Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting, October 15, 2026
Novi Community School District
Board of Education

A Regular Meeting of the Novi Community School District Board of Education was held on Thursday, October 15, 2026, beginning at 6:07 p.m., at the Educational Services Building.

Present: President Ruskin, Secretary Cook, Treasurer Kliebert, Trustee Mena, Trustee Michener, Trustee Roney

Absent: Vice-President Beaudoin, Trustee Roney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
National Merit Scholarship Semi-finalists in attendance led the Board Members and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
Trustee Michener moved to adopt the agenda as presented.

Ayes: President Ruskin, Secretary Cook, Treasurer Kliebert, Trustee Mena, Trustee Michener,

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED 5-0

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT
Ellyanna Sharrow shared highlights around the District.
High School - Homecoming week celebrations, Performing Arts and Sports Teams.
Middle school - Veggipalooza Farmer's Market, Sports teams and reminded parents about the upcoming Parent Teacher Conferences.
Elementary Schools - Fun Runs that help PTO's support the Elementary Schools
Fall Break from October 30th - November 3rd

Vice-President Beaudoin arrived during the Student Board Representative Report.

CELEBRATIONS

National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists
Principal Carter presented and congratulated the 49 National Merit Scholarship semifinalists.

National Principal's Month
Superintendent Mainka resolved that the Novi Community School District Board of Education recognizes the month of October as National Principals Month and honors the contribution of Novi Community School District Principals, Assistant Principals, Deans of Students, and Building Administrators: Nicole Carter, Michelle Eathorne, Brian Langley, Ronald Kane, Robert Baker, David Sinopoli-Smith, Lindsay Radtke, Katy Dinkelmann, Emily Reitz, Ryan Francis, Ashley Kurtz, Alice Kazee, Scott Schuitema, Joi Danforth, Jennifer Murphy, Laura Bidlack, Megan Haapala, Brenna McGinn, Katherine Whitty, Sarah

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Kraemer, and Kristen Meier.

Weekly Wildcat Winners
Trustee Kliebert moved that the Novi Community School District Board of Education recognize our Weekly Wildcat Winners: Kate VanEe, Karen Dennett, and Julie Dinsmore and extend our appreciation for their commitment to excellence, and our students and district.

Ayes: President Ruskin, Vice-President Beaudoin, Secretary Cook, Treasurer Kliebert, Trustee Mena, Trustee Michener

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

DONATIONS

Novi Youth Association - Equity Gap Program
The Novi Youth Assistance has generously donated $1600 to NCSD for an initiative called the Equity Gap Program. The goal of this program is to provide financial assistance to students who may not be able participate in school activities or access needed materials. Examples of expenses discussed include but not limited to: yearbook purchases, field day shirts, chromebook insurance, after-school club fees, social events (i.e. Roller Skating Party), winter boots, water bottle, etc.

Vice President Beaudoin moved that the Novi Community School District Board of Education accepts the Novi Youth Assistance donation in the total amount of $1600 as presented, with appreciation and thanks.

Ayes: President Ruskin, Vice-President Beaudoin, Secretary Cook, Treasurer Kliebert, Trustee Mena, Trustee Michener

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

PERSONNEL REPORT(S)

Personnel Report A
Treasurer Kliebert moved that the Novi Community School District Board of Education adopt the Personnel Report A recommendations as presented.

Ayes: President Ruskin, Vice-President Beaudoin, Secretary Cook, Treasurer Kliebert, Trustee Mena, Trustee Michener

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

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REPORT(S) TO THE BOARD

Financial Monthly Report:
Assistant Superintendent Scicluna reported that the auditors that were out in September wrapped up their field work. Audit findings will be presented at the November 9th Finance Committee meeting. The draft of the audit will be received and undergo multiple levels of review processes. She discussed long term financial strategy and the focus of involving District stakeholders to collaboratively continue working towards a financially sustainable future for the District.

Spring 2026 State Assessment Data Report
Laura Bidlack, Director of Elementary Education reported to the board the data analysis from the Spring 2026 State Assessments.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE
There were 4 comments from the audience.

5 MINUTE BREAK
The Board took a brief break beginning at 7:26PM
The Board returned at 7:35PM

CONSENT AGENDA
Trustee Michener moved that the Novi Community School District Board of Education approve the Consent items as presented.

Ayes: President Ruskin, Vice-President Beaudoin, Secretary Cook, Treasurer Kliebert, Trustee Mena, Trustee Michener

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

NCSD Board Committee Structure and Logistics
Superintendent Mainka brought to the Board that historically, the NCSD Board's Committee of the Whole meetings have been conducted in a work-session format. To increase public access and visibility, the Board may consider holding these meetings at the board table and using the same structure as regular Board meetings, allowing them to be recorded and streamed. The meetings would remain focused on one or two topics for discussion. This will come back for action at the November 12, 2026 regular meeting.

NHS Performing Arts Center Phase 1
Superintendent Mainka introduced Stewart Reich from Kingscott and Jason Ide from Christman Company, to answer Board questions about the NHS Performing Arts Center Phase 1 GMP package. This will come back for action at the November 12, 2026 regular meeting.

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CLOSED SESSION

Secretary Cook moved that the Novi Community School District Board of Education move into a Closed Session for the purpose of engaging in negotiations as permitted under section 8(1)(c) of the OPEN MEETINGS ACT. A roll-call vote was taken by Secretary Cook:

President Ruskin: Yes
Vice-President Beaudoin: Yes
Secretary Cook: Yes
Treasurer Kliebert: Yes
Trustee Michener: Yes
Trustee Mena: Yes

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

The Board of Education went into closed session at 7:56 p.m.. and returned at 8:18 p.m.

ACTION ITEM(S)

ECEC Curriculum Update
Secretary Cook moved that the Novi Community District Board of Education approve ECEC Curriculum Update as presented.

Ayes: President Ruskin, Vice-President Beaudoin, Secretary Cook, Treasurer Kliebert, Trustee Mena, Trustee Michener

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

NHS Student Media Technology Upgrades
Trustee Mena moved that the Novi Community District Board of Education approve the NHS Student Media Technology Upgrades as presented.

Ayes: President Ruskin, Vice-President Beaudoin, Secretary Cook, Treasurer Kliebert, Trustee Mena, Trustee Michener

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Bond Governance Procedures Update
Trustee Michener moved that the Novi Community District Board of Education approve the Bond Governance Procedures Update as presented.

Ayes: President Ruskin, Vice-President Beaudoin, Secretary Cook, Treasurer Kliebert, Trustee Mena,

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Trustee Michener

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

NHS Innovation Hub - Phase 1 (Superstructure)
Vice President Beaudoin moved that the Novi Community District Board of Education approve the NHS Innovation Hub - Phase 1 (Superstructure) as presented.

Ayes: President Ruskin, Vice-President Beaudoin, Secretary Cook, Treasurer Kliebert, Trustee Mena, Trustee Michener

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

NAECE Wage Reopener Vote
Treasurer Kliebert moved that the Novi Community District Board of Education approve the NAECE Wage Reopener as presented.

Ayes: President Ruskin, Vice-President Beaudoin, Secretary Cook, Treasurer Kliebert, Trustee Mena, Trustee Michener

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

COMMITTEE REPORT(S)
No Committee Reports

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT
Mr. Mainka, Superintendent of Schools, reported on the following:

- Acknowledged stress felt around the District, as we think about some of the things that were said tonight and confirmed by conversations had in the buildings, Administration is working very very hard to try and ask those questions about what they can do to support our team and teachers. What can they do to reduce stress and find some of those pieces to help.
- More to come around the financial conversations engaging stakeholders, our families and staff. Has spent a lot of time in buildings with the incredible staff. Plans to do a lot more showcasing that.
- Administrators are spending a lot more time in buildings trying to understand how they can help and support. They are really grateful for the incredible staff and want to highlight their efforts.
- Fall Break will be from October 30th - November 3rd. Staff will come back on November 2nd for Professional Development.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS
Assistant Superintendent Scicluna reported on the following:

- Shared fun facts about the Middle School Farmer's Market on October 2nd. 1100 Students, over 10,000 lbs of produce, 1800+ doughnuts, and 20 gallons of cider. The mini pumpkins were the fan favorite.

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- Celebrate the Transportation team as they continue to work hard to safely and reliably transport roughly 5000 students every day. With winter weather approaching please be mindful of
    - Red Light stop: Stop sign is out, red lights are flashing. All traffic must come to a full legal stop because children are actively boarding or exiting the bus.
    - Yellow Hazard Light stop: the bus is pulled over temporarily. Drivers may safely pass with caution, continuing the flow of traffic.
- The Maintenance team are the unsung heroes. Supporting the outdoor sports teams keeping the fields maintained. Keeping up with the landscaping for the entire District and getting all the summer equipment winterized. Getting the District ready for winter.

Assistant Superintendent Carino reported on the following:
- Thanked the NAECE group for their partnership as the District negotiated their wage opener.
- Thanked Cathy Ferris and Danielle Stacer (District Nurses) for the Employee Flu Clinic at the ESB.
- Thanked Katie Booth for kicking off the Clubs & Activities programs around the district. Assuming many of the responsibilities from the Dean of Activities position that was eliminated earlier this year.
- Visited Orchard Hills Staff last week to be accessible for any human resource needs.
- Thanked Dennis Huisman for setting up additional Emergency Notifications that can pop up as visual messages.
- Wishes everyone a well deserved Fall Break
- Highlighted the Mental Health Series Programs on Monday October 19th and Tuesday November 17th

Assistant Superintendent Giromini reported the following:
- Final Professional Development on November 3rd. K-12 No school for students.
    - Continuing 5-12 ELA implementation, training for WIDA assessment, grading and its link to motivation and other subject specific PD.
- Fall iReady report will be ready to share with the Board soon. It's not as informative for growth that the students make like the other reports, but it provides a baseline for the school year and helps at the classroom level make decisions about how to support students.
- Continuing Building visits - Meadows, Deerfield and Parkview since last meeting, next will be Novi Woods. It's been awesome seeing so much learning, engagement and energy in the classrooms. Appreciation for the focused time to connect with staff.

<u>BOARD COMMUNICATION</u>
President Ruskin reported on the Farmer's Market at the Middle School. Thanks to Kim Sinclair and her team. Fun to see kids getting fresh produce. Wished good luck to all teams that are finishing up their seasons and to those entering end of season tournaments. Tomorrow is the Groundbreaking for the Activities Center at 10 a.m. over by the old tennis courts.

Trustee Michener reported appreciation and thanks for the Middle School staff and Novi Fire Department for handling the Fire Alarm right at the end of the school day. Fire Departments were there within minutes. The staff handled all the students in various stages of going home. Community members staying calm and collected while waiting for the all clear.

Treasurer Kliebert reported thanks and appreciation to Mr, Baker, Mr. Sinopoli-Smith and Mrs. Radtke for handling the two major events right at dismissal, the Severe Weather Event in September and then this Fire Alarm Alert, but also getting 1100 kids through the farmers market during their history classes. Congratulated the Middle School on being #1 in the Niche Ratings. 8th Grade Washington DC trip from

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November 3rd-6th. Thanks to all the staff that are chaperoning and proud that we continue to provide that opportunity.

ADJOURNMENT
Trustee Michener moved to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: President Ruskin, Vice-President Beaudoin, Secretary Cook, Treasurer Kliebert, Trustee Mena, Trustee Michener

Nays: None
MOTION CARRIED 6-0

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The next Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled for November 12, 2026, at the Educational Services Building.

Paul Cook, Board of Education
Secretary

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