

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
March 14, 2011
Northfield High School Media Center

- I. Call to Order.
Board Chair Kari Nelson called the regular meeting of the Northfield Board of Education to order at 7:00 PM. No one was absent.
- II. Agenda Changes.
The table file was added.
- III. Public Comment.
The following community members asked the Board to not eliminate the elementary orchestra program, which has been identified as a potential budget reduction for 2011-2012: Charles Gray, Deonne Gray, Wendy Russell and Joy Riggs.
- IV. Approval of Minutes.
On a motion by Fossum, seconded by Quinnell, the minutes of the February 28, 2011, Regular School Board meeting were unanimously approved.
- V. Announcements and Recognitions.
 - Science Olympiad had a great day at State and ended up in sixth place among 32 schools in Minnesota. The coach for Science Olympiad is Susan Rundell Singer.
 - Sibley Elementary School will hold its annual Beyond Words event Thursday, April 7th. Beyond Words is a school-wide celebration of arts and literacy. The event will run from 5:00-7:30 p.m. The event is organized by Becky Gainey and Karna Hauck.
 - The middle school's History Day program has grown by leaps and bounds the past 3 years as a sterling example of student enrichment and acceleration. This year 80 students participated in the History Day regional competition in Mankato and 17 students qualified for the State History Day Competition on May 1st. We are very proud of their accomplishments!
 - Maple praised this year's Rock 'n Roll Revival production.
 - Pritchard called the "Circus of the States" at Greenvale Park on February 24th an "amazing performance" that was a major effort of the entire Greenvale Park staff.
- VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports
 1. Southeast Service Cooperative Report.
Suzanne Riley, Executive Director of the Southeast Service Cooperative, and Bill Colopoulos, Health and Benefits Consultant for the Cooperative, presented to the Board the services provided by the Cooperative and the Northfield School District's current level of participation. The School District's membership fee for the 2010-2011 school year is \$2575.
 2. Prairie Creek Community School Evaluation Report.
The School District's sponsorship contract with Prairie Creek Community School expires on June 30, 2011. As a condition for contract renewal, Prairie Creek Community School was required to hire an independent team of evaluators and report the results of this team's evaluation to the Northfield Board of Education prior to any action that would extend the sponsorship. Rob Hardy, a member of the Evaluation Team, presented the findings of the evaluation and, based on these findings, recommended on behalf of the team that the Northfield School District sponsorship contract with Prairie Creek Community School be renewed for a five-year period beginning July 1, 2011, and continuing to June 30, 2016. Superintendent Richardson doesn't anticipate any problems with the District's review or the review by MDE, but it will mean that the actual vote to approve renewal will be done in May or June.
 3. Program and Budget Recommendations for General Fund for FY 2011.
Superintendent Richardson presented the following for the Board's consideration:

- Program-Based Budget Teams 4% Reduction Proposals – The proposed 4% base package reductions proposed by each of the 5 budget teams as well the cost saving measures proposed by Community Services and Child Nutrition.
- Final Rank Order of 2011-12 Budget Restoration Packages Proposed by District Budget Review Committee – The review and rank ordering of the restoration packages completed by the 55 members of the District Budget Review Committee at its meeting on March 2, 2011.
- Messages to the Board – The messages to the Board from the District Budget Review Committee. They are summarized based on whether or not they received a majority vote from the entire Committee to send the message forward to the Board. The messages presented from each of the 7 tables of 8 members each was also provided, so that the Board can reflect on the original statements made at each table and the number of tables where a similar message was articulated.
- 2011-12 Budget Reductions – Superintendent’s Recommendation to the Board – A review of the core beliefs used in developing the recommendation. It then provides recommended restorations reflecting the District Budget Review Committee’s priorities. Finally, it includes other restorations that the Superintendent recommends that the Board consider and the rationale for requesting that consideration.
- Summary of Budget Reductions with all Recommended Restorations – This document provides a listing of the budget reductions that are being proposed if all the recommended restorations are approved by the Board of Education on April 11, 2011.

Nelson thanked the people who served on the various Committees. She also thanked College City Beverage for providing the space for the District Budget Review Committee to meet.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Individual Procurement Cards.

On a motion by Iverson, seconded by Maple, the Board unanimously adopted the Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Individual Procurement Cards. Voting ‘yes’ were Fossum, Maple, Iverson, Pritchard, Quinnell, Stratmoen and Nelson. No one voted ‘no.’

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. Financial Reports – October, November and December 2010.

The Board approved the following:

- Paid bills totaling \$1,064,409.84, payroll checks totaling \$2,635,048.03, bond payments totaling \$402.50 and the financial reports for October 2010.
- Paid bills totaling \$758,191.68, payroll checks totaling \$2,614,078.02 and the financial reports for November 2010. No bond payments were made in November 2010.
- Paid bills totaling \$1,003,869.82, payroll checks totaling \$2,639,687.26 and the financial reports for December 2010. No bond payments were made in December 2010.

2. Grant Applications.

The Board approved the following grant applications submitted by Community Services.

For School Readiness:

- A \$5000 grant from WINGS to support services for children qualifying for School Readiness services during the school year.
- A \$14,500 grant from the Northfield Area United Way to support a three-week program – Bridges to Kindergarten – at each school site with three teachers per site, supplies for the classrooms and weekly parent events.

For PLUS (summer 2011 and 2011-2012 school year)

- A \$32,000 grant from the Northfield Area United Way to provide summer and school year programming to approximately 275 Northfield children and youth in grades K-8 who would not have access to other summer and school year academic and enrichment opportunities. These children are referred by schools to PLUS for summer and school year academic and enrichment programming.

3. Dissolution of Cooperative Sponsorship.
The Board approved dissolving the current cooperative sponsorship with ARTEch in Girls Swimming and Diving. If ARTEch students wish to participate, the District will form a non-exclusive cooperative agreement with ARTEch. By doing so, Northfield High School does not take on the entire enrollment of ARTEch, which would push NHS into the competitive class with the largest high schools in the state.
4. Personnel Items.
 - a. Appointments*
 1. Jill Mischke, Supervisory/Instructional Educational Assistant at the NCRC, 4 hours/week, 1-2 days per week, beginning 3/7/11, Class I, step 1, \$12.59/hour and Class II, step 1, \$12.85/hour.
 2. Janette Stromley, Homebound Instructor, 4.5 hours/week, beginning 3/3/11 through 6/10/11, MA-14.
 3. Diane Wiese, Special Education Instructor at Sibley, 2 hours/day, beginning 3/3/11 through 6/10/11, MA-6.
 4. Paul Stanaway, Middle School Track Coach, Level H, step 1.
 5. Co-Curricular Assignments for March. (see attached)
 6. Lynn Broberg, Middle School Assistant Track Coach, Level I, Step 1.
 7. Bubba Sullivan, Short-term Sub, Boys Golf, Level D, step 1.
 8. Rebekah Patterson, .50 FTE READ 180 Teacher at Bridgewater, beginning 3/9/11 through 6/13/11, BA-0
 9. Rolf Tollefson, Supervisory Educational Assistant for 6 hours/week at Bridgewater, beginning 3/9/11 through 6/10/11, Class I, Step 1, \$12.59/hour.
 10. Sarah Dimick, 7.91 hrs/day special education EA PCA at Sibley beginning 3/21/11 through 6/10/11.
 - b. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment
 1. Kasha Kluczny, 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher at Bridgewater, changing to .50 FTE at Bridgewater and .50 FTE at Sibley effective 3/14/11.
 2. Deb Seitz, .50 FTE Special Ed Teacher at Bridgewater and .50 FTE Special Ed Teacher at Sibley, changing to 1.0 FTE at Bridgewater.
 3. Karen Albrecht, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 4. Lisa Battaglia, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 5. Lynn Broberg, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 6. Daniel Burns, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 7. Cliff Casteel, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 8. Diane Frederick, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 9. Candace Hard, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 10. Kristen Johnson, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 11. Victoria Langer, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 12. Kathy Lean, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 13. Mary Magnuson, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 14. John Mahal, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 15. Patricia Pfeiffer, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 16. Heather Pudas, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 17. Bill Seeberg, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 18. Debra Seitz, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 19. Renae Trebelhorn, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 20. Amanda Wendorff, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 21. Lisa Weis, .10 FTE special education overload for 1st semester.
 22. Erica Hubers, 6.0 hrs/day special education EA PCA, increase to 6.5 hrs/day special education EA PCA beginning 3/1/11 through 6/10/11.
 23. Beth Boland, 4.0 hrs/day special education EA PCA, increase to 6.5 hrs/day special education EA PCA beginning 1/31/11 through 6/10/11.
 24. Kathleen Malecha, 3.5 hrs/day special education EA PCA, increase to 4.25 hrs/day special education EA PCA, beginning 1/24/11 through 6/10/11.

25. Shari Bridley, 6.3 hrs/day special education EA PCA at Longfellow, transfer to Sibley for 6.5 hrs/day special education EA PCA + .50 hrs/day special education EA PCA bus duty, total of 7.0 hrs/day, beginning 3/14/11 through 6/10/11.
- c. Leaves of Absence
 1. Emelyn Osborn, leave of absence beginning 4/5/11 through 6/10/11.
 2. Katie Parks, FMLA leave of absence for 12 weeks beginning with the 2011-12 school year and childcare leave of absence for the remainder of the 2011-12 school year.
 3. Jennifer Josephson, FMLA leave of absence for 12 weeks beginning with the 2011-12 school year and childcare leave of absence for the remainder of the 2011-12 school year.
 4. Jill Heasley, FMLA leave of absence for 12 weeks beginning with the 2011-12 school year and childcare leave of absence for the remainder of the 2011-12 school year.
 5. Lindsay Wright, unpaid leave of absence from 3/1/2011 through on or about 5/6/11 (childcare leave from on or about 5/6/11 through 6/10/11 approved by school board on January 10, 2011).
 6. Angela Ekern, .50 FTE leave of absence without pay for the 2011-12 school year.
 7. Mark Ensrud, .20 FTE leave of absence for the first semester of the 2011-12 school year.
 8. Anne Erickson, 1.0 FTE leave of absence for the 2011-12 school year.
 9. Rebecca Glassing, .50 FTE leave of absence for the 2011-12 school year.
 10. Mick Hamilton, 1.0 FTE leave of absence for the 2011-12 school year.
 11. Dwight Jilek, 1.0 FTE unpaid leave of absence for the 2011-12 and 2012-13 school years.
 12. Kelly Johnson, .5 FTE leave of absence for the 2011-12 school year.
 13. Anne Elizabeth McLaughlin, 1.0 FTE leave of absence for the 2011-12 school year.
 14. Katherine Norrie, .20 FTE leave of absence for the 2011-12 school year.
 15. Brian Stevens, voluntary reduction to .80 FTE for the 2011-12 school year.
 16. Greg Sumner, .20 FTE leave of absence for the 2011-12 school year.
 17. Amanda Tracy, .20 FTE leave of absence for the 2011-12 school year.
 18. Kelli Vogel, .50 FTE leave of absence for the 2011-12 school year.
 - d. Returns from Leave of Absence for 2011-12
 1. Julie Biwer-Bekhechi, return to .4 FTE beginning with the 2011-12 school year.
 2. Dan Kust, return to 1.0 FTE beginning with the 2011-12 school year.
 - e. Job Share Arrangement for 2011-12
 1. Continue job share arrangement for Gail Kohl (.75 FTE) and Connie Nelson (.25 FTE) for the 2011-12 school year.
 - f. Resignations
 1. Allison Meidt, resignation from 1.0 FTE Elementary teaching position, effective June 13, 2011.
 2. Sarah Dimick, resignation from Homework Zone Site Assistant position effective March 9, 2011 (Sarah has accepted a full-time educational assistant position at Sibley).
 3. Nicole Thompson, resignation from Early Ventures/Kid Venture site assistant positions effective 3/18/11.
 4. Marilyn Frey, resignation from Special Education EA PCA position at Sibley Kid Ventures, effective 3/21/11. She will continue her EA position at the Middle School.
- *Conditional offers of employment are subject to successful completion of a criminal background check.

VIII. Items for Information

1. Enrollment Reports – March 2011.

IX. Future Meetings

Wednesday, March 16, 2011, 7:00 PM, Public Hearing, Northfield High School Auditorium
Monday, April 11, 2011, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center
Monday, April 25, 2011, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

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

Noel Stratmoen
School Board Clerk