

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Minutes

School Board Minutes
September 26, 2011
Northfield High School Media Center

- I. Call to Order.
Board Chair Kari Nelson called the regular meeting of the Northfield Board of Education to order at 7 PM.
No one was absent.
- II. Agenda Changes / Table File
The table file was added.
- III. Public Comment
Carol Myint addressed the Board. She has two students who attend Sibley Elementary School and feels that the school district has a moral obligation to monitor what students consume and asked the Board to consider establishing a policy prohibiting treats brought to school by students being sent home from school with students.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Iverson, the minutes of the September 12, 2011, Regular School Board meeting were unanimously approved.
- V. Announcements and Recognitions
 - A closed negotiations strategy session will follow tonight's regular Board meeting in the District Office Conference Room.
 - Greenvale Park PTO is pleased to report that they have changed the nature of their monthly meetings to be more about parent communication, so they will be having monthly Parent Information Nights this year. Last Tuesday was the first Parent Information Night and 34 parents and 44 children attended!
 - The School District is working hard to recycle and compost as much of our waste as we can. All of our buildings now have two or four large dumpsters outside. Each one is intended to collect different items. All six schools are now composting their food waste. As a result, over 800 pounds each day does not go to the landfill. That is over 8 tons a month that will become usable compost.
 - We are pleased to announce that Northfield High School has three National Merit Semi-Finalists. They are Jasmine Barksdale, Parker Patterson and Muriel Carpenter, who is the daughter of School Board member Anne Maple. And seven Commended Scholars: Erik Berthelsen, Joseph Brake, Elizabeth Coffield, Eduardo Jaramillo, Dana O'Donnell, Connor Rowley and Keegan Ryan. Congratulations to these students and their parents. We will be having a reception for these students and their families before the November 14 Board meeting.
 - Posted on the website is a short video produced by Minnesota 2020 about the Farm to School Initiative.
 - Pritchard thanked Matt Hillmann and the Skylert system for alerting Middle School and Sibley parents about the delay of buses due to the construction on Highway 246.
- VI. Item for Discussion and / or Reports
 1. Operating Levy and Capital Projects Levy Presentation.
Dr. Richardson presented a power point on the November 8, 2011, operating levy and capital projects levy. Board members provided feedback and suggested presentation modifications.
- VII. Superintendent's Report
 - A. Items for Individual Action
 1. Proposed 2011 Pay 2012 Property Tax Levy
On a motion by Iverson, seconded by Maple, the Board unanimously approved certifying to County Auditors a 2011 payable 2012 proposed certified net tax levy in the amount of \$14,710,054.31. This represents a 2.72% increase from the prior year. The majority of this increase, approximately 2.46%, is due to the elimination of the Homestead Market Credit enacted during special session. This change is a shift in funding which reduces state aid and increases property taxes.

2. Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction and Student Achievement.

At the September 12th meeting of the Board of Education Hannah Puczko presented a draft of the 2010-2011 Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction and Student Performance. On a motion by Maple, seconded by Stratmoen, the Board unanimously approved the 2010-2011 Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction and Student Performance as presented.

B. Items for Consent Grouping

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

1. Grant Request.

The grant request from the Area Learning Center to apply for a \$1000 grant from Thrivent Financial to support its backpack meals program was approved.

2. Gift Agreement.

The Sibley PTO has donated \$5,400 to Sibley to be used by classroom teachers.

3. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments*

1. Stephanie Ennis – Educational Assistant Special Education PCA at Bridgewater for 6.75 hours/day beginning 9/21/2011 through 6/1/2011 – Class III, Step 1 - \$13.26/hour.
2. Carl Brown – Educational Assistant Special Education PCA at Bridgewater for 6.5 hours/day beginning 9/21/2011 through 6/1/2011 – Class III, Step 1 - \$13.26/hour.
3. Laura Sammon, Long Term Substitute Grade 3 Teacher at Sibley, beginning on or about 10/24/2011 through December 22, 2011, MA, Step 4.
4. Sarah Van Den Akker, Middle School Yearbook Advisor, beginning October 1, 2011 through June 1, 2011, Level K, step 1.
5. Cathy Penning, Middle School Musical, Level I – 1/3 Stipend + Level K 1/3 Stipend, effective October 1, 2011 through June 1, 2011.
6. Ruben Alvarez, Middle School Musical, Level I – 1/3 Stipend + Level K 1/3 Stipend, effective October 1, 2011 through June 1, 2011.
7. Rose Turnacliff, Middle School Musical, Level I – 1/3 Stipend + Level K 1/3 Stipend, effective October 1, 2011 through June 1, 2011.
8. Anita Corwin, Long Term Substitute Site Assistant at Early Ventures, beginning on or about 10/5/2011 through approximately 12/28/2011 (12 weeks). Step 1, \$11.03/hour.
9. Lacey Neuman Bissonnette, Class I and Class II Educational Assistant at ECFE for 5 hours/week, beginning 9/27/11. This is in addition to her KidVenture Site Assistant duties at Bridgewater for 22.5 hours/week.
10. Toni Easterson, Mentoring Grant LINK at Bridgewater and Sibley Elementary, up to 5 hours/week beginning 9/28/11 through 6/1/12, Step 1, \$13.05/hour.
11. Adam Murphy, Assistant Wrestling Coach, beginning 11/21/11, Level E, step 1.
12. Paul Eddy, 9th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, beginning 11/21/11, Level E, step 10.
13. Rael Rodning, Assistant Nordic Ski Coach, beginning 11/14/11, Level G, step 1.

b. Increase/Decrease/Change in Assignment

1. Yolanda Loken, Special Education Ed Assistant Bus PCA hours increasing to 1.08 hours/day effective 9/12/2011.
2. David Von Ruden, Grade 6 Science Teacher, increasing from .80 FTE to .90 FTE beginning 9/6/2011 through 6/1/2012.
3. Geri Schlecht, High School science teacher for .3 FTE and ALC science teacher for .7 FTE, increasing to .40 FTE High School science teacher and .7 FTE ALC science teacher (.1 FTE overload pay beginning 9/6/2011 through 6/4/2012).
4. Vanessa Grave, Kid Ventures Site Leader at Bridgewater, increasing from 26 hours/week to 29.5 hours/week beginning 9/6/2011.
5. Andrea Waldock, Special Education EA Bus PCA, hours increasing from 1.08 hours/day to 1.41 hours/day beginning 9/21/2011 through 6/1/2012. Class III, Step 6 - \$14.99/hour.
6. Kristin Basinger, Special Education EA PCA at Bridgewater for 6.75 hours/day, reducing to 6.50 hours/day effective 9/6/2011.

7. Kristin Basinger, Special Education EA PCA at Bridgewater for 6.50 hours/day. Adding a special education EA PCA bus route at .66 hours per day for a total of 7.16 hrs/day. Class III, Step 6 - \$14.99/hour.
8. Molly Peterson, Production Room Educational Assistant for 3.5 hours/day + Special Education Educational Assistant PCA for 3.5 hrs/day, changing to 6.75 hours/day Special Education Educational Assistant PCA, beginning 9/28/2011.
9. Linda Wasner, Special Education EA PCA at the Middle School, increasing from 5.75 hours/day to 6.75 hours/day beginning 9/21/2011 through 6/1/12.
10. Jackie Moon, Special Education EA PCA at the Middle School for 6.78 hours/day, changing to 3.5 hours/day special education EA PCA and 3.28 hours/day special education EA, beginning 9/21/11 through 6/1/2012.
11. Martha Boughton, Special Education EA at the Middle School for 6.5 hours per day. Changing to 6.0 hours/day Special Education EA and .50 hours/day Special Education EA PCA effective 9/21/11 through 6/1/2012.
12. Rachel Woldum, Middle School Youth Center Site Lead for 11 hours/week, beginning 9/26/11 – Step 1, \$13.74/hour. This is in addition to her 10 hours/week as Greenvale Park Parent Liaison.
13. Laura Talbot Peterson, 1.0 Math teacher at the Middle School. Increase to 1.2 FTE beginning 9/26/2011 through 6/4/2012 (.20 FTE overload).
14. Ryan Driscoll, Student Council Co-Advisor at Greenvale Park, beginning 9/26/11 through 6/1/12, 1/2 Stipend Level K, step 1.

c. Leaves of Absence

1. Christine Neset – FMLA Leave beginning October 25, 2011 through December 4, 2011.
2. Kristen Cade – FMLA Leave beginning November 14, 2011 through January 2, 2012.

d. Resignations

1. Stephanie Millard, Early Ventures Site Assistant at Longfellow, resignation effective September 15, 2011.
2. Molly Peterson, resignation from Production Room Educational Assistant position, effective September 28, 2011. Molly will continue her job as a special education educational assistant PCA.

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

** Subject to revision when negotiations for 2011-13 are completed.

4. Additional Co-Curricular Overnight Trips.

The Board approved adding two more trips to the list of Overnight Co-Curricular Trips for the 2011-2012 school year. They are as follows:

Nordic Ski – Giants Ridge (January 6, 7)

Baseball – Spring Break to Myrtle Beach, SC – Cal Ripken Baseball Complex (March 17-25)

VIII. Items for Information

There were no items for information.

IX. Future Meetings

Tuesday, October 4, 2011, 7:00 PM, Public Information Meeting, Northfield High School Auditorium

Monday, October 10, 2011, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

Monday, October 24, 2011, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting, Northfield High School Media Center

X. On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Fossum, the Board adjourned at 8:45 PM for a closed negotiations strategy session in the District Office Conference Room.

Noel Stratmoen
School Board Clerk