

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
August 23, 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. Stratmoen was absent.

II. Agenda Changes.

The table file was added.

III. Public Comment

- Katy Hargis, speaking in support of the YMCA, clarified for the Board Carleton College's policy regarding the use of its Recreation Center by the community. The Recreation Center is primarily for use by students at Carleton College.
- Director of the Northfield Senior Center Lynne Pederson spoke about the successful partnership the Senior Center has formed with the YMCA. The proximity of a Y facility to the high school would be advantageous for the Senior Center, so that seniors could use the walking track and gym space, which do not exist in the Senior Center.
- An incoming ninth grader at Northfield High School cited 3 reasons why it would be good for the YMCA to be located on the High School Campus: (1) Students could use the facilities after school, (2) The "Y" would provide convenient employment opportunities for students, (3) The "Y" would be a good place for students to hang out.

IV. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Iverson, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on August 9, 2010, were unanimously approved.

V. Announcements and Recognitions

- Fall Sports have begun with over 520 participants. John Sand, Melissa Bernhard, and Scott Richardson gave an outstanding presentation on August 17th at the Fall Sports Parent and Student meeting to over 1,000 parents and athletes. Their presentation focused on the continued implementation of the Pure Performance (Life of an Athlete) Program. The funding for this program is a collaboration between HCI, the Mayor's Youth Task Force on Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco, and the Brent Setterstrom Memorial Fund.
- The filing period for school board has closed. Individuals who filed for the three four-year term vacancies include Kari Nelson, Mike Berthelsen, Julie Pritchard, Greg Schultz and John Fossum. Noel Stratmoen is the only person who filed for the 2-year term, which will complete Diane Cirksena's term at the end of 2012.
- Preceding the Board meeting, Board members toured the capital projects that have been completed this summer.
- Superintendent Richardson provided an overview of Northfield High School's ACT test scores.

VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports

1. Northfield High School NCA Accreditation Report and Follow-up Plan.

Northfield High School, as part of the AdvancEd national school accreditation process, underwent a full year review of its programs, which included a visit from a national review team whose job it was to review the information compiled by the school staff and evaluate the school's work across seven national standards. The high school was accredited after the review, and the report from the review team will be the springboard for at least part of the high school's improvement plan and staff development activities over the next two years. High School Teacher Ellen Mucha and Principal Joel Leer shared some of the details of what was involved in the yearlong review preparation, as well as some of the findings from the national review team's report.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

There were no items.

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

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

1. Gymnastics Club Lease.

The Board approved leasing space at the Gymnastics Club for the High School gymnastics team. The District has done this since 1994. This is an increase of \$300.00, the first since 2004-05. Funding is provided by the lease levy.

2. Schools for Energy Efficiency (SEE).

The Board extended the contract with Schools for Energy Efficiency for one additional year for a cost of \$30,000.

3. Minnesota State Academies Contract.

The Board approved a contract for 36 hours of Vision Services from the Minnesota State Academies in Faribault.

4. Professional Services Contract.

The Board approved a Professional Services Contract with Jason Hallen. This is a 12-month contract beginning August 1, 2010 through July 30, 2011 to execute the TORCH grant received by the District from the Department of Higher Education and Great Lakes Higher Education Guarantor.

5. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments*

1. Sharon Johnson, 5.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Longfellow, beginning September 1, 2010 through June 10, 2011, Class III, step 3.
2. Peggy Sheehy, 10.5 hrs./week, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Longfellow, beginning September 1, 2010 through June 10, 2011, Class III, step 2.
3. Lucinda Laabs, Northfield Booster Club Concessions Manager for the 2010-11 school year, at a salary of \$1,550.00. (*This position will be paid by the Northfield Booster Club.*)
4. Co-Curricular Assignments:
 - a. Rosaline Cashman, Assistant Volleyball Coach B, beginning August 16, 2010, Level E, step 1.
 - b. Jaclyn McKay, PT Assistant Middle School Soccer Coach, beginning August 16, 2010, \$14.00/hour.
 - c. Steve Taggart, 7th Grade Football Coach, beginning September 8, 2010, \$14.00/hour.
 - d. Christopher Howard, 1.0 FTE Spanish Teacher at the Middle School, .2 FTE overload for the 2010-11 school year, no supervision.
 - e. Jody Saxton West, 1.0 FTE Science Teacher at the High School, .2 FTE overload for the first semester 2010-11 school year, no supervision.
 - f. Co-Curricular Fall Assignments –list dated September.
5. Cheryl Barnes, Long Term Substitute Grade 6 Teacher, beginning 8/30/10 through 6/13/11, BA60-7.
6. Jaclyn McKay, .25 FTE Language Arts Teacher at ALC, beginning 8/30/10 through 6/13/11, BA-1.

7. Kelly Stanton-Nutt, .25 Long-Term Substitute Art Teacher at ALC, beginning 8/30/10 through 6/13/11, MA15-1.
 8. Cheryl Swanson, Child Nutrition Associate I, 3.75 hrs./day at the High School, beginning 8/23/10, \$13.55/hour.
 9. Kelly Foster, Instructional Educational Assistant, 1.5 hrs./day at the ALC, beginning 9/1/10 through 6/13/11, Class II, step 1, \$12.85/hr.
 10. Christian Leyva Nieves, Assistant Boys Soccer Coach (9th Grade), Level F, step 1.
- b. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment
1. Alyssa Jilek, Instructional/Special Ed Educational Assistant, increase from 7.0 hrs./day to 8.0 hrs./day, beginning September 1, 2010.
 2. Laurie Noonan, .5 hrs./day Supervisory/6.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant, increase to .5 hrs./day Supervisory/6.5 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant at Bridgewater, beginning September 1, 2010.
 3. Kristin Basinger, Supervisory/Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, transfer to 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Bridgewater, beginning September 1, 2010.
 4. Erica Hubers, 6.5 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, decrease to 1.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA/5.0 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant at Bridgewater, beginning September 1, 2010.
 5. Dee Tomczik, 3.0 hrs./day Supervisory/4.0 hrs./day Instructional Educational Assistant, transfer to 2.0 hrs./day Supervisory/5.0 hrs./day Instructional Educational Assistant at Bridgewater, beginning September 1, 2010.
 6. Lee Murray, 3.5 hrs./day Supervisory/4.0 hrs./day Instructional Educational Assistant, transfer to .5 hrs./day Supervisory/7.0 hrs./day Instructional Educational Assistant at Bridgewater, beginning September 1, 2010.
 7. Allyson Bernstorff, 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, transfer to 6.5 hrs./day Special Ed PCA/.25 hrs./day Supervisory Educational Assistant at Bridgewater, beginning September 1, 2010.
 8. Jessica Grisim, .25 hrs./day Supervisory/6.5 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, transfer to 6.5 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Bridgewater, beginning September 1, 2010.
 9. Jackie Moon, 6.75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, decrease to 6.5 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at the Middle School, beginning September 1, 2010.
 10. Karen Bublitz, 30 hrs./week ECFE Educational Assistant, decrease to 25 hrs./week ECFE Educational Assistant, beginning 8/30/2010.
 11. Charlie Black, .4 FTE Science Teacher at the High School, decrease to .3 FTE Science Teacher, beginning 8/31/10 through 6/13/11.
 12. Bradley Skapyak, transfer from Temporary Custodian to Substitute Custodian, beginning 8/4/10, \$11.45/hr.
 13. Tom Malecha, transfer from High School Custodian to Auxiliary Custodian, beginning 8/12/10, \$14.17/hr.
- c. Retirements/Resignations
1. Bridget Blatzheim, declined the .45 FTE Art Instructor at High School/ALC position, effective immediately.
- d. The following was approved:
- Personnel Policies and Practices for Community Services and Other Coordinators for the period extending July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012.

- Personnel Policies and Practices for Coordinator of District Grounds, Coordinator of District Maintenance and District Electrician for the period extending July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012.

e. Leave of Absence

1. Mick Hamilton, requesting FMLA Childcare Leave of Absence from 1/3/11 through 3/23/11, and unpaid Parental Leave of Absence for the remainder of the 2010-11 school year.

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

VIII. Items for Information

1. Workshop Schedule.

The schedule for the pre-school workshops for staff to be held on August 31, September 1 and 2 was given to the Board. Board members are invited to attend the back-to-school employee picnic from 11:45 to 12:45 on Wednesday, September 1 in the Northfield High School cafeteria.

2. Prairie Partners of Cannon Valley has applied for a \$900 grant from the Northfield Garden Club in order to continue the restoration of Greenvale Loan Oak Nature Area. If the grant is received, one of the projects would be to create an outdoor classroom consisting of benches that would provide a classroom space among the flora of the nature area.

IX. Future Meetings

Monday, September 13, 2010, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center
Monday, September 27, 2010, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

X. Adjournment.

On a motion by Berthelsen, seconded by Iverson, the Board adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Ellen Iverson, School Board Clerk