

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

School Board Minutes

November 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. Nelson was absent.
- II. Agenda Changes / Table File
The table file was added.
- III. Public Comment
There was no one.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
On a motion by Fossum, seconded by Quinnell, minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on October 22, 2012, were unanimously approved.
- V. Announcements and Recognitions
 - Northfield's PRIMETime, a collaborative effort to assure out-of-school programming for Northfield youth in grades K-12, will be recognized as a 2012 City Showcase exemplary program by the National League of Cities (NLC) at the League's Congress of Cities and Exposition, held in Boston, MA, November 28-December 1.
 - Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) was awarded \$19,000 from the Southern Minnesota Initiative Fund to support ECFE's newly expanded outreach work and programs to families with children birth to 5 years old.
 - Bridgewater Elementary School held its annual Veterans' Day program on November 12. Approximately 40 veterans attended the program. Each grade level performed, as well as the Bridgewater Band.
 - Thirty-four students participated in the 2012 Fall Chess Tournament hosted by South Central Service Cooperative and Mankato Community Education/Recreation. Students in grades K-12 from Belle Plaine, Chaska, Jordan, Mankato New Prague, Northfield, Shakopee, St. Peter and Waseca competed in primary, elementary, middle and upper divisions based on grade levels. In the Primary Division at the third grade level, Peter Hillmann, who attends Sibley Elementary School, tied for second place. Peter also tied for third place in the elementary division.
 - Board member Julie Pritchard thanked the Mayor's Youth Task Force, HCI and local businesses for providing financial support so that the student directory could be published.
 - Pritchard also praised last week's District band concert, "Under the Big Top," with Earl Weinmann as the Ring Master.
 - At the November 6, 2012, General Election Ellen Iverson, Anne Maple, Noel Stratmoen and Rob Hardy were elected to four-year terms beginning January 14, 2013.
- VI. Item for Discussion and / or Reports
 1. School Improvement Plan Reports – Northfield Middle and High School.
Middle and High School Principals Jeff Pesta and Joel Leer presented their schools' continuous improvement plan. Two parents on the Middle School's Site Council, Adam Dowd and Amy Goerwitz, and Media Specialist Amy Sieve spoke about the successful parent-teacher conferences where students were invited to participate and the plan to expand these student-led conferences to additional grade levels. High School Principal Joel Leer then presented the High School's improvement plan, which focuses on student achievement and school climate.
 2. iPad Minute.
Matt Hillmann, Director of Human Resources and Technology, presented the fourth iPad minute focusing on professional development and featuring Greenvale Park's fourth grade teacher Tony Seidl sharing with his colleagues an app he has found helpful.

3. FY 2012 Audit Report.
Craig Popenhagen, Partner with Clifton Larson Allen LLP, presented the results of the 2011-12 fiscal year.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. FY 2012 Audit.
On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Maple, the Board accepted the 2011-2012 audit report as presented.
2. Resolution Canvassing the Results of the November 6, 2012, School Board Election.
On a motion by Pritchard, seconded by Fossum, the Board approved the adoption of the Resolution Canvassing Returns of Votes of the School District's General Election as presented. Voting 'yes' was Fossum, Maple, Pritchard, Quinnell, Stratmoen and Iverson. No one voted 'no.' Nelson was absent.
3. Resolutions Authorizing Issuance of Certificates of Election and Directing School District Clerk to Perform Other Election Duties.
On a motion by Pritchard, seconded by Maple, the Board adopted the Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Certificates of Election and Directing the School District Clerk to Perform Other Election Related Duties as presented. Voting 'yes' was Fossum, Maple, Pritchard, Quinnell, Stratmoen and Iverson. No one voted 'no.' Nelson was absent.
4. American Education Week Proclamation.
On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Maple, the Board approved the following proclamation:
WHEREAS, public schools are the backbone of our democracy, providing young people with the tools they need to maintain our nation's precious values of freedom, civility and equality; and
WHEREAS, by equipping young Americans with both practical skills and broader intellectual abilities, schools give them hope for, and access to, a productive future; and
WHEREAS, education employees - be they custodians or teachers, bus drivers or librarians - work tirelessly to serve our children and communities with care and professionalism; and
WHEREAS, schools are community linchpins, bringing together adults and children, educators and volunteers, business leaders, and elected officials in a common enterprise;
Now, therefore, the Northfield Public Schools Board of Education does hereby proclaim November 11 – 17, 2012, as the 91st annual observance of American Education Week.

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. Student Activity Account Transfers.
The Board approved the following:
 - Designating up to \$2,000 from the Dance Team's student activity account to pay for a JV assistant coach. The rate of pay will be \$12 per hour.
 - Designating up to \$3,000 from the Gymnastics Team's student activity account to pay for Jennie Scholes to work as a spotter/assistant gymnastics coach. The rate of pay will be \$12 per hour.
2. Continuation School Agreement with Cannon River STEM School.
The Board approved Northfield High School as the Continuation School for the Cannon River STEM School in boys and girls Nordic Skiing.
3. Personnel Items.
 - a. Appointments*
 1. Lauren Murtha, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Middle School for 6.5 hrs./day beginning 11/1/12 through 6/4/13, Class IV, step 1, \$13.26/hr.
 2. Ruth Trevino, Instructional Educational Assistant at Middle School for 2 hrs./day beginning 11/8/12 through 6/4/13, Class II, step 1, \$12.85/hr.

3. Rustianna Mechura, Child Nutrition Associate I at Bridgewater for 3 hrs./day beginning 10/29/12, \$13.69/hr.
 4. Laura Hakala, Long-Term Substitute EL Teacher at Middle School beginning on or about 11/15/12 for 15 days, BA-2.
 5. Katie Hausen, JV Assistant Dance Team Coach beginning 10/29/12 through 2/16/13, \$12.00/hr.
 6. Jennifer Scholes, Assistant Gymnastics Coach beginning 11/12/12 through 2/23/12, \$12.00/hr.
 7. Paul Stanaway, 6th Grade Basketball Coach beginning 10/29/12, \$14.00/hr.
 8. Katherine Barnes, Assistant Girl's Basketball Coach beginning 11/12/12 through 2/25/13, Level E, step 1.
 9. Co-Curricular assignments for November.
 10. Katherine Landers, Homebound Instructor beginning 10/30/12 through TBD, BA-0.
 11. LeAnne (Eckloff) Fricke, Assistant Girls Gymnastics Coach beginning 11/12/12 through 2/23/13, Level E, step 1.
 12. Darrin Corbin, High School Weight Room Assistant beginning 11/13/12 through 3/31/13, Level K, step 1.
- b. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment
1. Julie Erickson, Early Ventures Site Assistant at Longfellow for 30 hrs./week, increase to 35 hrs./week beginning 10/1/12.
 2. Elizabeth Nelson, Child Nutrition Associate I at Bridgewater for 3 hrs./day, increase to 3.75 hrs./day beginning 10/29/12.
 3. Rustianna Mechura, CNA I at Bridgewater, additional 2.5 hrs./day (Mon.-Thurs.) at Middle School as Middle School Youth Center Site Assistant, \$11.14/hr.
 4. Kathryn Morris, Grade 3 Teacher at Sibley, additional 1.25 hrs./day PLUS Program Teacher at Sibley for 2.5 hrs./week beginning 11/6/12 through 4/25/13.
 5. Laurel Sargent, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Sibley, additional 2 hrs./day (Mon. & Wed.) , 4 hrs./week as PLUS Site Assistant at Sibley beginning 11/7/12 through 4/25/13, step 2, \$11.43/hr.
 6. Soraya Dangor, Instructional Educational Assistant at Middle School, additional up to 5 hrs./week as Middle School Youth Center Site Assistant beginning 11/12/12 through 5/10/13, Step 1, \$11.14/hr.
 7. Amber Iwanski, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at High School, additional 2 hrs./day, 3 days/week PLUS Site Assistant at Greenvale Park, beginning 11/26/12 through 4/25/13, Step 2, \$11.43/hr.
- c. Leaves of Absence
1. John Taylor, FMLA leave of absence beginning 11/19/12 through 12/7/12.
 2. Gail Kohl, FMLA leave of absence beginning 1/14/13 through 1/28/13.
 3. Jan Ensrud, FMLA childcare leave of absence beginning on or about 3/15/13 for 8 work weeks.
 4. Jackie Moon, Leave of Absence beginning 11/20/12 through 12/2/12.
 5. Mary Wojick, FMLA Leave of Absence beginning 12/13/12 through 1/1/13.
 6. Amended request: Kevin Dahle, Leave of Absence beginning 1/7/13 through the end of the 2012-13 school year (not 1/1/13 as previously requested).
- d. The Board approved the following:
- Personnel Policies and Practices Other Staff Agreement for the period extending July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014.
 - Working Conditions and Fringe Benefits of Educational Interpreters for Deaf and Hard of Hearing for the period extending July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014.

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

VIII. Items for Information

1. Enrollment Report – November 2012.

2. Enrollment Options Report.

Student Information Systems Specialist Christine Neset provided the 2012-2013 Enrollment Options Report. The Northfield Public Schools has 278 students attending our schools from other school districts this school year compared to 262 last year. 838 Northfield students are attending school elsewhere, including other public schools (191), charter schools (300), home schools (115) and non-public schools (232). This compares to 776 students last year.

IX. Future Meetings

Monday, November 26, 2012, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center
Monday, December 10, 2012, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

X. On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Maple, the Board adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Noel Stratmoen
School Board Clerk