

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
October 22, 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. 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 Cirksena, seconded by Stratmoen, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on October 8, 2007, were approved.
- V. Announcements and Recognitions.
 - The Middle School 7th & 8th Grade Choir under the direction of Cathy Penning, has been selected to perform at the State American Choral Directors' Association convention at University of Minnesota in Duluth. The performance will take place on Friday, November 16. They are the only middle school Choir performing on the same stage as four high school and four college choirs.
 - The Healthy Community Initiative has been awarded a \$300,000 grant from the MN Dept. of Education for out of school time programs. The grant project, which goes through August 2009, will provide support for several existing youth programs including the Key, the TORCH project, Connected Kids Mentoring, and Ventures Plus.
- VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports
 1. ARTech 2006-2007 Annual Report.
Director of ARTech Tim Goodwin presented ARTech's 2005-2006 Annual Report. ARTech is in its fourth year of operation.
 2. Site Continuous Improvement Plan Presentations.
Northfield High School and Community Services presented their site continuous improvement plans to the Board.
- VII. Superintendent's Report
 - A. Items for Individual Action
 1. Tobacco Settlement Designation for Wellness and Health Promotion.
On a motion by Hager, seconded by Stratmoen, the Board adopted the following Resolution: RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 659 designate the one-time settlement of \$36,850.85 from the tobacco law suit proceeds to be used for health promotion and worksite wellness programs. Voting 'yes' were Berthelsen, Hargis, Hager, Cirksena, Smith, Stratmoen and Nelson. No one voted 'no.'
 2. School Board Policies.
On a motion by Cirksena, seconded by Hargis, the Board approved the following policies as presented.

Policy 513	Student Promotion and Retention
Policy 520	Student Surveys
Policy 520.1	Research Involving Students, Employees and/or District Data
Policy JFCB - Hazing Prohibitions	to be renumbered to Policy 526

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. Overnight Student Field Trip Proposal from Northfield Middle School.

The Board approved an application from Northfield Middle School Principal Jeff Pesta for the 6th grade Amistades students to attend the Spanish Language Village weekend at Concordia Language Villages in Bemidji, MN January 25-27, 2008.

2. Cooperative Sponsorship.

The Board approved entering into a cooperative sponsorship with the Cannon Falls School District for Alpine Skiing. In order to form this co-op for Alpine Skiing with Cannon Falls, the Board first dissolved the sponsorship the Northfield School District has with ARTech for alpine skiing, which then allowed the District to form a cooperative sponsorship with both ARTech and Cannon Falls for Alpine Skiing.

3. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments**

1. David Piper, Community Services Building Supervisor, up 10 hours per week, 31 weeks per year, beginning October 13, 2007.
2. Sheila Bird, ALC Office Specialist for 6.0 hours per day, 195 days per year, beginning October 22, 2007, Class III, step 1, pro-rated benefits.
3. Sharon Hup, Special Ed Educational Assistant for 6.75 hours/day, one day/week, beginning October 17, 2007, Class III, step 3. There are no benefits with this position.
4. Renee Marlenee, long-term substitute Special Ed Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, beginning October 16, 2007, Class III, step 1; transferred to long-term substitute School Nurse at the High School beginning October 26, 2007 through June 5, 2008, \$20.90/hour.
5. Co-Curricular Assignments
Heather Ims, 6th Grade Girls Basketball Coach, ½ stipend
Jennifer Rauk, 6th Grade Girls Basketball Coach, ½ stipend
Heather Ims, part-time Assistant 6th Grade Girls Basketball Coach, hourly
Jennifer Rauk, part-time Assistant 6th Grade Girls Basketball Coach, hourly
Tina Docken, one extra class (Algebra), with supervision, from October 22, 2007 through June 5, 2008.
Bob Gregory-Bjorklund, High School Musical Director
Shari Setchell, High School Assistant Musical Director
6. Sarah Moore, Special Ed Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park for 6.75 hours/day, beginning October 25, 2007, Class III, step 1.
7. Huy Bui, long-term substitute Special Ed Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park for 6.75 hours/day from October 25, 2007 through approx. December 19, 2007, Class III, step 1, no benefits.

b. Increase/Decrease in Hours/Change in Assignment for Non-licensed Staff

1. Terry Quint, Educational Assistant, transfer from 6.75 hrs/day at Greenvale Park to 6.5 hrs/day at Bridgewater effective 10/10/07, for 3.0 hours supervisory, 1 hour instructional, 2.5 hours Special Ed.
2. Kristen Basinger, Instructional/Special Ed Educational Assistant, increase Special Ed time from 4.0 to 4.75 hrs/day for a total of 6.75 hours/day, beginning September 21, 2007.
3. Christine Gounaikis, ECFE Educational Assistant, change hours to up to 9 hours/week, effective October 17, 2007.

- c. Leave of Absence
 - 1. Katherine Jacques, FMLA childcare leave, beginning on or about February 20, 2008, and extending for 8 weeks.

- d. Resignations/Terminations
 - 1. Reggie McDonald, 6th Girls Basketball Coach
 - 2. Rich Guggisberg, 8th Girls Basketball Coach
 - 3. John Garvey, 9th Grade Boys Basketball Coach
 - 4. Patrick Schmitz, Housekeeper, resignation effective October 17, 2007
 - 5. Gilbert Ross, Food Service Manager, termination effective October 16, 2007.
 - 6. Tammy Christel, Administrative Support Specialist, resignation effective November 9, 2007.

- e. Increase in Hours for Licensed Staff
 - 1. Cathy Bennetts, Reading/Math Teacher at Sibley, add one hour per day (.8 to .93 FTE) beginning September 4, 2008.

*Lane placement subject to verification by the Professional Growth Committee

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

4. Grant Request.

The Board approved a \$2500 grant request to the Northfield Area Foundation by the Northfield Community Band through Community Services.

VIII. Items for Information

1. School Board Policies.

The Board Policy Review Committee presented the following policies for review and comment. Discussion and final action by the School Board on these policies is scheduled for the November 13, 2007, regular School Board meeting.

Policy 519 - Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies

Policy JHCB - Immunization Requirements to be renumbered to Policy 530

(Parts of Policy 530 that are new are underlined and in bold.)

2. Northfield Healthy Community Initiative.

The Northfield Healthy Community Initiative is applying to the State of Minnesota to be a 501(C)4 nonprofit corporation, based on advice from Eve Borenstein (nonprofit lawyer). It provides individual board members with protections from legal liability.

3. After the Headlines - Current Trends in Alcohol & Drug Abuse: What Communities Need to Know.

Tuesday, October 30 - 7 to 9 PM - Northfield Middle School Auditorium

IX. Future Meetings

Tuesday, November 13, 2007, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting,
Northfield High School Media Center

Monday, November 26, 2007, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting,
Northfield High School Media Center

Monday, December 10, 2007, 7:00 PM Regular School Board Meeting,
Northfield High School Media Center

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