

LOCALNEWS

Northome takes first in envirothon

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Northome School, representing Koochiching County, took two first places May 7 at the North Central Envirothon at Lake Bemidji State Park.

The North Central Envirothon, North America's largest high school environmental education competition, drew 70 students to the event.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts from Beltrami, Cass, Clearwater, Crow Wing, Hubbard, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods and Wadena counties work together to conduct the North Central Envirothon each year. Although Envirothon has hosted regional high school teams for many years, the North Central Envirothon also invites sixth through eighth graders to compete alongside the older students.

Participants in this outdoor learning experience attend sessions on aquatics, wildlife, forestry, soils and current events. Natural resource professionals use the outdoor environment to present hands-on problems and questions to the competitors. Students take quizzes and earn points at each station. High school teams also deliver a prepared presentation based on a specific conservation challenge. This year's topic was "Sustainable Local Agriculture and Locally Grown in Minnesota."

Koochiching County was represented again by the Northome School, a high school team led by Jim Schneider. This year's winning high school Envirothon teams were Northome High School in first place, and Grand Rapids High School teams taking second and third.

The top three teams will now move on to the State Envirothon held May 19 at St. John's University in Collegeville.

Winning teams in Junior Envirothon included Nevis Elementary School teams taking first place and second, and Bagley Elementary taking third place. Northome High School also received the award for the best oral presentation.

To be successful in the event, Schneider's students prepared several months in advance of the competition. They researched the specific topics and listened to special presentations from local natural resources staff, including from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Fisheries, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service and the SWCD.



The Northome High School team took first place in the senior division as well as first place in the oral presentation at the North Central Envirothon May 7. Top row, from the left are: Miranda Carrigan, Jeanette Frenzel, Tanyssa Olafson, coach Jim Schneider; bottom row: Rachel Fahey, Casey Gross, Lane Lindner.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Travel advisory — Victoria Day 2014 holiday weekend in Canada

CBP STAFF REPORT

Victoria Day, Monday, unofficially marks the end of the winter season and thus the beginning of summer. Border traffic volumes are expected to be greatly increased during this holiday weekend and U.S. Customs and Border Protection is reminding all travelers planning trips across the border into the United States to make sure they have their proper documents.

CBP encourages travelers to plan trips in advance and to obtain a valid, acceptable travel document, such as a passport, a U.S. passport card, a trusted traveler card (NEXUS, SENTRI, Global Entry or FAST/EXPRES), a permanent resident card or an enhanced driver's license. Possession of these documents will expedite entry into the United States and make future border crossings more efficient.

Border traffic volumes are expected to significantly increase during the weekend of Friday through Monday for Victoria Day, and all travelers are reminded of a few simple steps they can employ to cross the border more efficiently.

1. Check out the new CBP informational website

The CBP site has been

completely redesigned to help users quickly access the content they need. It also is optimized for access by smart phones and makes use of a new content delivery network that will improve access internationally.

2. Beat the border rush

Cross during off-peak times, such as before 6 a.m. or after 3 p.m. Most lines at the border start building in the morning and carry on into early afternoon.

Monitor wait times for the ports of International Falls and Pembina, N.D. Information is updated hourly and is useful in planning trips and identifying periods of light use/short waits.

3. Keep travel documents handy

Make sure each passenger has the correct travel document accessible and ready to give to the CBP Officer.

If you are a frequent international traveler and have not already become a member of a trusted traveler program, sign up now. For more information, visit CBP's Trusted Traveler site.

4. Know the contents of your vehicles and be prepared to declare all items

Travelers are required to declare all items being imported into the United States from Canada. If you

are not sure about what to declare, do not hesitate to ask the CBP Officer.

Traveler should familiarize themselves with the "Know Before You Go" information here.

5. Know what food products can be imported

Many fruits, meats, dairy, and poultry products are prohibited from being imported into the United States from Canada.

For more information, view Prohibited and Restricted Items.

6. Declare all firearms

Travelers are reminded that specific requirements must be met to import or export firearms and ammunition to/from the United States. For more information on the importation or exportation of firearms and ammunition visit ATF, State Dept., and Commerce Dept. websites or contact CBP at 701-825-5800.

Our dual mission is to facilitate travel in the United States while we secure our borders, our people and our visitors from those that would do us harm like terrorists and terrorist weapons, criminals and contraband.

For more information on international traveling into the United States visit CBP's Travel site.

FRANKEN

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will need to earn, borrow, or save to attend the best school for them."

"College sticker prices don't mean much and a lot of sticker shock occurs later as a result," said Sen. Grassley. "It's almost impossible for students to compare college costs until they have applied and received their financial aid award letter. By then, they will have narrowed their options and it might be too late to start over. If students and parents have more information on college costs early on when shopping for colleges, they'll be able to use that information to comparison-shop. The more information available, the more there will be price competition that will help keep tuition costs down."

For years, Sens. Franken

and Grassley have worked together to tackle college affordability. In addition to the legislation introduced today, the two also have a bill — called the Understanding the Trust Cost of College Act — that would create a universal financial aid form to help students understand exactly what college will cost.

Specifically, the Net Price Calculator Improvement Act would do the following:

- Help increase students' access to net price calculators by requiring institutions to place their calculators on webpages where students and families are likely to look for cost and admissions information—such as the financial aid or tuition and fees page.
- Improve comparability between schools by requiring that "net price" be the most visually prominent figure on the results screen.

- Strengthen information for veteran students by requiring that calculators indicate on the results screen that prospective students may qualify for veteran benefits and include a link to direct eligible students to such benefits.
- Authorize the Department of Education to develop a "universal calculator" that would enable students to answer one set of financial and academic questions in order to generate a list of comparable net price estimates for multiple institutions of higher education.
- Require the Department of Education to submit a report on the steps the Department has taken to raise awareness of NPCs among prospective students and families, particularly those in high school and middle school, and students from low-income families.

Independent School District #361

Koochiching County International Falls, MN

Mission *To prepare all learners for a changing world by developing their potential within a climate of mutual respect and trust.*

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
May 20, 2013
Falls High School Library
5:00 P.M.

- PRELIMINARIES:**
- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER: 5:00 p.m.
- 2.0 ROLL CALL
- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Gordon Dault | Darrell Wagner |
| Michelle Hebner | Dena Wenberg |
| Michael Holden | Nordy Nelson |
| Willi Kostluk | Cory Netland |
- 3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 4.0 PREVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA: moved _____ second _____ carried/failed
- 5.0 OPEN FORUM
- 5.1 Recognition of Tim Everson, Falls High School Principal
- 5.2 Students of the Month Certificates:
Taylor Ruptor, May female student of the month
Tyler Richards, May male student of the month
- 5.3 Engineering Class Report
- 5.4 Reading Well by 3rd Grade presentation
- 5.5 Presentation from Blue Ribbon Panel members
- 5.6 Public Open Forum
- 6.0 Approve the minutes from the regular meeting of April 21, and the special meeting of April 28 and April 30, 2014. moved _____ second _____ carried/failed
- 7.0 Approve the bills due and payable amounting to \$169,738.80. moved _____ second _____ carried/failed

- OLD BUSINESS:**
- 8.0 Approve a Superintendent's contract with Kevin Grover for the period of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2016. moved _____ second _____ carried/failed
- 9.0 Hear a report by Business Manager Stacy Frederickson on the credit card payment plan.
- 10.0 Receive further information on potential advertising at Sports Stadium.
- 11.0 Potential action directing administration to include ballot question for 7 member board in Resolution calling for General Election.
(If approved 7th member would be elected on the 2016 ballot) moved _____ second _____ carried/failed
- 12.0 Act on the Teacher Development and Evaluation Plan for the 2014-15 school year. moved _____ to _____ (approve/deny) second _____ carried/failed
- 13.0 Act on Memorandum of Understanding with Local 331 for participation in the Quality Compensation Program (Q-Comp) for the 2014-15 school year.
moved _____ to _____ (approve/deny) second _____ carried/failed
- 14.0 Adopt final FY2014 Revenue and Expenditure budgets. moved _____ second _____ carried/failed
- 15.0 Remove item 16.5 from "Old Business" and address in item 20.0 "New Business". moved _____ second _____ carried/failed
- 16.0 **Cost Reductions:**
Original Goal: \$500,000 (based on 70 student drop since 5/31/13)
Revised Goal: \$630,000 (based on 86 student drop since 5/31/13)
- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Adjustments made to Date: | \$430,000 (Teacher incentive savings) |
| Library Media position: | \$50,000 |
| Balance remaining | \$150,000 |
- Items removed from consideration:**
- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Two athletic teams | \$24,000 |
| ELL (second language) | \$8,600 |
| Paraprofessional positions | \$125,000 |
| Elementary/secondary staff | \$370,000 |
| Levy referendum | \$300,000 |
| Hall monitor | \$21,000 (moved from reduction list) |
| Alternate physics/chemistry | \$8,600 (moved from reduction list) |
| Community Ed. Office/sec | \$35,000 (moved from reduction list) |
- Items remaining on reduction list for consideration/action:**
- | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| 16.1 Contract yearbook | \$8,600 | moved _____ | second _____ | carried/failed |
| 16.2 Half time secretary | \$18,000 | moved _____ | second _____ | carried/failed |
| 16.3 Drop remedial 7/8 classes | \$42,000 | moved _____ | second _____ | carried/failed |
| 16.4 **Curriculum cycle (phy-ed) | \$75,000 | moved _____ | second _____ | carried/failed |
| 16.5 **Reduce Dean-to-1/2 time | \$38,900 | moved _____ | second _____ | carried/failed |
| 16.6 **Non-renew Alex Ringhofer | \$43,214 | moved _____ | second _____ | carried/failed |
- Options for future consideration:
- Assign Superintendent as 5/8 Principal
 - Levy referendum for facility costs \$200,000
 - *new to list **reinstated to list

- CONSENT AGENDAS:**
- 17.0 **Program Consent:** moved _____ second _____ carried/failed
- 17.1 Accept donations in the amount of \$
- | | | |
|---------|--|--------------------|
| 4/18/14 | Broncos Track Boosters, Falls High School Track Team | \$638.77 |
| 4/21/14 | United Healthcare Group Dollars for Deers Program; FHS Choir | \$200.00 |
| 4/22/14 | Bronco Basketball Boosters; Gymnasium Banner Project | \$135.00 |
| 4/23/14 | Northland Foundation; Age-to-Age Committee | \$3,000.00 |
| 4/29/14 | Schwan's Cares Fundraising; 6th Grade Class Trip | \$132.93 |
| 4/30/14 | Project Read; Boise Safety Contribution | \$450.00 |
| 5/6/14 | Box Tops for Education; Falls Elementary | \$305.70 |
| 5/9/14 | Parent Involvement Committee; Falls Elementary Supplies | \$906.78 |
| 5/12/14 | Box Tops for Education; Falls 7-8th Grade | \$291.68 |
| | TOTAL | \$11,922.46 |
- 17.2 Adopt the 2014-15 Resolution for Membership in the Minnesota State High School League.
- 17.3 Approve a contract with the Ft. Frances Lakers for summer ice time rental.
- 17.4 Accept the low bid from Range Cornice of Hibbing Minnesota for the FHS roofing project in the amount of \$111,766.00.
- 18.0 **Personnel Consent:** moved _____ second _____ carried/failed
- 18.1 Acknowledge Jay Boyle as a volunteer track coach for the 2014 season.
- 18.2 Accept the resignation of Nick Schoenecker as a secondary social studies teacher effective May 30, 2014.
- 18.3 Accept the resignation of Carol Jaksa as National Honor Society Advisor effective May 30, 2014.
- 18.4 Accept the resignation due to retirement of Pam Jensen as Head Cook effective May 30, 2014.
- 18.5 Accept the resignation due to retirement of Bernadine Reinson as Assistant cook effective May 30, 2014.
- 18.6 Accept the resignation due to retirement of June Hennickson as Cafeteria Helper effective May 29, 2014.
- 18.7 Hire extracurricular coaches in accord with Schedule "C" of the Master Agreement between ISD 361 and Local 331:
- | | |
|--------|-----------------------------------|
| 18.7.1 | Football |
| | TBN – Head Coach |
| 18.7.2 | Boys' Basketball |
| | Derek Dowty-Head Coach |
| | Luke Zika – Assistant Coach |
| 18.7.3 | Girls' Basketball |
| | Shawn Gilbert – Head Coach |
| | Jay Boyle – Assistant Coach |
| 18.7.4 | Boys' Hockey |
| | Ross Johnson – Head Coach |
| | Eric Olson – Assistant Coach |
| | Tom Blondich – Assistant Coach |
| 18.7.5 | Girls' Hockey |
| | Charlie LeDuc – Volunteer Coach |
| | Gerald Bolstad – Head Coach |
| | Kevin Erickson – Assistant Coach |
| 18.7.6 | Boys' Swimming |
| | Dawn Taylor – Head Coach |
| | Michelle Hebner – Assistant Coach |
- 19.0 **Policy Consent:** moved _____ second _____ carried/failed
- 19.1 Approve revised Policy 400 Substitute Pay.
- 19.2 Approve revised Policy 603 Curriculum Development
- 19.3 Approve revised Policy 613 Graduation Requirements
- 19.4 Approve revised policy 613.5 Weighted Grades
- 19.5 Receive revised Policy 701.5 Fund Balance for adoption in June
- NEW BUSINESS:**
- 20.0 Review administrative alignment options I-V with potential action.
moved _____ second _____ to adopt Option _____ carried/failed
- 21.0 Adopt Resolutions for Tenure and presentation of plaques
- | | | | | |
|------|------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 21.1 | Heather Ebel | moved _____ | second _____ | roll call _____ |
| 21.2 | Terry Mason | moved _____ | second _____ | roll call _____ |
| 21.3 | Beth Shermoen | moved _____ | second _____ | roll call _____ |
| 21.4 | Katherine Winkel | moved _____ | second _____ | roll call _____ |
- REPORTS AND INFORMATION:**
- 22.0 **Administrative Reports:**
- 22.1 Melissa Tate, FES/WEE Principal
- 22.2 Tim Everson, FHS Principal
- 22.3 Nordy Nelson, Superintendent
- 23.0 **Committee Reports:**
- 23.1 Student Representative
- ADJOURNMENT:** Adjourn the meeting at _____ p.m. moved _____ second _____ carried/failed
- RECEPTION FOR NEWLY TENURED STAFF**



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