

School Board Minutes

School Board Minutes

February 25, 2013

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 no one.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
On a motion by Maple, seconded by Nelson, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on February 11, 2013, were unanimously approved.
- V. Announcements and Recognitions
 - Healthier US School Challenge awards (HUSSC) is a voluntary national certification initiative for schools participating in the National School Lunch Program. Our three elementary schools were awarded a silver award on February 22.
 - Congratulations to Deb Bakke! She is one of 39 semi-finalists for Minnesota Teacher of the Year! Deb is a first grade teacher at Greenvale Park Elementary School.
 - Kyle Rudolph, a football player for the MN Vikings, visited Bridgewater on March 1st as part of Bridgewater's award for the breakfast challenge in conjunction with Fuel Up to Play 60.
 - For the 19th year, Northfield German students participated in the National German Exam Competition. Competing this year were 34 students, levels 2, 3, 4 and 5, and again this year many Northfield students placed very well.
 - The Northfield Middle School speech team had a great season. Twenty-five Northfield Middle School students traveled to area schools on Saturday mornings and hosted a meet on February 2. The team is coached by Denise Halvorson and Marilyn Neuville.
 - The 6th Grade Orchestra from Northfield Middle School performed at the Minnesota Music Educators Association Midwinter Clinic on February 14.
 - Linda Oto, Youth Development Coordinator in Community Services, has been nominated to the Mentoring Partnership of Minnesota Board of Directors.
 - The Science Olympiad varsity team placed 2nd in the regional competition; they will be competing at state on March 9th.
 - The Mock Trial team had two teams in the Region Semi-Finals with one team making it to the Region Final.
 - The Raider Speech Team finished FIRST out of 21 teams at the Red Wing Invitational.
 - Northfield High School had three Nordic Skiers in the State meet, held on February 14th. They are Will Olstad, Leif Hanson, and Miles Broske.
 - The Alpine team had one skier advance to State. That skier was Hannah Boman.
 - Congratulations to the eight wrestlers who placed at the Section Tournament. Matt Metcalf and Carson Canedy qualified for the State Wrestling tournament.
 - The Gator Boys Swimming & Diving team improved over last years Section 1AA finish by finishing 5th at this year's finals, posting 20 lifetime best performances.
 - The Gymnastics team had a spectacular showing at the state tournament placing second, by just .375 of a point. Congratulations to all the individuals who competed and to Bailey DuPay for being named the All-Around State Champion.
- VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports
 1. Professional Learning Communities Presentation – Greenvale Park Elementary School.
Greenvale Park Elementary School Principal Dave Craft introduced the Kindergarten team at Greenvale Park and then showed a DVD highlighting one essential learning in early literacy that has been the focus of the Kindergarten PLC this school year. The goal the team has been working on is for all Kindergarten students to be reading at level 2 or higher by the end of the school year.

2. Proposed Timeline for Global Calendar/Schedule Discussion.

Superintendent Richardson shared a proposed timeline for the public global calendar/schedule meetings that were discussed at the February 11, 2013, Board meeting. The first session is scheduled for Thursday, March 7 from 7 PM to 9 PM in the High School upper cafeteria and will begin with a review of the history and elements of academic calendars around the world and in the United States. The main purpose of this session will be to gather ideas from participants about calendar features that reflect what is best for student learning and then discuss how these elements might be incorporated into future school calendars.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. 2013-2014 School Year Calendar.

On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Fossum, the Board unanimously approved the 2013-2014 school year calendar as presented.

2. Revision to Policy 707 – Transportation of Public School Students.

On a motion by Pritchard, seconded by Maple, the Board unanimously approved the revisions to Policy 707 – Transportation of Public School Students, as presented, including the grammatical correction in section IV, C, item 3B on page 707-3.

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. Grant Requests.

The Board approved the following grant requests:

- A \$14,500 grant request to the Northfield Area United Way to support the three-week program this summer, Bridges to Kindergarten, at each elementary school. In addition, this grant would support services for children qualifying for School Readiness programming throughout next school year.
- A \$5000 grant request to WINGS of Northfield to support the School Readiness preschool program.
- A \$3500 grant request to WINGS of Northfield to support the ECFE outreach program, Lunch and Learning.

2. Agreement between the City of Northfield and ISD 659 Relating to City of Northfield/Community Services Recreation Program.

The Board approved the Recreation Agreement between the City of Northfield and the Northfield School District for the time period July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2016. This Agreement was approved by the City Council at its February 19th meeting.

3. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments*

1. Amy Anderson, Supervisory Educational Assistant for 6 hrs./day at Longfellow beginning 2/18/13 through 6/4/13, Class I, step 1, \$12.59/hr.
2. Norine Bell, Supervisory Educational Assistant for 34 hrs./week at Middle School beginning 2/18/13 through 6/4/13, Class I, step 1, \$12.59/hr.
3. Amanda George, Supervisory Educational Assistant for 7 hrs./day at Bridgewater beginning 2/18/13 through 6/4/13, Class I, step 1, \$12.59/hr.
4. Troy Mechura, Supervisory Educational Assistant for 6 hrs./day at Longfellow beginning 2/18/13 through 6/4/13, Class I, step 1, \$12.59/hr.
5. Jessica Bester, 9th Grade PT Assistant Softball Coach at High School beginning 3/11/13 through 6/7/13, \$12.00/hr.
6. Sondra Breiland, .5 FTE Read 180 Teacher at Greenvale Park beginning 2/25/13 through 6/5/13, BA15-14.
7. Co-Curricular assignments for March.
8. Kylie Hanzlik, Community Services Basketball Program Supervisor beginning 2/9/13 through 3/16/13, \$10.00/hr.

9. Quinn Hanzlik, Community Services Basketball Program Staff beginning 2/9/13 through 3/16/13, \$7.50/hr.
 10. Allyson Harris, Community Services Basketball Program Staff beginning 2/9/13 through 3/16/13, \$7.50/hr.
 11. Anna Pfeffeler, Community Services Basketball Program Staff beginning 2/9/13 through 3/16/13, \$7.50/hr.
 12. Claire Vasilis, Community Services Basketball Program Staff beginning 2/9/13 through 3/16/13, \$7.50/hr.
- b. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment
1. Carina Zick, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA for 4.25 hrs./day at Greenvale, change to Supervisory Educational Assistant at Greenvale for 7 hrs./day beginning 2/18/13 through 6/4/13, Class I, step 1, \$12.59/hr.
 2. Cecelia Green, Child Nutrition Manager I at Greenvale Park for 7.5 hrs./day, increase to 8 hrs./day beginning 2/25/13 through 4/25/13.
 3. Yoland Loken, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA/Bus PCA at Longfellow, increase .75 hrs./day Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA beginning 2/25/13 through 6/4/13.
- c. Leaves of Absence
1. Anne Morrissey, Childcare Leave of Absence for the 2013-14 school year. (The first twelve weeks will be designated FMLA leave of absence.)
 2. Peter Maus, FMLA leave of absence beginning 2/20/13 for up to 60 work days.
 3. Mary Beck, granted a three-year extended Leave of Absence beginning with the 2013-14 school.
 4. Dana Engstrom, granted a Leave of Absence for the 2013-14 school year.
- d. Resignations/Retirement
1. Carina Zick, Special Ed Educational Assistant PCA at Greenvale, resignation effective 2/15/13.
 2. Laurel Sargent, PLUS Site Assistant at Sibley, resignation effective 3/5/13.
 3. Paul Beck, Middle School Music Specialist, retirement effective at the end of the 2012-13 school year.
- e. Purchase of Service Agreement
1. The Board approved a Purchase of Service Agreement between Northfield Public Schools and Faribault Public Schools for a shared (.5 FTE per district) Special Services Director beginning July 1, 2013.

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

VIII. Items for Information

1. Revision to Policy 533 – Wellness.

As a part of the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act re-authorization of 2012, Public Law 111-296, all schools were mandated to review and update their Wellness Policy on an annual basis. Superintendent Richardson presented revisions to our current Policy 533 – Wellness for Board consideration. Although many of the recommendations are simple, the language changes make it easier to implement and understand this policy. Reference appendixes were added to provide all stakeholders with some ideas for implementing certain areas of the policy in every school building. The Board will act on the revision to Policy 533 – Wellness at its March 11, 2013, meeting.

2. Superintendent Richardson briefed the Board about his meeting with Representative John Kline and his testimony in the Minnesota House and Senate.

IX. Future Meetings

Monday, March 11, 2013, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center
Monday, April 8, 2013, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

- X. On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Maple, the Board adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Noel Stratmoen
School Board Clerk