

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
October 27, 2008
Northfield High School Media Center

- I. Call to Order.
Chairperson Kari Nelson called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District 659 to order at 7:03 pm. 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 13, 2008, were approved.
- V. Announcements and Recognitions
 - Award from MN Community Education Association: Congratulations to Thursday's Table and the Cannon River Sportsmen's Club, who both partner with the Northfield Public Schools Community Services Division. The Cannon River Sportsmen's Club won the Outstanding Organization Award from the MN Community Education Association (MCEA). Thursday's Table was recognized as the MCEA's Project Award Winner.
 - Congratulations to Sibley students and families. Thanks to the efforts of all students and families, \$15,500 was raised at this year's Walk-A-Thon on October 15! Thank you to all the parents and family members who participated and the volunteers who helped the day run smoothly. The vision for a new playground will now become a reality!
 - Connie Nelson was the guest speaker at Bridgewater's Kindergarten and First Grade Thrilling Thursday Breakfast last Thursday morning. Her topic was Launching Readers. She gave parents strategies to use with their emerging learners to get them launched into the wonderful world of words. Her presentation was a tremendous success.
 - Natalie Miller, Northfield HS junior, was asked by the Democratic National Committee to introduce Michelle Obama at a rally the week before last. Natalie offered to volunteer at the local committee office, and her family's story of health and insurance concerns drew the attention of the "higher ups". Natalie spoke briefly about her family's situation, and then introduced Michelle Obama at a rally at Macalester College. We are pleased, regardless of the political views of our students, to see them getting involved in our political world and making a difference!
 - Community Services is pleased to announce that Connected Kids has received an additional three years of funding through a U.S. Department of Justice mentoring grant award. Connected Kids will receive \$130,000 per year for the next three years.
 - This week and through November 6, all buildings will be conducting safety drills, specifically stay put and duck and cover lock down drills. Five of each are required during the school year.
- VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports
 1. School Improvement Plan Report – Sibley Elementary School.
The school/site continuous improvement plan presentations over the next three school board meetings will first focus on describing the 2008-09 school/site improvement goals, the data or evidence that was used to identify those goals, and the specific performance targets that will be used to determine success in reaching the goals. The presentations will also highlight the specific activities and staff development that will be completed during the 2008-09 school year and how progress toward meeting goals will be monitored. Annual progress reports from the 2007-08 school year detailing the progress made on the

school or site improvement goals from last year will also be presented. Principal Scott Sannes presented Sibley Elementary School's continuous improvement plan to the Board.

2. Prairie Creek Community School 2007-2008 Annual Report.
Caroline Jones, Director of Prairie Creek Community School, presented a review of Prairie Creek's sixth year of operation as a charter school under the sponsorship of the Northfield Public Schools and an overview of this current school year.
3. Site Improvement Plan Report. Director of Community Services Hannah Puczko presented the Site Improvement Plan report for Community Services.
4. 2008-09 District Level Improvement Plan.
Because the District has three subgroups who did not make adequate yearly progress for the second year, NCLB and MDE require us to develop and submit a plan that demonstrates our efforts to address the District needs that will help students in these subgroups to achieve proficiency at grade level by 2013-14. The plan was developed and reviewed by administrators, teachers and parents and was reviewed and critiqued by the District Educational Program Advisory Council on Monday, October 20th. Superintendent Richardson presented the plan to the Board.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. Resolution Authorizing an Electronic Procurement Card.
On a motion by Hager, seconded by Hargis, the Board unanimously approved the Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Individual Procurement Cards, as presented. Voting 'yes' was Stratmoen, Smith, Cirksena, Hager, Hargis, Berthelson and Nelson. No one voted 'no.'
2. School Board Policies.
On a motion by Berthelson, seconded by Hager, the Board unanimously approved the following policies:

Policy 708	Transportation of Non-Public School Students
Policy 802	Disposition of Obsolete Equipment and Material
Policy 805	Waste Reduction and Recycling
3. Proposed Student Expulsion.
This item was removed from the items for individual action. The student and family have determined to honor the Withdrawal in Lieu of Expulsion Agreement, which they have signed, and will be attending another school district for the remainder of the 2008-09 school year.

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

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

1. 2008-09 District Level Improvement Plan.
The Board granted the Superintendent the authority to submit the District Improvement Plan to the Southeast Service Cooperative (SSC) and the Minnesota Department of Education prior to November 3, 2008.
2. Grant Request.
The Board approved a grant request in the amount of \$12,225 to the Minnesota State High School League Foundation. If the grant is received, these funds would be used to cover the activity fees for those families who are unable to cover the cost of their student(s) participating in co-curricular activities.

3. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments**

1. Regina Hassanally, long-term substitute Youth Center Site Leader at the Middle School for 15.0 hours per week, school year and summer, beginning October 17, 2008 through August 31, 2009, Step 1 of the wage scale for Site Leaders, subject to revision when negotiations for 2008-09 are completed. There are no benefits with this position.
2. Melanie Nordick, temporary Food Service Associate I for 3.0 hours per day at the Middle School beginning October 29, 2008, ending date to be determined, \$12.65 per hour (entry level). There are no benefits with this position.
3. Jane Jirik, Special Ed Educational Assistant-PCA, for 7.0 hours per day at the High School beginning October 23, 2008, Class III-PCA, step 3.
4. Jann Deim, Special Ed Educational Assistant – Job Coach, for 7.0 hours per day at the High School beginning October 23, 2008, Class III, step 6.
5. Ellis Lysne, long-term substitute Media Generalist at the High School from November 5, 2008 – December 19, 2008, daily rate based on MA30-17.

b. Increase or Decrease in Hours/Change in Position or Building for 2008-09

1. Dawn O'Neill, Art Teacher at Greenvale Park, rescind voluntary reduction to .75 FTE. Ms. O'Neill will return to 0.8 FTE effective August 26, 2008.
2. Hannah Johnson, PLUS Program Site Assistant for 1.5 hours per day, 3 days per week (M, T, Th) at Bridgewater School beginning October 6, 2008 through May 29, 2009, step 1 of the wage scale for Site Assistants and subject to revision when negotiations for 2008-09 are completed. This is in addition to her Special Ed Educational Assistant-PCA position.
3. Bonnie Klamm, PLUS Program Site Assistant for 1.5 hours per day, 2 days per week (T, Th), at Sibley School beginning October 21, 2008 through May 29, 2009, step 4 of the wage scale for Site Assistants and subject to revision when negotiations for 2008-09 are completed. This is in addition to her Special Ed Educational Assistant-PCA position.

c. Leaves of Absence

1. Kevin Dahle, change dates of leave of absence to January 6, 2009 – June 5, 2009.
2. Ruth McCarty, FMLA leave beginning Oct 13, 2008 through October 24, 2008.

d. Resignations/Retirements

1. Allison Bartron, declined the targeted services teacher position at Sibley School.

e. 2008-2010 Employee Agreement: The Board approved the agreement for the time period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2010.

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

4. Dissolution of Cooperative Sponsorship and Re-application.

The Board dissolved the current cooperative sponsorships with Cannon Falls and ARTech for Alpine Ski, and then re-applied for a cooperative agreement for Alpine Ski that includes Randolph School along with Cannon Falls and ARTech. The Board then also dissolved the current cooperative sponsorship with Cannon Falls for gymnastics and then re-applied for a cooperative sponsorship that includes Randolph as well as Cannon Falls. These agreements go into effect this school year and do not change our classification.

VIII. Items for Information

1. Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences.

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Greenvale Park	95%	95%
Sibley	99%	99%
Bridgewater	97%	98%
Middle School	73%	75%
High School	55%	61%

2. Reception for National Merit Scholars.

The date selected for the reception for the National Merit Scholars and their families is Monday, November 24 right before the School Board meeting. As we did last year, we would start the reception at 6:30 PM and then move the start of the Board meeting to 7:30 PM.

IX. Future Meetings

Monday, November 24, 2008, 6:30 PM, Reception for National Merit Scholars,

Northfield High School "upper" cafeteria

Monday, November 24, 2008, **7:30 PM**, Regular School Board Meeting,

Northfield High School Media Center

Tuesday, December 2, 2008, 7:00 PM, Truth in Taxation Hearing,

Northfield High School Media Center

Monday, December 8, 2008, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting,

Northfield High School Media Center

X. On a motion by Cirksena, seconded by Smith, the Board adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Katy Hargis, Clerk