

# NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting  
August 9, 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. Berthelsen was absent.

II. Agenda Changes.

The table file was added.

III. Public Comment

- Cindy Varley, representing Making Waves Swim School, wishes that the “Y” would have been present 20 years ago when people were asking for a variety of services. She and others came forward and filled the void that existed at that time. She feels that different entities offering their specialty is better than one entity offering everything. The swim school generates revenue for the Senior Center. If there isn’t “enough business to go around” and their swim school is impacted, it could also affect the Senior Center.
- Therese Smiens, owner of Northfield Athletic Club, is concerned about the “Y” being given ‘free property’ from the school district and not paying taxes. She views the “Y” as being in direct competition with the athletic club because it mirrors its program. The Northfield Athletic Club pays \$30,000 to \$40,000 in taxes each year, which potentially could be lost if it goes out of business.
- Tristan Cox co-owns and operates Snap Fitness. He encouraged the Board to consider the demographics of Northfield, which has a growing senior population. Is the Northfield community able to support all of the fitness businesses in town in addition to the excellent facilities that the two colleges have for its staff? He is also concerned about the proposed location of the “Y” on school district property. He isn’t convinced that there is a clear and present need by the high school for the “Ys” facilities. He feels that the disadvantages outweigh the advantages of the “Y” co-locating on the high school campus.

IV. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Maple, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on July 12, 2010, were unanimously approved.

V. Announcements and Recognitions

- A reminder that filing for School Board began last Tuesday and continues through Tuesday, August 17. Affidavits for candidacy are available in the District Office and the filing fee is \$2. The general election will be held on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and at that election, 3 people will be elected to the School Board for a term of four years each and one person will be elected to the School Board for a term of two years. Candidates will need to declare which position they are filing for – the four year term or the two-year term.
- The first annual Northfield Public Schools Tech Boot Camp was held July 25 through July 30. More than 90 individuals attended at least one session during the week. Thank you to Matt Hillmann, Director of Technology, and the entire technology team for their extra efforts in making sure software was installed, tested and ready for the sessions.
- Thirteen Northfield High School students participated in All-State Camps this summer (Orchestra, Band and Vocal Music).
- The Board will have an opportunity to tour the capital projects that have been completed this summer on Monday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> prior to the Board meeting. Meet at the main entrance to Greenvale Park at 5:30.

VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports

1. State of the District – Celebrations and Challenges.

Superintendent Richardson presented an overview of the programs and activities completed during the 2009-10 school year as well as looked ahead to the challenges that the District faces in 2010-11.

2. MCA-II Test Results.

Superintendent Richardson provided the Board with an overview and specific details concerning the MCA-II test results from Spring 2010. The presentation included information concerning the status and sanctions facing the District and individual buildings while highlighting the significant efforts and progress being made by our teachers and administrators in helping all subgroups to achieve at higher levels.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. Group Health and Dental Renewals for September 1, 2010.

On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Iverson, the Board unanimously approved the new rates for Health and Dental Insurances for one year and Life and LTD Insurances for three years.

**Health Insurance:**

The following costs will be in place beginning September 1, 2010:

**\$1,000/3,000 CMM(Comprehensive Major Medical) Plan**

Single: \$ 537.50 per month

Family: \$1,456.50 per month

**\$500/1,000 CMM Plan – DROP PLAN**

**\$1,500/3,000 CMM with Health Reimbursement Account (HRA)**

Single: \$ 534.00 per month

Family: \$1,445.00 per month

**Dental Insurance:**

A plan modification was made to increase the maximum cap from \$1,300 to \$1,500 for dental and from \$750 to \$1,000 for Orthodontics lifetime maximum due to the excess rate of fund balance growth.

Single: \$38.07 per month

Family: \$112.21 per month

(Included in the rates are admin. fees of \$6.35 per employee per month.)

**Life and Long Term Disability Insurance:**

Life Insurance: US Able (BCBS)

Rates Basic: \$0.11 per thousand per month (Previous rate \$0.14)

Accidental Death & Dismemberment: \$0.02 per thousand per month

Long Term Disability Insurance: Prudential

Rate: \$0.238 per hundred per year (Previous rate \$0.439)

2. Resolution Relating to the Election of School Board Members and Calling the School Board General Election.

On a motion by Iverson, seconded by Maple, the Board unanimously adopted the Resolution Relating to the Election of School Board Members and Calling the School Board General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 2, 2010. Voting 'yes' was Maple, Iverson, Pritchard, Quinnell, Stratmoen and Nelson. No one voted 'no.' Berthelsen was absent.

This resolution is the Board authorization necessary to formally establish this year's election process. The adoption of this resolution meets the requirements necessary to comply with the election process. Ballots for the School Board election will be included in the general election ballots prepared by the County Auditors. The official canvass of the election results will be scheduled as an agenda item for the November 8, 2010 Board meeting.

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

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

1. Northfield Swim Club Agreement for 2010-2011.  
The Board approved the Agreement with the Northfield Swim Club for the time period September 13, 2010 – June 10, 2011.
  
2. Personnel Items.
  - a. Appointments\*
    1. Correction: Karen Albrecht, Special Education Teacher at High School/ALC, beginning 8/30/10, BA60-2. (*not BA-0. Additional information provided.*)
    2. Stephen Meierbachtol, .6 FTE Math at Middle School, beginning 8/31/10 through 6/13/11, MA60-14.
    3. Stephanie Mahal, .7 FTE Occupational Therapist at Sibley/Greenvale Park, beginning 8/30/10 through 6/13/11, MA-1.
    4. Bonnie Pape, .3 FTE Occupational Therapist at Bridgewater Elementary, beginning 8/30/10 through 6/13/11, BA-9.
    5. Jane Dolan, 1.0 LTS English Teacher at the High School, beginning 8/30/10 through 1/28/11, BA60-0.
    6. Charlie Black, .4 FTE Science Teacher at the High School, beginning 8/31/10 through 6/13/11, MA60-14.
    7. Mary Schmitt, .7 FTE High School Social Studies Teacher/.3 Long-Term Substitute Social Studies Teacher, beginning 8/30/10 through 6/13/11, BA-0.
    8. Angela Volkert, Middle School Girls Soccer Coach, beginning with the 2010-11 school year, Level H, step 1.
    9. Ryan Driscoll, Assistant Boys/Girls Cross Country Coach, Level G, step 1.
    10. Dan Riesgraf, Assistant Volleyball Coach JV, Level E, step 6.
    11. Darcy Seuer, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball Coach, Level H, step 2.
    12. Heather Suess, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball coach, Level H, step 1.
  
  - b. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment
    1. Tracy Closson, Temporary District Grounds Coordinator, transfer to District Grounds Coordinator, beginning 7/19/10.
    2. Amanda Heinritz, 1.0 FTE FACS Teacher at High School, transfer to .5 FTE FACS/.5 FTE Media Specialist, beginning 8/31/10 through 6/13/11.
    3. Sheila Atkinson, 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, increase .25 hrs./day Supervisory Educational Assistant, beginning 9/1/10.
    4. Mary Boyum, 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Greenvale, transfer to Sibley and increase .25 hrs./day Supervisory Educational Assistant, beginning 9/1/10.
    5. Sharon Hup, 6.75 hrs./day, 2 days/week Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Greenvale, transfer to Sibley and increase to 4.75 hrs./day, 5 days/week Special Ed Educational Assistant, beginning 9/1/10.
    6. Karen Jensen, 5.0 hrs./day Media/2.5 hrs./day Supervisory, increase Media to 5.5 hrs./day and decrease Supervisory to 1.75 hrs./day, beginning 9/1/10.
    7. Bonnie Johnson, 6.5 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA/.25 hrs./day Supervisory, increase to 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA/.25 hrs./day Supervisory, beginning 9/1/10.
    8. Jane Johnson, 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA/.25 hrs./day Supervisory, increase to 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA/.5 hrs./day Supervisory, beginning 9/1/10.
    9. Dolores Larsen, 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Greenvale Park, transfer to Sibley 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA and add .25 hrs./day Supervisory, beginning 9/1/10.
    10. Susan Leidner, 4.05 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Greenvale Park, transfer to Sibley and increase to 4.75 hrs/day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, beginning 9/1/10.

11. Angie Maas, 2.0 hrs./day Supervisory Educational Assistant, position eliminated for 2010-11 school year due to increase in Specialist time at Sibley.
12. Teresa Morris, 4.0 hrs./day Instructional Educational Assistant, increase to 4 hrs./day Instructional EA and .75 hrs./day Supervisory Educational Assistant, beginning 9/1/10.
13. Martha Waddell, 7.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, decrease to 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA and .50 hrs./day Supervisory, beginning 9/1/10.
14. Linda Wasner, 5.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Longfellow, transfer to Sibley and increase to 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA and .25 hrs./day Supervisory Educational Assistant, beginning 9/1/10.
15. Sheila Winegardner, .25 hrs./day Supervisory/6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, increase to .50 hrs./day Supervisory/6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, beginning 9/1/10.
16. Lori Witt Macrae, 4.5 hrs./day Supervisory/3.0 hrs./day Instructional Educational Assistant, transfer to .75 hrs./day Supervisory/6.5 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant, beginning 9/1/10.
17. Janet Amundson, 7.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, decrease to 6.75 hrs./day, beginning 9/1/10.
18. Carol Beumer, 7.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, decrease to 6.5 hrs./day, beginning 9/1/10.
19. Elizabeth Brewer, 7.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant, decrease to 6.5 hrs./day, beginning 9/1/10.
20. Deb Budin, 7.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant, decrease to 6.5 hrs./day, beginning 9/1/10.
21. Kathy Bussert-Pleschourt, 7 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant, decrease to 6.75 hrs./day, beginning 9/1/10.
22. Troy Deden, 7.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, decrease to 6.75 hrs./day, beginning 9/1/10.
23. Jann Deim, 7.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant, decrease to 6.5 hrs./day, beginning 9/1/10.
24. Jean Fossum, 7.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, decrease to 6.75 hrs./day, beginning 9/1/10.
25. Sherri Goehring, 7.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, decrease to 6.75 hrs./day, beginning 9/1/10.
26. Laura Goodwin, 7.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, decrease to 6.75 hrs./day, beginning 9/1/10.
27. Amber Iwanski, 7.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant, decrease to 6.5 hrs./day, beginning 9/1/10.
28. Starr Kahl, 7.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant, decrease to 6.5 hrs./day, beginning 9/1/10.
29. Richelle Kruger, 7.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, decrease to 6.75 hrs./day, beginning 9/1/10.
30. Mandy McWilliams, 2 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant/4 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, transfer to 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, beginning 9/1/10.
31. Jackie Meyer, 6.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, increase to 6.75 hrs./day, beginning 9/1/10.
32. Brenda Starin, 4 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant, increase to 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, beginning 9/1/10.
33. Susan Wunderlich, 7.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, decrease to 6.75 hrs./day, effective 9/1/10.
34. Kristin Basinger, Summer PLUS Site Lead, additional 3 hrs./day, August 3, 17 & 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

35. Brenda Canning, Summer PLUS Site Lead, additional 3 hrs./day, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010.
36. Margaret Colangelo, Summer PLUS Site Lead, additional 3 hrs./day, August 10 & 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010.
37. Alexis Bloch, Elliott Courchaine, Kaley Huettl, Kourtney Huettl, Kami Kirchberg, Matt Knutson, Dee Tomczik, Erika Velasquez, Summer PLUS Site Assistants, additional 3 hrs./day, August 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010.
38. Sarah Van Den Akker, ESL Teacher at MS/HS, transfer to 1.0 FTE ESL Teacher at the Middle School, beginning 8/30/10 through 6/30/11.
39. Kate Woodstrup, .75 FTE Art Teacher at Bridgewater Elementary, increase .20 FTE Art Teacher at the High School, beginning 8/31/10.
40. Amanda Schrader, 2010 Bridges to Kindergarten Program ELL Teacher, August 1-27, 2010, 14 hrs./week, hourly rate based on NEA Agreement.
41. Laurie Noonan, 6 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant/.5 hrs./day Supervisory Educational Assistant, increase to 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant, beginning 9/1/10.
42. Kristin Basinger, 5.25 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant/1.25 hrs./day Supervisory Educational Assistant, increase to 5.5 hrs./day Special Ed EA/1.25 hrs./day Supervisory EA, beginning 9/1/10.
43. Terri Quint, 4.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant/2 hrs./day Supervisory Educational Assistant, increase to 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant, beginning 9/1/10.
44. Erica Hubers, 6.5 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant, increase to 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant, beginning 9/1/10.
45. Rose Brison, 3.75 hrs./day Child Nutrition Associate I, transfer to 5.75 hrs./day Child Nutrition Associate II at the High School, beginning 8/23/10.
46. Teresa Petek, Instructional Educational Assistant, decrease from 6.85 hrs./day to 6.75 hrs./day at the Middle School, beginning 9/1/10.
47. Ruth Morgan Malecha, .5 hrs./day Supervisory / 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Greenvale Park, transfer to 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at the Middle School, beginning 9/1/10.
48. Alison Perry, 6.75 hrs./day Instructional Educational Assistant, transfer to 4.5 hrs./day Instructional Educational Assistant / 2.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant at the Middle School, beginning 9/1/10.
49. Nhung Bui, 6.5 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, increase to 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at the Middle School, beginning 9/1/10.
50. Clarita Kell, 5.0 hrs./day Instructional Educational Assistant, increase to 5.75 hrs./day Instructional Educational Assistant at the Middle School, beginning 9/1/10.
51. Sandra Miller, 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, transfer to 6.75 hrs./day Instructional Educational Assistant at the Middle School, beginning 9/1/10.
52. Debra Kropf-Mastin, 6.5 hrs./day Supervisory/Instructional/Special Ed Educational Assistant, transfer to 1.5 hrs./day Supervisory / 5.5 hrs./day Instructional / .5 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, beginning 9/1/10.
53. Brenda Ohaks, 6.62 hrs./day Educational Assistant, increase to 2.0 hrs./day Supervisory / 5.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, beginning 9/1/10.
54. Amy Pantze, 6.5 hrs./day Supervisory/Instructional/Special Ed/Special Ed PCA, transfer to 1.5 hrs./day Supervisory / 5.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, beginning 9/1/10.
55. Vicky Shimota, 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant, transfer to 2.25 hrs./day Supervisory / 4.5 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, beginning 9/1/10.
56. Jane Streitz, 6.25 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant, transfer to .5 hrs./day Supervisory / 5.75 Special Ed Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, beginning 9/1/10.

57. Linda Wilson, 7.0 hrs./day Educational Assistant, transfer to 2.0 hrs./day Instructional / 2.75 hrs./day Supervisory / 2.5 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, beginning 9/1/10.
- c. Leaves of Absence
  1. Anne Morrissey, FMLA childcare leave of absence, beginning on or about November 18, 2010 for twelve weeks.
  2. Dan Kust, FMLA leave of absence for twelve weeks and unpaid Parental Leave of Absence for the remainder of the 2010-11 school year.
  3. Julie Biwer-Bekhechi, .1 FTE unpaid Leave of Absence for the 2010-11 school year.
- d. Change in Building Locations for 2010-11
  1. Linda Carey, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Middle School, transfer to Sibley, beginning 9/1/10.
  2. Julia Johnson, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Greenvale Park, transfer to Sibley, beginning 9/1/10.
- e. Retirements/Resignations
  1. Zach Vanek, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, resignation effective 8/1/10.
  2. Amy Sherwood, Early Ventures Site Assistant, resignation effective 8/13/10.
- f. The Board approved the following:
  - Policy Covering Wages, Working Conditions and Fringe Benefits of Building Head Custodians for the period extending July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012.
  - Personnel Policies and Practices for Non-Union Administrators (Cabinet) for the period extending July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012.
  - Personnel Policies and Practices for Confidential Employees for the period extending July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012.
- g. Advancement of Licensed Staff to Tenure Status 2010-11 - Sarah Duchene

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

VIII. Items for Information

There were no items.

IX. Future Meetings

Monday, August 23, 2010, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

Monday, September 13, 2010, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

X. Adjournment.

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

Ellen Iverson, School Board Clerk