

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
February 8, 2010
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 Stratmoen, seconded by Quinnell, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on January 25, 2010, were unanimously approved.

V. Announcements and Recognitions

- The District has received a \$14,000 Learn and Serve America Grant from the MN Department of Education. This grant will be used to implement service learning on a broader scale throughout the District.
- The Music listening team finished first at the state music listening competition. The team is comprised of seniors Sonja Wermager, Hannah France and Nick Benson. Their coach is Karen Madson.
- The Science Olympiad Team, coached by Susan Singer, won the Southeast Region meet on Saturday. They now advance to the State Science Olympiad meet.
- Pam Haupt, the District's Food Service Director will be one of three panelists discussing youth and nutrition at Carleton College on Thursday, February 11.
- On January 26th High School Senior Morgan Zabel was named the Kare11 athlete of the week.
- Congratulations to Northfield High School senior, Beret Amundson. Beret was chosen the Triple A (Academics, Arts, Athletics) winner for Region IAA. She now represents Northfield High School and our Region at the State Level.
- Liesl Schultz will be going to the state meet for Alpine Skiing later this week.

VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports

1. Compañeros Proposal Report.

Director of Student Services Gary Lewis and Curriculum/Staff Development Coordinator Heather Ryden presented the proposal for the future of Compañeros. The Board will be asked to vote on the implementation of the plan on March 8, 2010.

The following was presented:

- The final recommendation for the Compañeros Program.
- A chart that describes in detail the implementation process, training, materials and staffing necessary to put this plan into action.
- Information on how we will support our highest needs English Language Learners.
- Information on how this proposal will support balancing building enrollment and elementary scheduling issues.

2. School Messenger Demonstration.

Matt Hillmann, Director of Human Resources and Technology, provided a demonstration of the new school messenger system, which was activated for a test message from the system on Tuesday, February 9th. This system works in concert with the Family Access software to provide parents alerts

via phone, cell phone, e-mail or text message. A phased implementation of the system is planned. The system will be used for the remainder of the year for emergency situations, like weather-related closings, late starts and early releases. In addition, the system will continue to be used to alert families about low lunch balances. In time, the use of the system may be expanded to provide other important school information.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. 2009-2010 Revised Budgets.

On a motion by Berthelsen, seconded by Maple, the Board unanimously approved the revised 2009-2010 general fund budget as presented.

2. Resolution Requiring the Administration to Make Recommendations Regarding Programming and Staffing for Next Year.

On a motion by Iverson, seconded by Stratmoen, the Board unanimously approved the resolution authorizing the administration to make recommendations regarding programming and staffing for next year. Voting 'yes' was Berthelsen, Maple, Iverson, Pritchard, Quinnell, Stratmoen and Nelson. No one voted 'no.'

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

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

1. Gift Agreements.

- A TeachWell Work Station valued at \$895 has been donated to Northfield Middle School by Ergotron. A TeachWell Work Station consolidates a laptop or tablet PC, keyboard and mouse, DVD player and more on to one, stable platform. It is a podium, a desk and an AV cart all in one.
- Sibley Elementary Schools has received two gifts from the Northfield Area Foundation. (1) A \$500 gift to start an audio books library, and (2) A \$1895 gift for a Youth Frontiers Kindness Assembly to be held in the fall of 2010.

2. Lease Agreement.

The Board approved a three-year contract with Gleason Real Estate for the ground shop and furniture storage building located in Dundas with no increase for the entire lease. Approximately 80% of the cost is paid through the lease levy provision and 20% from the operating capital fund. This has the impact of stabilizing property taxes and capital expense.

3. Overnight Field Trip Request.

The Board approved the sixth grade Amistades Team's request to attend a Spanish immersion program at "The Forest" near Stillwater April 27-28, 2010. It is part of Concordia Language Villages. This trip will provide students with an opportunity to be immersed in the language and culture of a Spanish-speaking country.

4. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments**

1. Jackie Hillstrom, Middle School Track Assistant, Level I (step 1).
2. Co-Curricular assignments for February (as presented).
3. Marilyn Frey, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at the Middle School, 6.25 hrs./day, beginning 2/8/10 through 6/11/10, Class III, step 1, \$13.26/hr.
4. Jeanne Duke, Site Assistant at Greenvale Park, 8 hrs./week, beginning 2/8/10 through 4/29/10, Step 1, \$11.03/hr.

- b. Leave of Absence
 1. Jenny Lamont, Special Education Teacher, FMLA leave from 1/25/10 through 2/22/10.
 2. Mary Momberg, Special Education Teacher, FMLA leave beginning 11/6/09 for up to 228 hrs.

- c. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment
 1. Theresa Brake, .75 hrs./day Homework Help, from 1/26/10 through 6/11/10, \$11.91/hr.
 2. Sandra Reiman, .75 hrs./day Homework Help, from 1/26/10 through 6/11/10, \$11.32/hr.
 3. Tracy Closson, District Auxiliary Custodian, transfer to Temporary District Grounds Coordinator, from 1/18/10 through 3/5/10, \$23.41/hr.
 4. Tom Malecha, Substitute On-Call Custodian, transfer to District Temporary Auxiliary Custodian, from 1/18/10 through 3/5/10, Step 2, \$14.17/hr.
 5. Lisa Battaglia, one additional class Special Education at the High School for second semester only, beginning 2/1/10 through 6/14/10, no supervision.
 6. Deb Reynolds, .6 to .7 FTE Science Teacher at the High School for second semester only, beginning 2/1/10 through 6/14/10.
 7. Mark Ensrud, one additional class English at the High School for second semester only, beginning 2/1/10 through 6/14/10, no supervision.
 8. Jill Ertl, one additional class Social Studies/English at the High School for second semester only, beginning 2/1/10 through 6/14/10, no supervision.
 9. Shari Bridley, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, decrease in hours from 34 hrs./week to 33.5 hrs./week, effective 1/25/10.
 10. Alexis Bloch, Site Assistant at Bridgewater, 4 hrs./week, from 2/8/10 through 4/29/10, \$7.93/hr.
 11. Felipe Velazquez, PLUS Site Leader at Greenvale Park, increase from 6.25 hrs./week to 10 hrs./week, effective 2/8/10 through 4/29/10, \$14.03/hr.

*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. Enrollment Report – February 2010.

2. 2010 – 2011 School Year Calendar.

The Meet and Confer Calendar Committee met on Wednesday, February 3rd with representatives from the Northfield Education Association, District administration and the School Board. Consensus was reached around a calendar that was presented to the Board. The calendar maintains 174 student contact days, plans for an after Labor Day start (statutory), has a full two week Winter Break as well as a week long Spring Break, and provides for the completion of the school year for students by the end of first full week in June. It is anticipated that staff development using professional learning communities (PLCs) on a weekly basis during regular school hours throughout the school year will be continued in the 2010-2011 school year although adjustments in the day, time and transportation may be modified based on feedback gathered in March. The Board will be asked to vote on the calendar at its February 22nd meeting.

3. Overview of Community Services Programs.

A summary of Community Services programs was provided as an informational item for the School Board. It is intended to give basic information about the variety of programs and services provided through the Community Services Division.

School Board Minutes

February 8, 2010

Page Four

IX. Future Meetings

Monday, February 11, 2010, 7:00 PM, Finance Advisory Committee, District Office Conference Room

Monday, February 22, 2010, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

Monday, March 8, 2010, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

X. On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Maple, the Board adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Ellen Iverson, School Board Clerk