

**NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Office of the Superintendent**  
**Memorandum**

**TO:** Board of Education  
**FROM:** Matt Hillmann Ed.D., Superintendent  
**RE:** Table File Items for July 11, 2016, Regular School Board Meeting

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

5. Additional Middle School Driveway.

Enclosed is a sketch illustrating the placement of the driveways on the north and south side of the middle school entrance.

6. Long Term Facilities Maintenance Revenue and Ten-Year Plan.

Enclosed is an article from the May-June issue of MSBA JOURNAL entitled, "Everything You've Always Wanted to Know About Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Revenue."

B. Items for Consent Grouping

6. Personnel Items

a. Appointments\*

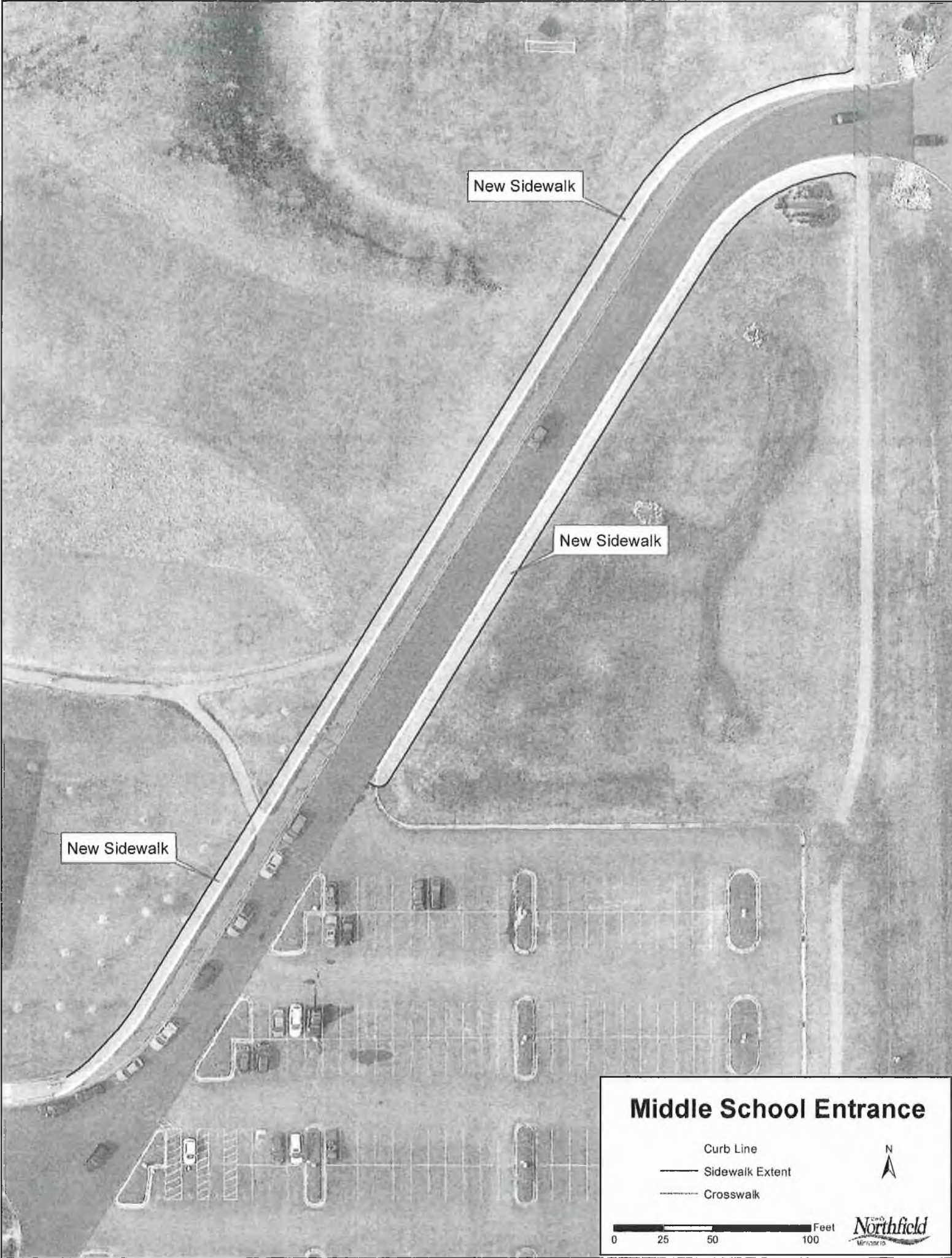
19. Jamie Forbord, 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher at the High School beginning 08/29/2016; BA+45, Step 5.
20. Cecelia Green, Concessions Manager at the High School (Activities) for the 2016-17 school year; \$1,550 Stipend.
21. \*\*Annette Hakala, Technology Specialist (district wide) beginning 07/25/2016; \$52,400, Step 2.
22. Meredith Maniglia, CS Recreation Staff (Soccer Aide \$9.25/hour; Soccer Supv. \$10.00/hour) beginning 07/11/2016 – 08/31/2016.
23. Correction: Tamra Paulson, 1.0 FTE Long-Term Substitute EBD/SLD Teacher at Sibley Elementary beginning 08/29/2016 – 06/06/2017; Change from MA, Step 5 to MA15, Step 5. (additional transcripts received)
24. \*\*Matthew Roy, Technology Specialist (district wide) beginning 07/25/2016; \$52,400, Step 1.
25. \*\*Vicki Turner, 1.0 FTE Early Childhood Coordinator at Community Services beginning 07/11/2016 for 50 weeks/year (\$49,580); change to 52 weeks/year; \$51,563.00, Step 4 - beginning 07/11/2016.

b. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment

33. Tricia Christopherson, Grade 2 Companeros Teacher, add TS Summer PLUS Teacher at Bridgewater for 3 hours/day (M-Th) beginning 06/16/2016 – 08/04/2016; Year 1, \$27.11/hour.
34. Martha Donahoe, Office Generalist at Longfellow (4 hours/day), change to Office Generalist/Sped Due Process Clerical at Longfellow (7.5 hours/day) beginning 08/29/2016.
35. \*\*Bruce Dybvik, Workstation Specialist (district wide \$39,139 + steps), change to Technology Specialist (district wide \$52,400 + steps) beginning 07/01/2016.
36. Shannon Flegel, Special Education Teacher, ESY OT Teacher for up to 4 hours/day for the summer program in the district beginning 07/11/2016 – 08/04/2016.
37. Mark Harder, Head Custodian at the High School, change to Head Custodian at Longfellow/ALC beginning 08/01/2016.
38. Kelly Hebzynski, Math Teacher at the MS, add Assistant Volleyball Coach (7<sup>th</sup> Grade) at the Middle School beginning 09/06/2016 – 10/19/2016; Level H, Step 5.
39. \*\*Duane Johnson, Technology Specialist (districtwide \$59,301 + steps), change to Network Assistant (districtwide \$59,301 + steps) beginning 07/01/2016.
40. \*\*Anna Kelly, Community School Club Leader/Site Assistant, change to GenEd EA-Media/Supv. at Greenvale Park for 6.5 hours/day beginning 08/30/2016; Step 1, \$13.43/hour
41. Corrine Oian, Guidance Counselor at the MS, add Assistant Volleyball Coach (7<sup>th</sup> Grade) at the Middle School beginning 09/06/2016 – 10/19/2016; Level H, Step 5.
42. John Schnorr, Special Education Teacher, add ESY SLP Teacher for up to 4 hours/day for the summer program in the district beginning 07/11/2016 – 08/04/2016.

c. Leave of Absence Requests

3. Pat Bullard, Family/Medical Leave of Absence beginning 06/28/2016 – 10/28/2016 (first 60 work days=FMLA).



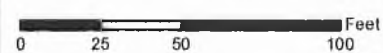
New Sidewalk

New Sidewalk

New Sidewalk

### Middle School Entrance

- Curb Line
- Sidewalk Extent
- Crosswalk







Alicia Rundell



Amber Levenson

# EVERYTHING YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT LONG-TERM FACILITIES MAINTENANCE REVENUE

## Program becomes important asset for Monticello School District

For years, school districts have been advocating for an expansion of the alternative facilities program to all districts. Currently, 25 large districts can use this program to fund deferred maintenance and other facility projects; however, the education funding bill approved by the Legislature during the 2015 session included a variation on that program for all districts, calling it the Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Revenue (LTFMR). The approved program represents a partial adoption of the 2014 Working Group on School Facilities recommendation that all districts have full access to an alternative facilities-style funding program for deferred maintenance.

*Jodie Zesbaugh, Jeff Seely  
and Jim Johnson*

LTFMR can be used to fund health and safety, accessibility, and deferred maintenance projects. It can be used on things that are attached to, or a part of, a building, and replaced on a *like-for-like* basis. Examples of eligible projects include tuck-pointing, roof repair and replacement, athletic field resurfacing (if replacing grass with grass, for example) and flooring replacement. New construction and remodeling projects are specifically excluded from the program.



*Presley Fahrendorf*

The revenue will be phased in over three years, beginning with taxes payable in 2016, for fiscal year 2016–17, as follows:

- up to \$193 per pupil unit for fiscal year 2016–17,
- up to \$292 per pupil unit for fiscal year 2017–18, and
- up to \$380 per pupil unit for fiscal year 2018–19 and subsequent years.

The per-pupil amount is reduced if a district’s average building age is 35 years or less. In addition, LTFMR is not all “new” (i.e., additional) revenue. It replaces the former Health and Safety, Deferred Maintenance, and Alternative Facilities revenue programs and associated funding, which were eliminated beginning with taxes payable in 2016, for fiscal year 2016–17.

Districts may receive additional revenue, above the amounts described above, for specific purposes, including:

- indoor air quality, fire alarm and suppression, and asbestos abatement projects over \$100,000 per site;
- payments on existing alternative facilities bonds; or
- a “grandfather provision” (if they would have qualified for greater revenue under the three programs that LTFMR replaces).

Districts may fund projects directly on a pay-as-you-go basis with their revenue, or may issue bonds and use the annual revenue to finance the debt service on the bonds. They may also save the annual revenue, accumulating a restricted fund balance that can be used for larger projects, or use any combination of these three options. In any case, to qualify for the revenue, districts are required to file a



*Olivia Stahl*

10-year facilities plan that shows how they intend to use the revenue. This plan may be amended after its initial adoption.

LTFMR is provided through a mix of property taxes and state aid. The revenue is equalized, with an equalizing factor equal to 123 percent of the state average adjusted net tax capacity (ANTC) per pupil unit, which for taxes payable in 2016 is approximately \$9,000. The state created a new form of ANTC for purposes of calculating aid for this program, in which half of the value of agricultural land and buildings is not included. So districts with large concentrations of agricultural property may qualify for more aid than they would have if the existing measure of ANTC were used. This equalizing factor is high enough that a large number of districts qualify for aid. And because the factor is set as a percent of state average ANTC per pupil unit, if property values increase statewide over time, the equalizing factor will also increase. This may reduce the erosion of state aid that has been seen in so many programs that have fixed equalizing factors.

There are many factors to consider when determining a long-term plan for the use of LTFMR. In many cases, the goal may be to fund all needed projects while keeping overall property tax rates level and as low as possible. A district may also want to maximize available state aid to fund projects. In addition, if bonds will be issued to finance projects, a district will want to ensure that enough LTFMR revenue is preserved to fund smaller ongoing projects.





EVERYTHING YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED  
TO KNOW ABOUT LONG-TERM FACILITIES  
MAINTENANCE REVENUE

There are also additional legal requirements if bonds are issued to finance projects. For example, a notice of intent must be published in the district's official newspaper which describes the projects funded by the bond issue, the amount of the bond issue and the total district debt. The publication must occur at least 20 days prior to the earliest of: solicitation of bids, issuance of bonds or final levy certification.

The LTFMR program will provide significant additional revenue to many of the districts which did not qualify for the full Alternative Facilities Program. It also creates an array of new financing options for many districts. In some cases, the program may be one of a several tools used to meet the needs for financing capital projects.

For the Monticello School District, the LTFMR program had a significant impact on their planning for a bond referendum this past November. Because the district had paid off the debt on their 1999 high school, they were going to see a significant reduction in their levy. District administration had known about this reduction for some time and planned to go to the community in November 2015 to ask for approval to purchase bonds for building improvements. Many of these improvements were long-term maintenance projects which were long overdue. With limited capital funds available, these projects had been put off for many years. Projects also included an office addition to the middle school, adding a gymnastics gym and stadium at the high school, a complete remodel of a former K-5 building to a pre-kindergarten/kindergarten center in anticipation of greater preschool programming and to provide additional space at the elementary buildings, as well as secure building entrances and site upgrades.

In May 2015, the plans had been finalized and would call for over \$62 million in funding to complete what needed to be done. The dollar amount seemed staggering and there was concern about how the community would react. Comments such as, "We built the high school in the late '90s for less than \$30 million, so how come you need this much now and you're not even building a new school?" brought concern to board members as the district took initial feedback from the public on their plan.

In June 2015, with the approval of LTFMR for districts such as Monticello, the board and administration revised the plan. Projects that would qualify for the LTFMR program were removed from the proposed bond referendum and included in the required 10-year LTFMR plan. This reduced the amount the district would be asking the community to support

in the bond referendum to just under \$40 million, a much easier amount for the community to accept.

On November 3, 2015, the election took place and more than 70 percent of voters supported the proposal. In a separate question regarding an increase of \$200 per pupil on an operating levy, the district also received more than 70 percent support of the voters. The flexibility for funding provided by the LTFMR program was critical in gaining this measure of support.

*Jim Johnson is the superintendent of the Monticello School District. Jodie Zesbaugh and Jeff Seeley are municipal advisors for Ehlers. Learn more about Ehlers at <http://www.ehlers-inc.com>.*



Todd Frouvarp