginning September 4, 2007.
 - 8. Linda Wilson, Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, decrease supervisory hours from 5.0 to 4.17 hours/day, increase instructional hours from 2.0 to 2.83 hours/day.
 - 9. Arlene Tuma, ECFE Educational Assistant, increase from 8.0 to 16.0 hours per week, beginning September 12, 2007.
 - 10. Diane Wendt, ECFE Educational Assistant, increase from 12.0 to 16.0 hours per week, beginning August 30, 2007.
 - 11. Sherri Goehring, Special Ed Educational Assistant, transfer from Sibley to 6.5 hours/day at the High School, Class III, step 6.
- c. Increase in Time for Licensed Staff
 - 1. Sheri Senn, School Readiness Teacher, increase from up to 26 hours per week to up to 37 hours per week effective August 29, 2007.
- d. Leaves of Absence
 - 1. Kathryn Ades, leave of absence without pay from on or about November 1, 2007 through June 5, 2008.
 - 2. Brenda Niebuhr, FMLA leave from August 29, 2007 through approximately September 18, 2007.
 - 3. Nancy Fox, childcare leave of absence from on or about January 18, 2008, through June 5, 2008.
- e. Resignation
 - 1. Christine Belsheim, resignation from KidVentures Site Assistant position to accept increased EA hours.
- f. Restructuring of Office Employees Position at Longfellow.
 - 1. The current 1.0 FTE 177-day Office Specialist position at Longfellow will be restructured into a .875 FTE 177-day Office Specialist position.
 - 2. A .75 FTE 195-day Office Specialist for the ALC will be created.

*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. Draft of Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction and Student Achievement.

Community Services Director Hannah Puczko presented a draft of the 2006-2007 Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction and Student Performance, which includes student achievement goals, staff development goals, and Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) test results compared to national averages. It also includes the testing and assessment schedule for the 2007-2008 school year.

IX. Future Meetings

Friday, September 21, 2007, Minnesota Education Summit, Minneapolis Convention Center

Monday, September 24, 2007, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting,

Northfield High School Media Center

Monday, October 8, 2007, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting,

Northfield High School Media Center

X. On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Smith, the Board adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Katy Hargis, Clerk