

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
April 27, 2009
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 7:00 pm. Berthelsen was absent.
- II. Agenda Changes.
The table file was added.
- III. Public Comment
There was none.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
On a motion by Maple, seconded by Cirksena, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on April 13, 2009, were unanimously approved.
- V. Announcements and Recognitions
 - The Faculty/Student basketball game, sponsored by the High School Student Council brought in over \$3500 for 3 families in Northfield who have family members struggling with cancer. Advisors for the event were Sam Wold and Patrick Riley.
 - Prom was held on April 18 and was a great event for our High School juniors and seniors. The Prom Grand March admission netted about \$1900 that will be donated to Relay for Life at St. Olaf. Prom Advisor is Ray Coudret.
 - 50 Northfield High School students participated in the annual A Vous la Parole oral French contest held at the University of Minnesota. The contest recognizes excellence in oral French skills. Students are given ratings based on a 4-star system with 4 stars earning them a blue medal, 3 stars earning a red medal and 2 stars earning a white. In the original DVD category, 4 NHS students earned 4 stars and 10 students earned 2 stars. In song, there were 3 students that earned 4 stars and 30 students earned 2 stars. One student earned 4 stars in poetry. Our French teacher, Denise Halvorson, organized this event.
 - The Superintendent reported that the MN Department of Health has distributed a swine flu alert. As of April 27, no cases in MN had been reported.
 - Nelson highlighted the following activities:
 - ✓ Missota Conference music event for honors band and concert choir
 - ✓ High School jazz band's annual swing dance
 - ✓ After prom all-night event. Thank you to volunteers and the community for its support.
 - ✓ Iverson and Nelson attended a talk by Dr. Lloyd Bond, a Consulting Scholar with the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, titled "Erasing the Achievement Gap in Public Education: Is No Child Left Behind the Solution?" This event was hosted by Carleton College.
- VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports
 1. 2009 Legislative Session Update.
Superintendent Richardson compared the education funding proposals from the Governor, Senate and House and discussed the potential impact of each plan on E-12 education in Northfield for the 2009-11 biennium. He also talked about the next steps in the process and what lobbyists are speculating about possible outcomes.
 2. High School Elective Class Offerings.
Superintendent Richardson shared with the School Board initial data about enrollment figures and trends in High School courses as the first step in preparation for an upcoming School Board work

session on providing administrators with parameters or criteria for the determination of courses to be offered. Following the regular school board meeting on May 26th is being explored as a possible date for the work session.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. Resolution for Termination and Non-Renewal of Probationary Licensed Staff.

On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Maple, the Board unanimously adopted the Resolution related to the termination and non-renewal of teaching contracts of the probationary licensed teachers listed below effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year. Voting 'yes' was Maple, Cirksena, Iverson, Quinnell, Stratmoen and Nelson. No one voted 'no.' Berthelsen was absent.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>FTE</u>
Kathleen Lockner	Title I Teacher	.75 FTE
Sarah Kriegler DuChene	Title I Teacher	.5 FTE

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Iverson, the Board unanimously approved the following items listed under the Consent Grouping. Stratmoen noted Denise Griffith's resignation as Director of Technology and Human Resources and thanked her for her numerous accomplishments and years of service to the Northfield School District.

1. Financial Reports – March 2009.

The Board approved paid bills totaling \$1,288,069.18, payroll checks totaling \$1,943,137.09, bond payments of \$4,263.50 and the financial reports for March 2009.

2. Addendum to Facility Use Agreement with Rejoice! Lutheran Church.

The facility use agreement with Rejoice! Lutheran Church was approved on August 11, 2008. The addendum, which the Board approved, specifically relates to additional storage.

3. Bids for Asbestos Removal and Carpet Replacement at Greenvale Park Elementary.

The Board approved seeking bids for work at Greenvale Park this summer. This project will be presented and recommended in the capital outlay budget at the first meeting in May. In order to stay on a project timeline, the administration requested approval to solicit bids at this time. The actual bid results will be presented at a future meeting for a final Board award.

4. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments**

1. Joanne Clites, 0.6 long-term substitute 7th Grade Reading Teacher from April 7, 2009 – June 5, 2009, BA-3.
2. Heather Livesay, Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, beginning with the 2009-10 school year, MA, step 6*, subject to revision when negotiations for 2009-11 are completed.
3. Molly Peterson, Educational Assistant for Production Room at the High School from April 27, 2009 through June 5, 2009, Class I, step 1. There are no benefits with this temporary position.
4. Corrine Oian, School Counselor at the Middle School, beginning with the 2009-10 school year, MA-1, subject to revision when negotiations for 2009-11 are completed.
5. Co-Curricular Assignments
Tim Torstenson, Head Volleyball Coach for 2009-10
6. ReNae Trebelhorn, 0.5 FTE Special Ed Teacher at the High School for the 2009-10 school year. This is in addition to her regular 0.5 Special Ed Teacher position.
7. Heather Ryden, increase from 0.5 to 1.0 TOSA for Curriculum and Staff Development beginning with the 2009-10 school year.

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- b. Leaves of Absence
 - 1. Laurel Engquist, intermittent FMLA leave of absence from December 4, 2008 through June 5, 2009.
 - 2. Jennifer Josephson, FMLA Childcare leave of absence from on or about September 26, 2009 through December 18, 2009.
- c. Retirements/Resignations/Terminations
 - 1. Patricia Maninga, Middle School Food Service, resignation effective April 15, 2009.
 - 2. Denise Griffith, Director of Technology and Human Resources, resignation effective July 1, 2009. Ms. Griffith has been with the District since 2003.
 - 3. Hope Sweet, KidVentures Site Assistant, resignation with last day of work to be June 5, 2009. Ms. Sweet will be a substitute for the Summer Ventures program.
- d. Change of Assignment/Hours
 - 1. Alison Perry, ESL Educational Assistant, increase TORCH grant time 0.5 hour per week beginning April 27, 2009 through June 5, 2009.

*Lane placement subject to verification by Professional Growth Committee.

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

VIII. Items for Information

There were no items for information.

IX. Future Meetings

Monday, May 11, 2009, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

Tuesday, May 26, 2009, 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 8:20 PM.

Diane Cirksena, School Board Clerk