

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
November 13, 2007
Northfield High School Media Center

There was not a quorum present at 7:00 PM, so the Board began hearing Reports.

VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports

1. Site Continuous Improvement Plan Presentations.

Scott Sannes presented Sibley Elementary School's site continuous improvement plan to the Board.

I. Call to Order.

When a quorum was present at 7:45 PM, Chairperson Kari Nelson called the meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District 659 to order. Hager, Hargis and Stratmoen were 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 Smith, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on October 22, 2007, were approved.

V. Announcements and Recognitions.

- The cast and crew of the High School Fall Musical "On the Town" completed 5 sold out shows during the first two weekends of November. The production included a salute to veterans to coincide with Veterans Day. The musical was under the direction of Bob Gregory-Bjorklund.
- Fall athletic teams were very successful, including the Boys Soccer team playing the State quarterfinal game against Blake and the football team competing in the section final against New Prague.
- Northfield Schools is the recipient of a \$40,000 Intervention for College Attendance grant from the MN Office of Higher Education. This grant will be used to continue implementation of the TORCH program at the middle and high schools.
- Superintendent Richardson reported on the improved rating from Moody's.
- Superintendent Richardson reported on the results of the November 6 election. About 67% of districts seeking operating levies were successful.

VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports

1. Site Continuous Improvement Plan Presentations.

Patricia Parlin and Gary Lewis presented the Area Learning Center's site continuous improvement plan to the Board.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. School Board Policies.

On a motion by Berthelsen, seconded by Cirksena, the Board approved the following policies as presented.

Policy 519 - Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies

Policy 530 - Immunization Requirements

2. Greenvale Park Elementary Community Garden Project.

On a motion by Smith, seconded by Cirksena, the Board approved the operation of the Greenvale Park Elementary Community Garden during the summer of 2008.

3. American Education Week Proclamation.

On a motion by Smith, seconded by Cirksena, the Board approved the American Education Week Proclamation as follows:

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 11-17 as the 86th annual observance of American Education Week.

4. Joint Purchasing Agreement.

On a motion by Berthelsen, seconded by Smith, the Board approved the Joint Purchasing Agreement with Independent School District #11 as presented.

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

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

1. Grant Request.

The Board approved two grant requests:

- A grant request to the Northfield Area Foundation for \$5000. This grant would help to fund a Service learning facilitator to coordinate efforts to embed service learning into curricular areas at Northfield High School and provide an umbrella of support to service opportunities for our students in our school and community.
- A \$5000 grant request to the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation for the Early Childhood Home Visiting Program. Additional funds will allow the program to increase service intensity to the most at risk families.

2. Financial Reports - September 2007.

The Board approved paid bills totaling \$5,950,438.50, payroll checks totaling \$1,795,925.08 and the financial reports for September 2007. There were no bond payments made in September 2007.

3. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments**

1. Daniel Rohr, Middle School Targeted Services, 4.75 hours per week (includes prep) Mondays and Thursdays, from November 6, 2007 through May 31, 2008, \$25.93/hour.
2. Jessica Schmitt, Site Assistant at Sibley KidVentures for up to 5.0 hours per day, beginning November 8, 2007, Step 1 - \$10.50/hour, pro-rated benefits.
3. Amy Sutton Kinney, Site Assistant at Greenvale KidVentures for up to 2.75 hours per day, beginning November 8, 2007, step 1 - \$10.50/hour. There are no benefits with this position.

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4. Charmane Olson, Site Assistant at Bridgewater KidVentures for up to 2.75 hours per day, beginning November 8, 2007, step 1- \$10.50/hour. There are no benefits with this position.
 5. Nicole Gill, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA for 6.75 hours/day at the High School, beginning November 12, 2007, Class III, step 1.
 6. Burton Fleming, Independent Study ALC Teacher for 3.5 hours per week, beginning October 22, 2007 through May 31, 2008, \$38.98/hour. There are no benefits with this position.
 7. Jennifer Jenkins, Administrative Support Specialist at Bridgewater Elementary School beginning November 26, 2007, Class IV, step 2, \$15.90/hour.
 8. Co-Curricular Assignments
 - John Knapp, Boys Swim/Dive Assistant Coach
 - Dan Meyers, High School Weight Room Assistant – Winter Season
 - Melissa Larsen, Middle School Talent Show Advisor
 - Chris Lockner, Sophomore Boys Basketball Coach
 - Linnea Johnson, Assistant Math Team Coach
 - Sarah Martens, 8th Grade Girls Basketball Coach
 - Curt Mikkelson, Middle School Weight Room Assistant – Winter Season
 - Curt Mikkelson, Middle School Weight Room Assistant – Spring Season
 - Stephanie Balvin, 9th Grade PT Girls Basketball Coach (Hourly)
 - Chuck Engel, transfer from Sophomore Boys Basketball Coach to 9th Grade Boys Basketball Coach
 - Garrett Remes, Assistant Boys Swimming Coach
 - David Tonolli/Jon Engel, 9th PT Grade Boys Basketball Coach (Hourly)
 - Sharon Wilson, PT Ass't 7th Grade Basketball (Hourly)
 - Ryan Pietsch/Ed Velardi, Assistant Girls Hockey Coach (shared stipend)
 - Blake Wergeland, Alpine Ski Assistant (shared stipend for 10 days)
- b. Increase/Decrease in Hours/Change in Assignment for Non-licensed Staff
1. Mary Huberg, transfer from 8.0 hrs/day ALC/MA Billing Secretary to 7.0 hrs/day Longfellow Secretary effective October 22, 2007.
 2. Jane Streitz, Special Ed Educational Assistant, increase from 5.75 to 6.5 hours per day beginning October 22, 2007.
 3. Amy Pantze, Special Ed Educational Assistant, increase from 3.83 to 4.25 hours per day beginning October 22, 2007.
 4. Kathleen Bussert-Pleschourt, transfer from 7.0 Special Ed Educational Assistant Job Coach to 6.5 Special Ed Educational Assistant at the High School beginning November 12, 2007.
- c. Resignations/Terminations
1. John Garvey, 9th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, resignation.
 2. Jennifer Streefland, 9th Grade Softball Coach, resignation.
 3. Sarah Moore, Greenvale Park Educational Assistant, resignation effective November 16, 2007.
 4. Kenneth Wilson, Head Custodian at Bridgewater School, resignation effective November 23, 2007.
 5. Jacob Hargis, Student Site Assistant, resignation with last day of work to be November 16, 2007.
- d. Buildings and Grounds Adjustments
- The recommendations outlined in a memo from Tom Stringer to Chris Richardson dated November 7, 2007, regarding Custodial Staffing were approved.

e. Leave of Absence

1. Karen Koester, FMLA leave from November 29, 2007 through approximately January 11, 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.

VIII. Items for Information

1. Enrollment Options Report.

The 2007-2008 Enrollment Options Report was given to the Board. The Northfield Public Schools has 250 students attending our schools from other school districts this school year compared to 257 last year. 551 Northfield students are attending school elsewhere, including other public schools (135), charter schools (201) and non-public schools (215). This compares to 527 students last year.

2. Enrollment Report - November 2007.

3. Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences.

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Greenvale Park	95%	98%
Sibley	99%	98%
Bridgewater	98%	100%
Middle School	75%	73%
High School	61%	58%

4. 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 26, 2007, regular School Board meeting.

Policy 515.3 Advanced Grade Placement (renumbering of existing Policy IKEB)

Policy 602 Organization of School Calendar and School Day

Policy 605 Alternative Programs

5. Evaluation Summary of: "After the Headlines - Current Trends in Alcohol & Drug Abuse: What Communities Need to Know"

IX. Future Meetings

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

Tuesday, December 4, 2007, 7:00 PM, Truth in Taxation Hearing, High School Media Center

Monday, December 10, 2007, 6:30 PM, Reception for National Merit Scholars,

Northfield High School Cafeteria

Please note time change: Monday, December 10, 2007, **7:30 PM.** Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

X. On a motion by Berthelsen, seconded by Smith, the Board adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Katy Hargis, Clerk