

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS School Board Minutes

School Board Minutes
February 13, 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 7:00 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 Quinnell, seconded by Maple, minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on January 23, 2012, were unanimously approved.
- V. Announcements and Recognitions
 - The District Spelling Bee was held January 26 at Northfield Middle School. The winner was three-time champion Olivia Riggins. Olivia and all of the top four finishers have earned the opportunity to compete at the regional spelling bee in Rochester on February 28th. 2nd place - Alex Robinson-Coolidge, 8th grade; 3rd place - Carter VanderMartin, 7th grade; 4th place - Hannah Mahr, 8th grade
 - February is *I Love to Read Month* where teachers are looking for more creative ways to encourage students to read. Bridgewater Elementary kicked off the month with a visit from the Ground Hog outlining the plans for the month. Last week many parents joined Bridgewater students for an *Apple and a Book* day where parents came in to read with their child while enjoying an apple donated by Just Food Co-op. Other Bridgewater events for February are the *Teacher Swap* on the 17th, *All Camp Read-In* on the 24th, and classroom doors decorated as a favorite book.
 - On January 28, seventy Northfield High School music students participated in the Region 1AA Solo & Ensemble Contest at Lakeville South High School. Students performed solos, and/or ensemble pieces. Our music students earned 47 superior ratings and 21 excellent ratings.
 - Northfield High School students Jasmine Barksdale and Jon Fried received the December/January "Making A Difference" award from Healthy Community Initiative for organizing a benefit concert for the Haslett-Marroquin family who lost their home in a fire. Their efforts have raised more than \$6500.
 - Northfield High School's Science Olympiad is headed for the state tournament March 3 after a strong second place finish on February 4 at the Southeast Regional Tournament.
 - The high school's music listening team has taken third at State.
 - Girls Alpine Skiers are Conference Champions with three students going to State
 - Will Olstad is the first student in NHS history going to the Nordic Ski State meet.
- VI. Item for Discussion and / or Reports
 1. Fine Arts Booster Club.
Wendy Smith, chairperson of the Fine Arts Booster Club, provided an update on the Club's activities, which supports fine and performing arts programs in the District.
 2. Northfield Healthy Community Initiative Annual Report.
Zach Pruitt, Director of Healthy Community Initiative, presented HCI's annual report. The Northfield Public Schools is a founding partner, along with Northfield Hospital and the City of Northfield.
 3. 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 School Year Calendars.
Superintendent Chris Richardson reviewed the calendar drafts recommended by the District Meet and Confer Committee and provided information about how these calendars align with District interests. After providing two weeks for parents and community members to contact Board members with thoughts or concerns, the calendars will be presented for individual action on February 27, 2012. The Board asked the Superintendent and administration to begin exploring with staff and the community a flexible learning year calendar.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

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

On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Fossum, the Board unanimously authorized the administration to make recommendations for additions and reductions in program and for adding or discontinuing positions. Voting "yes" was Stratmoen, Quinnell, Pritchard, Nelson, Maple, Fossum and Iverson. 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. Personnel Items.

- a. Appointments*

1. Janet Gannon, Instructional Educational Assistant at the Middle School for 6.75 hrs./day, beginning 1/30/12 through 6/1/12, Class II, step 1, \$12.85/hr.
2. Shiloh Deitz, Early Ventures Long-term Substitute Site Assistant at Longfellow for 3.75 hrs./day beginning 1/30/11 through 5/18/12, Step 1, \$11.03/hr.
3. Elizabeth Nelson, Child Nutrition Associate I at Bridgewater for 3 hrs./day, beginning 2/2/12, \$13.55/hr.
4. Andrea Gates, Supervisory Educational Assistant at Bridgewater for 3.5 hrs./day, beginning 2/2/12 through 6/1/12, Class I, step 1, \$12.59/hour.
5. Anna Jungers, Early Ventures Long-term Substitute Site Assistant at Longfellow for 8 hrs./day beginning 2/18/12 through 6/1/12, Step 1, \$11.03/hr.
6. Ray Coudret, Rock 'n Roll Revival Director, Level C, step 1.
7. Deborah Seitz, Head Girls Swimming Coach, Level A, step 6.
8. Mary Harrity-Davidson, Instructional Educational Assistant for 3 hrs./day at Middle School, beginning 2/13/12 through 6/1/12, Class II, step 1, \$12.85/hr.
9. Diane Wiese, Long-Term Substitute Special Education Teacher at Sibley, beginning on or about 3/6/12 through 6/4/12, MA-6.
10. Marilyn Frey, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Sibley for 2.5 hrs./day, beginning 2/13/12, Class III, step Class III, step 1, \$13.26/hr.
11. Sarah McGivern, PLUS Site Assistant at Greenvale Park for 1.5 hrs./day (Mon. & Wed.), beginning 2/20/12 through 4/26/12, Step 1, \$11.03/hr.

- b. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment

1. Anita Corwin, Special Ed Educational Assistant for 3.5 hrs./day, increase to 3.75 hrs./day at Head Start, beginning 1/27/12 through 5/31/12.
2. Carol Beumer, Special Ed Educational Assistant at the High School for 6.75 hrs./day, increase to 7 hrs./day, beginning 1/24/12 through 6/1/12.
3. Deb Budin, Special Ed Educational Assistant at the High School for 6.75 hrs./day, increase to 7 hrs./day, beginning 1/24/12 through 6/1/12.

- c. Leave of Absences

1. *Updated - Denise Halvorson, extending FMLA leave of absence from 1/11/12 through 3/16/12.
2. Jeff Jasan, FMLA leave of absence beginning 1/11/12 for up to 60 work days.
3. Lori Christophersen, FMLA leave of absence beginning on 1/31/12 for up to 60 work days.
4. Lisa Hovden, FMLA childcare leave of absence beginning on or about 5/15/12 through 6/1/12.
5. Tresa Mazurek, unpaid childcare leave of absence beginning 2/20/12 through 6/1/12.
6. Kristen Cade, FMLA leave of absence beginning 2/22/12 for up to 33 work days.

- d. Retirements/Resignations

1. Kristy Fredrickson, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA, resignation effective 2/3/12.
2. Kelle Edwards, resignation from PLUS Site Assistant hours at GVP, effective 2/7/12.

3. Kevin Larson, District Buildings and Grounds Coordinator, resignation effective 2/24/12.
4. Blayr Gilitiuk, PLUS Site Lead, resignation effective 2/24/12.

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

2. Grant Request.
Community Services, and several other partners, is submitting a \$20,000 grant request to the Southern MN Initiative Foundation. The goal of this project is to promote native language literacy within the home and in a variety of community and neighborhood settings.

VIII. Items for Information

1. Enrollment Report – February 2012.

IX. Future Meetings

Monday, February 27, 2012, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center
Monday, March 12, 2012, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

Board Chair Ellen Iverson noted the resignation of District Buildings and Grounds Coordinator Kevin Larson and thanked him for all his contributions to the District.

- X. On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Maple, the Board adjourned at 8:08 PM.

A Closed Negotiations Strategy Session followed the meeting in the District Office Conference Room.

Noel Stratmoen
School Board Clerk