

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
September 28, 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 Iverson, seconded by Maple, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on September 14, 2009, were unanimously approved. On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Quinnell, the minutes of the Special School Board meeting held on September 22, 2009, were unanimously approved.

V. Announcements and Recognitions

- Nelson thanked Director of Business Affairs Tom Stringer for filling in for Superintendent Richardson this evening. Dr. Richardson is attending the fall conference of the MN Association of School Administrator (MASA) in Duluth.
- Nelson noted that Food Service Coordinator Pam Haupt will be speaking at Just Food on October 7 from 5 to 6 PM. Her topic – “From Farm to School.”

VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports

1. Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) Progress Report.

This presentation to the School Board began a series of monthly informational reports on the implementation of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) in the Northfield Public Schools. Amy Moeller and Heather Ryden provided information about the timeline, procedures and meeting templates that have been provided to each PLC team. They also talked about the extensive work done with PLCs to develop an understanding of SMART goals and how they are used to reflect identified student needs and guide changes in instruction that will increase student success. In addition, they shared the strategies for internal communication about PLC work as well as ongoing communications with parents and the Northfield community about this important effort.

The Board then heard a presentation from High School Teacher Jody Saxton West about some of her initial efforts in her PLC. Similar presentations from other buildings will be given to the Board on a monthly basis throughout this school year. The purpose of these sessions will be to showcase the efforts of teachers implementing PLCs and the positive impact of their work on students.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. Resolution Filling School Board Vacancy By Appointment.

Maple moved and Berthelsen seconded the appointment of Julie Pritchard to the School Board beginning October 12, 2009 through December 31, 2010. The following Resolution was approved on a 5 to 1 vote. Voting ‘yes’ was Berthelsen, Maple, Iverson, Stratmoen and Nelson. Voting ‘no’ was Quinnell.

RESOLUTION FILLING
SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY BY APPOINTMENT

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the office of school board member with a term expiring the first Monday in January, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the vacancy has occurred before the first day to file affidavits of candidacy for the next school district general election in November, 2010 and more than two years remain in the unexpired term; and

WHEREAS, Julie Pritchard meets the qualifications established by Minnesota law to serve as a school board member;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 659, State of Minnesota, as follows:

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 123B.09, Subd. 5, Julie Pritchard is hereby appointed to fill the vacancy until a special election can be held in conjunction with the school district general election in November, 2010, and a successor is elected and qualifies to complete the term expiring the first Monday in January, 2013.

2. 2009 Payable 2010 Proposed Certified Tax Levy.

On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Berthelsen, the Board unanimously approved certifying to County Auditor / Treasurer a 2009 payable 2010 tax levy in the amount of \$14,637,543.02.

3. Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction and Student Achievement.

On a motion by Iverson, seconded by Maple, the Board unanimously approved the 2008-2009 Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction and Student Achievement. The report will be published on the front page of the District website at www.nfld.k12.mn.us by October 15, 2009.

4. Resolution Providing For The Sale Of General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2009A; And Covenanting And Obligating The District To Be Bound By And To Use The Provisions Of Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55 To Guarantee The Payment Of The Principal And Interest On These Bonds.

On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Berthelsen, the Board unanimously approved the Resolution Authorizing the Approval of the Sale General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds; Covenanting and Obligating the District to be Bound By and to Use the Provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55 to Guarantee the Payment of the Principal and Interest on the Bonds. Voting 'yes' was Berthelsen, Maple, Iverson, Quinnell, Stratmoen and Nelson. No one voted 'no.'

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

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

1. Student Activity Accounts - Football and Dance Team.

The Board approved Activities Director Tom Graupmann's requests to transfer up to \$750 from the Football Team Student Activity Account into a payroll account to pay for an additional coach to work with participants and up to \$580 from the Dance Team student activity account to pay for Dana Holden and Liz Rohach to run dance team clinics this past summer.

2. Gift Agreements.

The Board accepted the following gifts, with thanks:

- Greg Carlson has donated \$2300 for the purchase and installation of a drinking fountain at the Northfield High School tennis courts.
- The Sibley PTO has donated \$969.69 to pay the cost of the consultant, who assisted in the installation of the playground at Sibley Elementary School.

3. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments**

1. Kelly Stanton-Nutt, 0.45 FTE Elementary Art Teacher at Bridgewater Elementary, beginning September 23, 2009, MA15-1.
2. Katherine Woodstrup, 0.3 FTE Elementary Art Teacher at Bridgewater Elementary, beginning September 21, BA-0.
3. Kim Cecil, Sibley Office Specialist, beginning September 24, 2009, Class III, step 1 of the Office Employees Agreement.
4. Rose Ann Rossow, Food Service Associate I at Middle School, effective August 25, 2009 for 3 hrs./day. There are no insurance benefits with this position.
5. Melanie Schmidt, Early Childhood Teacher, 14 hrs./week, beginning October 5, 2009, \$21.59/hour. There are no insurance benefits with this position.
6. Co-Curricular Assignment:
 - a) Michael Schlottman, Assistant Boy's Baseball Coach, beginning with the 2009-10 school year, Level F, (step 1), according to the NEA Agreement.
7. Joseph Jorgensen, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at the Middle School, 5.25 hrs./day, beginning 10/2/09 for the 2009-10 school year, Class III, step 1.
8. Marna Phinney, Grade 2 Long-Term Substitute Teacher at Sibley Elementary, from 11/2/09 through 6/11/10, MA-7.

b. Leave of Absence

1. Christine Neset, FMLA, beginning 11/16/09 through 11/27/09.

c. TRA Part-Time Teacher Program

The Board authorized participation of Amy Moeller in the TRA Part-Time Teacher Program, whereby the teacher who qualifies can personally purchase TRA service credit at no cost to the Northfield School District.

d. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment

1. Lisa Bethke, transfer from District Office Receptionist/Maintenance Administrative Assistant to Business Office Accounting Generalist, effective September 16, 2009.
2. Susan Nelson, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Longfellow, from 16.25 hrs/week to 31.5 hrs/week, effective September 8, 2009.
3. Amber Iwanski, Educational Assistant on Unrequested Leave, to Special Ed Educational Assistant at the High School for 6.5 hrs./day, effective September 16, 2009.
4. Susan Wunderlich, Special Ed Educational Assistant at the High School, to Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at the High School, 7 hrs./day, effective September 23, 2009.
5. Michelle Tranberg, Special Ed Educational Assistant at the High School, from 4.5 hrs./day to 6.75 hrs./day, effective September 8, 2009.
6. Caroline O'Hara, Educational Assistant on Unrequested Leave, to Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Bridgewater Elementary for 6.5 hrs./day, from September 21, 2009 through June 11, 2010.
7. Jenny Lamont, Special Education Teacher, up to 1-1/2 additional hours/day, 2 days/week, as Homebound Instructor, for the 2009-10 school year.
8. Ann Dybvik, Speech/Language Teacher, up to 1-1/2 additional hours/day, 2 days/week, as Homebound Instructor, for the 2009-10 school year.
9. Sarah Yantzer, Early Childhood Teacher, change in hours from 37 hrs./week to 40 hrs./week, effective 9/1/08.

e. Purchase of Services. The Board approved entering into a Purchase of Services Agreement with the Cannon River STEM Charter School for limited school psychological assessment services.

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*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, October 12, 2009, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

Monday, October 26, 2009, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

Quinnell congratulated Julie Pritchard on her appointment to the Board followed by applause by everyone present.

X. On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Maple, the Board adjourned at 8:43 PM.

Ellen Iverson, School Board Clerk