

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
May 26, 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. 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 Quinnell, seconded by Cirksena, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on May 11, 2009, were unanimously approved.
- V. Announcements and Recognitions
 - The May issue of *Minnesota Educator* showcased “Caught in the Storm”, an award-winning book written by Northfield 8th graders who participated in the Student Community Outreach Program Experience (SCOPE) coordinated by Middle School Social Studies Teacher Earl Weinmann. “Caught in the Storm” will be used as a textbook for 5th grade gifted and talented students at Cornilia Elementary School in Edina. This same Edina teacher will then be devising curriculum around the book and give it to the Northfield Historical Society in case other teachers want to use it.
 - About 100 employees turned out for the District’s first annual 5K run/walk event on Saturday, May 16. All employees were invited to participate in this timed, non-competitive event to share their love of walking and running.
 - Congratulations to the girls golf team. They became Missota Conference Champions at their conference meet on Monday, May 18. Their head coach is Brian Stevens.
 - Congratulations to all of the Senior Athletes honored at the Maroon and Gold Reception on May 18th. Special congratulations to all of the MVP Award Winners, State Award recipients and to Alex Jenkins, Kasey Wellman, Derrick Jacobs, and Cole Jirik who were chosen for the Outstanding Athlete Awards. Congratulations to Chelsea Trebelhorn who was named the winner of the Ozzie Simonich Scholarship Award, and to Gymnastics Coach, Melissa Cummins, who was named the KYMN Coach of the Year.
 - Kudos to Kevin Larson, Mary Magnuson and Dan Burns for the coordination of the Wednesday evening Funtimes group, made up of special education students and regular education peer volunteers. They participated in the second annual Raider Pride Cleanup Day after school, picking up trash on the windiest day of the year and building a cement block retaining wall at the Rock House to form a flower bed.
 - 8th Grade Awards took place on Thursday, May 21 -- 116 8th grade students received either the President's Academic Award or the Middle School Academic Excellence Award. An additional 50+ students were recognized for other academic achievements.
 - Other events that were highlighted by Board members:
 - ✓ The High School Band played at the community Memorial Day celebration.
 - ✓ Orchestra concert was held.
 - ✓ Sibley’s construction open house was attended by about a dozen people.

VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports

1. Service Learning.

Sarah Swan McDonald, the District's Service Learning Coordinator, provided background information about service learning and then introduced representatives (students and staff) from each building who spoke about their service learning experience this last school year.

2. District Educational Program Advisory Committee (DEPAC) Goals for 2009-10.

The chair of the District Educational Program Advisory Council (DEPAC), Judy Boehme, presented the recommended goals that were developed by this committee of citizens and staff members over the last several months. The DEPAC supports the Continuous Improvement Process by providing the Board of Education with recommended goals in curriculum and staff development, assessment of student achievement, and student support services, which are then addressed, where appropriate, in building and program improvement plans. The goals are as follows:

Assessment:

- Data tools will be systematically integrated into teaching strategies and practices to support student achievement. Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and site assessment champions will be key support elements.

Curriculum and Staff Development:

- During the 2009-2010 school year, the District will:
 - Monitor the implementation of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and provide training/resources/support for staff.
 - Communicate the effectiveness of PLCs with staff, School Board and community.
- By the 2010-2011 school year, Professional Learning Communities will be fully implemented such that:
 - PLC teams will address student needs through the use of data, formative assessments and research-based teaching strategies.
 - Each building will have in place systematic interventions that support students and teachers.

Student Support Services:

- The District will support systems change that facilitates teachers' collaborative work to identify students' academic and behavioral needs, establish a continuum of instructional options that addresses identified needs and utilize continuous progress monitoring to guide instruction.
- The District will strengthen school connectedness between students, families and staff, promoting mutual respect and responsibility to enhance emotional and social development.

3. Proposed 2009-2010 Food Service Budget.

Pam Haupt presented the proposed 2009-10 Food Service budget. Included in her presentation were comments on food and milk increases, farm to school initiative, Nutrikids menu analysis software, and offering some new menu entrees and ala carte options next year. It is anticipated that a 10 cent increase in meal prices will be needed next year for lunch only. The District has not increased prices since 2007-08. No action was required.

4. Proposed 2009-2010 General Fund Budget.

Tom Stringer reviewed the details of the proposed 2009-10 General Fund budget. Included in the materials were notes that summarized revenue and expenditure changes. Although legislation is not yet signed and finalized, the administration believes that appropriate estimates for state funding are incorporated in the budget. Federal stimulus funds are included and are one-time revenues for 2009-10. No action was required.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. Proposal to Add Special Education Administrative Support Using Special Education Funding.

On a motion by Berthelsen, seconded by Iverson, the Board unanimously approved the proposal to add Special Education administrative support using Special Education funding.

2. Resolution Providing for the Application for Qualified School Construction Bonds (QSCB) for Sibley Elementary School Construction Project.

On a motion by Cirksena, seconded by Maple, the Board unanimously adopted the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 659 authorize the administration to pursue lease purchase financing for deferred maintenance, addition and renovation work to Sibley Elementary School and to submit an application for an allocation of Qualified School Construction Bonds in the amount of approximately \$1,980,000. Voting 'yes' was Berthelsen, Maple, Cirksena, Iverson, Quinnell, Stratmoen and Nelson. No one voted 'no.'

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

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

1. Gift Agreement.

The Brent Setterstrom family has donated \$5000 to be used towards the implementation of the Pure Performance Program. This program is aimed to inform and teach student athletes, coaches, and parents about the debilitating effects of alcohol and other drugs on the body. Brent, a 1995 graduate of Northfield High School, died on December 27 due to acute liver failure at the age of 31.

2. Grant Application.

The Board approved a \$48,000 grant application to the University of Minnesota Confucius Institute submitted by Community Services, in cooperation with Professor of Chinese at Carleton College Gao Hong. If received, this grant would support several projects, including six optional school residencies and four community classes.

3. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments**

1. Kayla Sather, Food Service Associate I at the High School for 3.0 hours per day, beginning May 12, 2009, at entry level hourly rate for FSA I. There are no benefits with this position.
2. Lynn Stauffer, Food Service Associate II at the Middle School for 6.0 hours per day, beginning with the 2009-10 school year, entry level hourly rate for FSA II.
3. Lori Holm, 0.5 Special Education Teacher at the ALC beginning with the 2009-10 school year and 0.5 long-term substitute Special Ed Teacher at the High School for the 2009-10 school year, BA45-6 subject to revision when negotiations for 2009-10 are completed.
4. Anthony Seidl, Grade 3 Compañeros Teacher at Greenvale Park, beginning with the 2009-10 school year, MA-0, subject to revision when negotiations for 2009-10 are completed.
5. Amy Gleason, Grade 4 Compañeros Teacher at Greenvale Park beginning with the 2009-10 school year, BA-0, subject to revision when negotiations for 2009-10 are completed.
6. Sarah Kriegler DuChene, 0.5 long-term substitute Grade 4 Teacher at Bridgewater for the 2009-10 school year, BA-3, subject to revision when negotiations for 2009-10 are completed.
7. Roberto Garcia, Jr., Grade 5 Compañeros Teacher at Greenvale Park beginning with the 2009-10 school year, BA-3*.
8. Allison Bartron, Long-Term Substitute Grade 1 Teacher at Sibley for the 2009-10 school year, BA-0*.

9. Rebecca Gainey, .5 Long-Term Substitute Grade 5 Teacher at Sibley for the 2009-10 school year, MA-10*, subject to revision when negotiations for the 2009-10 are completed. This is in addition to her .5 Reading Specialist position.
 10. Darren Lofquist, Kindergarten Plus Teacher at Sibley beginning with the 2009-10 school year, BA-1*.
 11. Mary Czech, Accounting Specialist, Payroll Business Office, beginning 5/26/09, Class IV Step 5 of the 2008-09 wage scale for Office Employees.
 12. Co-Curricular Assignments for 2008-09
 - Shelia Sumner, ESL Ed Assistant for TORCH grant, after school hours 2008-09, stipend \$2,000.
 - Jennifer Lompart, Parent Liaison for TORCH grant 2008-09, stipend \$2,000.
 - Joan Lizaola, Parent Liaison for TORCH grant 2008-09, stipend \$1,000.
 13. Co-Curricular Assignments for 2009-10
 - Jennifer Rauk, Part-time Assistant Cross Country Coach
 14. 2009 Summer Assignment/Hours for KidVentures, EarlyVentures, SummerVentures Programs
 - Michael Berger, KidVentures, increase from 2.5 to 8.0 hours per day, 6/8/09-9/3/09.
 - Vanessa Grave, KidVentures, increase from 5.0 to 8.0 hours per day, 6/8/09-9/3/09.
 - Dana Jans, KidVentures, increase from 5.5 to 8.0 hours per day, 6/8/09-9/3/09.
 - Angie Maas, KidVentures, increase from 5.5 to 8.0 hours per day, 6/8/09-9/3/09.
 - Charmane Olson, KidVentures, increase from 2.5 to 6.0 hours per day, 6/8/09-9/3/09.
 - Nikki Thompson, Transfer from KidVentures Site Assistant to Summer Site Instructor, 7 hours per day, 6/8/09-8/28/09.
 - Zach Vanek, KidVentures, increase from 3.0 to 7.0 hours per day, 6/8/09-9/3/09.
 - Brianne Clark, transfer from EarlyVentures Site Assistant to Summer Site Instructor, 7 hours per day, 6/8/09-8/28/09.
 - Ashley Evans, increase from 3.0 to 6.5 per day and transfer from EarlyVentures to SummerVentures, 6/8/09-9/3/09.
 - Debbie Foley, EarlyVentures, decrease from 15.0 to 11.5 hours per week, effective 6/8/09.
 - Ryan St. John, Summer Site Assistant for 6.5 hours per day beginning 6/8/09-8/28/09.
 - Laura Hughitt, Summer Site Instructor for 7.0 hours per day beginning 6/8/09-8/28/09.
 - Daniel Sanderson, Summer Site Assistant for 5.0 hours per day beginning 6/8/09-8/28/09.
 - Emily Hanson, Summer Site Assistant for 5.0 hours per day beginning 6/8/09-8/28/09.
 - Summer assignments remain the same as school year for Tami Brings, Anna Kelly, Kathleen Schmidt, Amy Sherwood, Elizabeth Stahly, Katie Valek, Tammie Warner.
 15. Amy Haslett-Marroquin, 2nd/3rd Grade Compañeros Teacher at Bridgewater for the 2009-10 school year, MA-6.
 16. Kathleen Lockner, .5 Grade 2 Teacher at Bridgewater, MA-7, subject to revision when negotiations for the 2009-10 are completed.
 17. Sarita Rabe, Long-Term Substitute Teacher at Greenvale Park, for the 2009-10 school year, BA-3.
- b. Change in Building Locations for 2009-10
1. Nancy Fox, transfer from Greenvale Park to Grade 4 Teacher at Sibley.
 2. Paula Seeberg, transfer from Greenvale Park to Grade 2 Teacher at Sibley.
- c. Retirements/Resignations
1. Greta Berdahl, KidVentures, resignation effective 6/5/09.
 2. Hope Sweet, KidVentures, resignation effective 6/5/09. Ms. Sweet will sub this summer.
 3. Jessie Donahue, EarlyVentures, resignation effective 5/28/09. Ms. Donahue will sub this summer.
 4. Andrew Dimick, Special Education Educational Assistant, resignation effective June 5, 2009.
 5. Marcy Goss, Special Ed Educational Assistant-PCA at Middle School, resignation effective 6/5/09. Ms. Goss will continue working as a substitute.

6. Kate Andresen, ESL Teacher at Bridgewater Elementary, resignation effective 6/5/09.
- d. Advancement of Licensed Staff to Tenure Status 2009-10
Candace Hard, Gretchen Heil, Lori Holm, Debra James, Sarah Martens, Michelle Morales, Kari Prestemon, Leah Sand, Darcy Seuer

Advancement of Licensed Staff to Third Year Probationary Status
Sarah DuChene, Stephanie Grundman, Jacie Haroldson, Ryan Pietsch, Renee Rasmussen, Patrick Riley, Katherine Seifert, Abby Swanson

Advancement of Licensed Staff to Second Year Probationary Status
Ruben Alvarez, Jr., Kate Andresen, Paula Baragary, Allison Bartron, Matthew Drugg, Elizabeth Foster, Amy Gleason, Jill Heasley, Kasha Kluczny, Ashley Northrup, Corrine Oian, Heather Olivier, Jamie Rausch, Kaci Rendahl, John Sand, Anthony Seidl, Melissa Spitzack, Lisa Weis, Rebecca Young
- e. Voluntary Reduction in Contract Time
 1. Dawn O'Neill, voluntary reduction in contract time from 0.8 to 0.7 FTE beginning with the 2009-10 school year.

*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

1. Contingency Fund Allocation.

Superintendent Richardson presented the current status of contingency fund expenditures. Currently 1.4 FTE staff from the contingency fund has been allocated. 1.0 FTE will be used to address a single section of 41 students in a 4th grade Contemporary classroom at Bridgewater creating two classes of 20 and 21. Contingency funds have also been used to support small class sizes in Chinese and German at the High School for the 2009-10 school year.

2. Review of Sibley Construction Project:

Planning Commission: Tuesday, June 9, 7:00 PM, Council Chambers, City Hall

City Council Meeting: Monday, July 6, 7:00 PM, Council Chambers, City Hall

3. July 2009-June 2010 School Board Meeting Schedule.

IX. Future Meetings

Wednesday, May 27, 2009, 4:00 PM, Negotiations with the NEA, District Office Conference Room

Monday, June 8, 2009, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

Monday, July 13, 2009, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

X. On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Quinnell, the Board adjourned at 9:05 PM.

A work session on high school class scheduling followed.

Diane Cirksena, School Board Clerk