

**Nova Classical Academy
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting
January 30, 2023**

Directors Present: Colleen Hansen (via Zoom), Mel Hernandez, Nick LaRusso (via Zoom), Becky Lund, Suzanne McInroy, Sasha Ross, Diane Ruday, Bavi Weston

Directors Absent: Jennie Winter

Advisors Present: Brett Wedlund, Michael Pelofske (via Zoom), Brooke Tousignant (via Zoom), Missy Johnson (via Zoom), Kriscel Estrella (via Zoom), Ava Jane Lynch (student representative), Kary Johnston (FoE)

Others in Attendance: Nova staff, parents (Note: While this meeting was held in-person at 1455 Victoria Way, it was also made available on Zoom.)

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Becky Lund chaired the meeting.

II. Business Meeting: Approval of Agenda

Ms. Ross moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Weston seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Consent Agenda

- A. 1st reading of revised policy 531 (Pledge of Allegiance)
- B. 1st reading of revised policy 214 (Out of State Travel for Board Members)
- C. 2nd reading, potential approval of revised policy NP 208 (Policy on Policies)
- D. 2nd reading, potential approval of revised policy NP 210 (Conflict of Interest for Board Members)
- E. **Repeal** policy NP 306 (Re-Enrollment after Long-Term Leave)
- F. Employment Agreement of Academic Director
- G. October 27, 2022 Board Minutes (Strategic Planning)
- H. Regular Board Minutes – November 1, 2022
- I. November 10, 2022 Board Minutes (Strategic Planning)
- J. Regular Board Minutes – November 28, 2022 (Strategic Planning)
- K. December 15, 2022 Board Minutes (Strategic Planning)
- L. Amendment to PRIDE Transportation Contract

Ms. Weston moved to approve the consent agenda with the correction of removing Bavi Weston as present from the November 10th minutes. Ms. McInroy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Public Comment

Petra Kohler Riedi submitted electronic public comment asking that the Board approve the 2023-2024 school calendar at the next board meeting and consider earlier approval of the calendar in future years to make it easier for families to make future plans.

Rob Burkhardt submitted electronic public comment asking that the Board and administration do a thorough review of last week's disciplinary issue to make sure that disciplinary actions were appropriate in keeping our school safe and to make sure that Nova Classical's policies are aligned to changing needs.

Traci Taylor submitted electronic public comment in favor of the proposed 2023-2024 calendar, specifically in the additional four staff work days.

Ann Weber submitted electronic public comment sharing concerns about bullying and asking what is being done to address it.

V. Reports received by the Board

There was a discussion regarding repealed policy NP 306 (Re-Enrollment after Long-Term Leave) to understand the background information behind the policy and the repeal.

A. Executive Director Report

Dr. Wedlund highlighted the items in his report including the updates from the state legislature. He also spoke about potential changes Nova Classical may need to make if the legislature approves funding lunches for all students. Dr. Wedlund shared information about Open Meeting Law that he received from Friends of Education; they are saying that there needs to be 72-hour notice before attending meetings off-site and addresses need to be published every time. He also shared some further updates from FoE and additional updates from the administration. There was discussion regarding aligning the US lunch program with national school lunch program.

B. Board Chair Report

Ms. Winter's written report asked for feedback on future board training opportunities. It also asked for feedback regarding how to add the new strategic plan goals to this year's board goals.

C. Board Committees

i. Governance Report

Ms. Lund asked for feedback on how to address empty seats due to long-term student absences; the intention is to include specifics in policy NP 305 (Section Size). There was discussion.

Nick LaRusso arrived at 6:21 pm.

Ms. Hernandez, "Resolved, that the Governance Committee is charged to work with the administration to update our Section Size Policy to create a procedure for handling longer-than-15-day leaves." Ms. Ross seconded. There was discussion. Ms. Hansen, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Lund, Ms. McInroy, Ms. Ross, Ms. Ruday, and Ms. Weston voted in favor. Dr. LaRusso abstained. The motion passed.

ii. Finance and Budget Report

Ms. Ross said that we're within 3% of revenue and expenses paid out now that we're just over 50% of the school year. She also highlighted the proposed motion regarding updating the FY23 budget and gave some background information regarding spending deadlines.

iii. ED Review Committee

There was no report this month. They will be meeting in the next month or two.

iv. **Academic Excellence Report**

There was no report this month. They are scheduled to meet on February 15th to go over FastBridge data.

v. **NPTO Report**

There was no report this month. The next NPTO meeting is on Tuesday.

vi. **Student Representative Report**

Ms. Lynch spoke about winter sports which are currently mid-season. Mock Trial has won all but one of their trials and placed 6th out of 44 at their tournament. She highlighted several other student organizations including one-act plays and the Black and White Dance. Students are adjusting to their second semester classes and seniors are submitting their theses. There are several upcoming events such as Snow Days. Ms. Lynch shared that overall students are opposed to any kind of violence at Nova, but are reassured by the actions that were taken.

VI. Business

A. **Strategic Plan Approval**

Dr. LaRusso, “Resolved, that the Board approves the Nova Classical Academy Strategic Plan as presented with the addition of ‘diverse’ to goal 9.” Ms. McInroy seconded. There was discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. **FY23 Budget Revision**

Ms. Ross and Dr. Wedlund gave background information. We budgeted conservatively at the beginning of the year, but are ready to adjust based on actual spending and more accurate enrollment numbers. It also allows us to budget more strategically by moving some items up to this year’s budget instead of next year’s. There was discussion.

Ms. Hansen, “Resolved, that the Board approve the revision to the FY23 budget as presented and set aside \$218,000 in the FY24 budget to be used toward one time staffing or contracted services connected to the strategic plan.

Further resolved that a retention bonus be paid to all benefit eligible salaried employees who are employed by Nova Classical on June 7, 2023 and remain employed at Nova Classical on October 1, 2023 in an amount equivalent to 4% of their FY23 salary and a retention bonus be paid to all benefit eligible hourly employees who are employed by Nova Classical on June 7, 2023 and remain employed at Nova Classical on October 1, 2023 in an amount equivalent to 30 times their FY23 hourly wage.” Ms. Weston seconded. There was discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. **2023-2024 Calendar**

Dr. Wedlund presented the 2023-2024 school calendar and spoke about the process to develop it. He highlighted two significant changes from past years: more holidays are non-school days and four more staff work days have been added. We are still well over the required amount of student-contact hours for all ages. There was discussion.

Ms. Ruday, “Resolved, that the Board approves the 2023-2024 school calendar.” Ms. Hernandez seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items

The next regular board meeting will be on Monday, February 27, 2023.

VIII. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Becky Lund.