

## **NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

### **School Board Minutes**

School Board Minutes  
March 26, 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  
Heather Ims, Social Worker at Northfield Middle School, and Shelley Hansen, Social Worker at Longfellow, expressed concerns about the proposed cut in social worker FTE at the secondary level. They are concerned that reducing school social work services will be detrimental not only to student achievement, but also will cut services to the most vulnerable in Northfield. They asked the Board to reconsider the proposed cuts to social workers.
- IV. Approval of Minutes  
On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Maple, minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on March 12, 2012, were unanimously approved.
- V. Announcements and Recognitions
  - Jeff Pesta was named the Minnesota Association of Secondary Principals' Middle Level Principal of the Year for the Southeast Division. He will now be considered along with the other division winners for the state award.
  - Sibley's annual Beyond Words Event, a celebration of art and literacy, will be held Thursday, April 12th.
  - Students that participated in the South Central Service Cooperative / Mankato Community Education Spring Chess Tournament were congratulated.
  - Middle School students who received honorable mention or were named as state qualifiers at the Regional History Day Competition held on March 20 on the Minnesota State-Mankato Campus were congratulated.
- VI. Item for Discussion and / or Reports
  1. Professional Learning Communities Presentation – Bridgewater Elementary School.  
The Fourth Grade Team, Dana Holden, Adam Danielson, Renae Schuster and Janet Larimore-Rockne, presented their SMART goals and spoke about flexible grouping and how the team is working together to address the needs of all students in the areas of reading and math.
  2. High School World Language Program Enrollment.  
At the March 12<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, High School Principal Joel Leer provided the Board with information regarding enrollment in specific areas of the world language program. In the packet of materials, the Board received additional data regarding world language enrollments at both the middle and high school levels with the request by the administration that the Board provide direction concerning the maintenance of the current world language electives given the enrollment data. After considerable discussion, the Board decided to take action at the appropriate time later in the agenda.
  3. Technology Transformation – Next Steps.  
Director of Human Resources and Technology Matt Hillmann provided information on the District's recent research regarding transformational technology, including digital resources and textbooks. He previewed the next steps in the District's process of bringing technology transformation to the Northfield Public Schools, which includes scheduling informational meetings at each school to further involve staff in the planning process, holding public meetings to share the vision and to elicit feedback from the community, and planning a focus group with secondary students to leverage their thoughts in the planning process.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. Staffing Modifications and Additions.

Stratmoen moved and Nelson seconded to approve the staffing modifications and additions as presented in a memorandum dated March 7, 2012 from Superintendent Richardson to the Board of Education regarding proposed 2012-13 continuous improvement process staffing modifications. Discussion followed. Then, Stratmoen moved and Nelson seconded to amend the motion to include maintaining secondary school social workers at the current staffing level with funding for 0.5 FTE at the middle school and 0.3 FTE at the high school being provided by the General Fund. The amendment was unanimously approved. The motion then was unanimously approved as amended.

2. High School World Language Program Enrollment.

Maple moved and Stratmoen seconded to support the maintenance of four world languages at the high school level by funding 0.4 FTE out of the General Fund. Previously 0.4 FTE of contingency funds were used to provide for low enrollment. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Items for Consent Grouping

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

1. Grant Request.

Connected Kids, a Community Services program, is requesting \$5000 from WINGS to fund two elementary site staff at 5 hours per week for 30 weeks as well as bus transportation for the annual mentoring picnic in August.

2. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments\*

1. Michele Warden, Supervisory Educational Assistant at Bridgewater, 2 hrs./day beginning 3/26/12 through 6/1/12, Class I, step 1, \$12.59/hr.
2. Amanda Heinritz, 1.0 FTE FACS Teacher at the High School, transfer to 1.0 FTE Media Specialist at Greenvale Park, beginning 8/18/12 through 6/5/2013.
3. Ann Schmidt, Summer Child Nutrition Associate at Middle School, 3 hours/day (Mon.-Thurs.) beginning 6/18/12 through 7/26/12, \$14.00/hr.
4. Lorraine Baker, Summer Child Nutrition Associate at Middle School, 3 hrs./day (Mon.-Thurs.) beginning 6/6/12 through 8/24/12; 5.5 hrs./day (Mon.-Thurs.) beginning 6/18/12 through 7/26/12, \$14.00/hr.
5. April Co-Curricular assignments as attached.

b. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment

1. Jay Grossman, Custodian at Bridgewater/High School, transfer to Long-Term Substitute Custodian Engineer at Bridgewater beginning 1/11/12 through TBD.

c. Leaves of Absence

1. Erin Mayberry, leave of absence beginning 4/9/12 through 5/12/12.
2. Kevin Dahle, leave of absence beginning 1/1/2013 through the end of the 2012-13 school year.
3. Jill Heasley, 1.0 FTE leave of absence for the 2012-13 school year.
4. Jennifer Josephson, 1.0 FTE leave of absence for the 2012-13 school year.
5. Katherine Norrie, .20 FTE leave of absence for the 2012-13 school year.
6. Katie Parks, 1.0 FTE leave of absence for the 2012-13 school year.
7. Amanda Heinritz, 1.0 FTE leave of absence from HS FACS for the 2012-13 school year.

d. Return from Leaves of Absence for 2012-13

1. Anne Erickson, return to 1.0 FTE beginning with the 2012-13 school year.
2. Micheal Hamilton, return to 1.0 FTE beginning with the 2012-13 school year.
3. Dan Kust, return to 1.0 FTE beginning with the 2012-13 school year.

- e. Return from Job Share Arrangement
  - 1. Gail Kohl, return to 1.0 FTE beginning with the 2012-13 school year.
  - 2. Connie Nelson, discontinue from Job Share and continue with 1.0 FTE beginning with the 2012-13 school year.
  
- f. Resignations
  - 1. Angie Ekern, Elementary Art Teacher, resignation effective at the end of the 2011-12 school year.
  - 2. Amanda Kunkel, Special Education Teacher, resignation effective at the end of the 2011-12 school year.
  - 3. Anne McLaughlin, Elementary Education Teacher, resignation effective at the end of the 2011-12 school year.
  
- g. Retirement
  - 1. Mary Dickson, Fourth Grade Compañeros Teacher at Greenvale Park Elementary School, retirement effective at the end of the 2011-12 school year.

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

VIII. Items for Information

Iverson reinforced the special invitation to Board members from Activities Director Tom Graupmann to attend the Spring Play, "The Odd Couple" on April 27 and 28, and May 4 and 5 in the NHS Auditorium.

IX. Future Meetings

Monday, April 9, 2012, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center  
Monday, April 23, 2012, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

X. On a motion by Maple, seconded by Fossum, the Board adjourned at 9:33 PM.

Noel Stratmoen  
School Board Clerk