

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

School Board Minutes

January 9, 2012

Northfield High School Media Center

- I. Call to Order.
Board Chair Ellen Iverson called the regular meeting of the Northfield Board of Education to order at 7:10 PM. No one was absent.
- II. Agenda Changes / Table File
The table file was added.
- III. Public Comment
There was none.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Pritchard, minutes of the December 12, 2011, Regular School Board meeting were unanimously approved.
- V. Announcements and Recognitions
 - Northfield High School Junior Elia Read has been elected as the 2013 Minnesota Statewide Youth Governor! He will preside over next year's Youth in Government program. Elia's campaign video was produced by Chen Ye, also a NHS Junior. This year Northfield High School sent 73 students (up from 42 last year and 29 in 2010). There are about 22 awards given in each program area (house, senate, lobbyists, media areas, court of appeals, trial courts, supreme court, etc) and Northfield students received seven of these awards. A special thank you to teachers Mark Thornton, Brian Stevens and Kevin Dahle as well as Erica Staab (Hope Center Executive Director) and Linda Thornton for chaperoning this year.
 - Nelson attended the TORCH celebration last week and noted that while Minnesota may lead the nation in having the widest achievement gap that is not the case in Northfield largely because of the TORCH program. She congratulated the TORCH program leaders and students and said there are opportunities for community members to volunteer. Contact the high school or middle school for more information.
- VI. Item for Discussion and / or Reports
 1. School Improvement Plan Reports – Greenvale Park Elementary School.
The last school continuous improvement plan report was presented by Principal of Greenvale Park Elementary School Dave Craft.
 2. Amistades Report.
Curriculum and Staff Development Coordinators Amy Moeller and Heather Ryden and Middle School Principal Jeff Pesta reviewed the work done to prepare the 6th grade Amistades Program for the smooth transition from the new elementary Compañeros Program to the non-immersion setting for secondary Spanish instruction. The report shared the challenges addressed and the plan that will be in place for 6th grade Amistades students beginning in the 2012-13 school year.
- VII. Superintendent's Report
 - A. Items for Individual Action
 1. School / Site Improvement Plans.
On a motion by Maple, seconded by Nelson, the Board unanimously approved the seven site improvement plans submitted by building or program staffs for the 2011-12 school year.
 2. Resolution Supporting January as National Mentoring Month.
On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Stratmoen, the Board unanimously approved the Resolution Supporting January as National Mentoring Month. Voting 'yes' was Fossum, Maple, Nelson, Pritchard, Quinnell, Stratmoen and Iverson. 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. Grant Applications to the MN State High School League Foundation.

- The Northfield Public Schools is a member of the Missota Conference. The Missota Conference is requesting a \$3,242 funding grant from the MN State High School League Foundation to support the MSHSL student leadership initiative, a one-day conference focusing on team building, goal setting, diversity awareness, motivation, confidence building, decision-making, communication and leadership. The school board approved this grant application.
- Northfield High School is requesting a \$5,000 grant from the MSHSL Foundation to be used as core funding for the RALIE program.

2. Gift Agreement.

Lightspeed Technologies has donated 2 – 820 Amplification Systems to Northfield Middle School totaling \$2362.00.

3. Contract for Translation Services.

The Board approved a Contract with Mar Valdecantos for translation services. Ms. Valdecantos' contract is for six months beginning January 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2012 and in the amount of \$3000.

4. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments*

1. Brenda Kragseth, 3.75 hrs./day (.5 Supervisory/3.25 Instructional) Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, beginning 12/19/11, Class I, step 1, \$12.59/hr.; Class II, step 1, \$12.85/hr.
2. Deborah Wagner, 3.75 hrs./day (1.0 Supervisory/2.25 Instructional/.5 Special Ed PCA) Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park, beginning 1/3/12, Class I, step 3, \$13.27/hr.; Class II, step 3, \$13.53/hr.; Class III, step 3, \$13.94/hr
3. Shiloh Deitz, Early Ventures Site Assistant for 3.25 hrs./day at Longfellow, beginning 1/3/12, Step 1, \$11.03/hr.
4. Anita Corwin, Early Ventures Site Assistant for 3 hrs./day at Longfellow, beginning 1/3/12, Step 3, \$11.61/hr.
5. Brienne Mayer, 6.5 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Bridgewater, beginning 1/3/12 through 6/1/12, Class III, step 1, \$13.26/hr.
6. Michelle Cole, Rice County Family Services Collaborative Assistant Coordinator, 25 hrs./week, 52 weeks/year, beginning 12/29/11, \$23.00/hr. (*This position is authorized and funded by the Collaborative.*)
7. Tyler Faust, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Bridgewater Elementary, 3 hours/day beginning 1/5/12 through 6/1/12, Class III, step 1, \$13.26/hr.
8. Carolyn Hanrahan, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Sibley Elementary, 5.5 hours/day beginning 1/5/12 through 6/1/12, Class III, step 1, \$13.26/hr.
9. Renee Robertson, 9th Grade PT Assistant Softball Coach, beginning 3/12/12 through 5/25/12, \$14.00/hr.
10. Eric Sandberg, Assistant Girls Softball Coach, beginning 3/12/12 through 6/8/12, Level F, step 1.
11. Elisabeth Granquist, Assistant Speech Coach, beginning 1/3/12 through 4/21/12, \$12.00/hr.
12. Amy Klein, Assistant Speech Coach, beginning 1/3/12 through 4/21/12, \$12.00/hr.
13. Adam Neuger, 7th & 8th Grade Basketball Coach, beginning 1/3/12 through 2/23/12, \$10.00/hr.
14. Community Services Instructors for Winter/Spring 2012.
15. Co-Curricular assignments for January.
16. Lindsay Nelsen, Sibley Office Specialist, 8 hrs./day beginning 1/23/12, Class III, step 3, \$16.65/hour.
17. Adam Danielson, Head Boys Golf Coach at the High School, Level D, step 1.

- b. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment
 - 1. Angie Frawley, Early Ventures Site Assistant at Longfellow, decrease from 38 hrs./week to 34.5 hrs./week beginning 9/6/11.
 - 2. Tina Holum, ESL Teacher at Greenvale, additional 1.25 hrs./week (Mondays) PLUS Targeted Services Teacher, beginning 12/12/11 through 4/24/12.
 - 3. Andrew Unseth, ELS Teacher at Greenvale, additional 1.25 hrs./week (Wednesdays) PLUS Targeted Services Teacher, beginning 12/14/11 through 4/26/12.
 - 4. Yolanda Loken, transfer from temporary Special Ed PCA at Head Start back to Special Ed PCA at Longfellow beginning 12/14/11.
 - 5. Kim Cecil, transfer from Office Specialist at Sibley to Administrative Support Assistant at Sibley, beginning 12/14/11.
 - 6. Keith Nohava, transfer from Head Custodian at High School to Head Custodian at Greenvale Park, beginning 1/1/12.
 - 7. Yolanda Loken, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, increase 1.5 hrs./day Bus PCA beginning 1/3/12 through 6/1/12, Class III, step 6, \$14.99/hr.
 - 8. Dianne Peterson, Special Ed Bus PCA, increase from 2.25 hrs./day to 2.33 hrs./day, beginning 1/5/12 through 6/1/12.
 - 9. David Von Ruden, .9 FTE Middle School Science Teacher, increase .1 FTE Science Teacher at the High School, beginning 1/23/12 through 6/4/12.
 - 10. Lacey Neuman Bissonnette, Kid Ventures Site Leader/Site Assistant, increase from 4.5 hours/day to 5.5 hours/day as Site Leader at Greenvale Park, beginning 1/30/12.
 - 11. Nicole Thompson, Kid Ventures Site Assistant at Sibley, increase 1.25 hours/day Kid Ventures Site Assistant at Bridgewater (for a total of 4 hours/day), beginning 1/30/12.
 - 12. Angela Frawley, Early Ventures Site Assistant at Longfellow, increase from 34.5 hours/week to 40 hours/week beginning 1/3/12.
 - 13. Anna Kelly, Early Ventures Site Assistant at Longfellow, decrease from 8 hours/day to 7 hours/day beginning 1/3/12.
 - 14. Elizabeth Stahly, Early Ventures Site Assistant at Longfellow, decrease from 5.5 hours/day to 3.75 hours/day beginning 1/3/12.
- c. Leaves of Absences
 - 1. Jerry Jarvis, FMLA leave of absence beginning 12/28/11 through 1/3/12.
 - 2. Kathy Kopseng, FMLA leave of absence beginning 1/3/12 through 1/13/12.
 - 3. Angela Frawley, FMLA leave of absence beginning on or about 2/18/12 through 6/1/12.
 - 4. Lynn Fossum, FMLA leave of absence on an intermittent basis beginning 1/9/12 for up to twelve work weeks.
 - 5. Valori Mertesdorf, FMLA leave of absence beginning on or about 3/28/12 through 6/1/12.
 - 6. Tresa Mazurek, Child care leave of absence beginning 1/10/12 through 1/21/12.
- d. Resignations
 - 1. Nicole Krenzel, Instructional/Media Educational Assistant, resignation effective 1/16/12.
 - 2. Teresa Petek, Instructional Educational Assistant at Middle School, resignation effective 1/20/12.
 - 3. Michael Berger, Kid Ventures Site Leader at Greenvale Park and Supervisory Educational Assistant at Bridgewater, resignation effective 1/27/2012.
- e. Superintendent's Performance Incentive Pay for 2010-2011 Contract Year.
Based on its evaluation of the Superintendent's performance and achievements, the Board awarded the full performance incentive pay for contract year 2010-2011 as provided in the Superintendent's contract. The Superintendent may elect to receive this in equal installments for the remainder of the 2011-2012 contract year.
- f. Superintendent Contract provisions for the 2011-2012 Contract Year.
The Board approved the Superintendent contract provisions for the 2011-2012 contract year as outlined in the memorandum and contract addendum from 2011 Board Chair Kari Nelson.

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

VIII. Items for Information

1. Enrollment Report – January 2012.

2. Educational Assistant Recognition Week, January 16 – 20, 2012.

Governor Mark Dayton has proclaimed the week of January 16-20 as Paraprofessional Recognition Week. Buildings will recognize the contributions of educational assistants during the week of January 16th.

IX. Future Meetings

Monday, January 23, 2012, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

Monday, February 13, 2012, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

Iverson and Stratmoen recognized the extraordinary leadership provided by Nelson during her 7 years as Board Chair.

X. On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Fossum, the Board adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Noel Stratmoen
School Board Clerk