

**Nova Classical Academy
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting – HELD ONLINE/REMOTELY
June 28, 2021**

Directors Present: Mel Hernandez, Claudia Gumbiner Hungs, Divya Karan, Becky Lund, Theresa Nelson, Frank Ross

Directors Absent: Jason Belter, Nick LaRusso, Diane Ruday, Jennie Winter

Advisors Present: Brett Wedlund, Michael Pelofske, Missy Johnson, Joe Aliperto (Dieci School Finance), Michelle Maciej

Others in Attendance: Nova staff, parents

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:12 pm. Theresa Nelson and Frank Ross led the meeting.

II. Business Meeting: Approval of Agenda

Ms. Lund moved to approve the agenda with the removal of the bond refunding item under Business. Ms. Karan seconded. A roll call vote was held. Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Gumbiner Hungs, Ms. Karan, Ms. Lund, Ms. Nelson, and Mr. Ross voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Consent Agenda

- A. Regular May 24th minutes
- B. 2nd reading/ potential approval of revised policy NP 304 (Gifted and Talented)
- C. 1st reading of revised policy NP 501 (Curriculum)
- D. 1st reading of revised policy NP 502 (Parental Curriculum Review)
- E. Agate Social Works contracted agreement for SY 2022
- F. Musser Environmental Consulting, Inc. contracted agreement for FY22, FY23, and FY 24
- G. FORTIS IT Solutions agreement
- H. Minnesota Association of Charter Schools Membership
- I. FY21 audit engagement letters with CliftonLarsonAllen

Ms. Lund moved to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Gumbiner Hungs seconded. A roll call vote was held. Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Gumbiner Hungs, Ms. Karan, Ms. Lund, Ms. Nelson, and Mr. Ross voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Public Comment

Patty Mathews asked about documents being reviewed including policies and what that process is.

V. Reports received by the Board

A. Executive Director Report

Dr. Wedlund spoke about the refunding process and the backup in the process; we're now looking at a closing at the beginning of August. He also spoke about learning models for next school year and the belief that we'll be able to be fully in-person and not offer distance learning unless the state changes statute. We're waiting for more information regarding mitigation requirements, but it doesn't look like we'll have

anything that would cause us to change plans. There was discussion. Dr. Wedlund also gave an update about the rebranding process and that report. He also spoke about the reason for the rebranding and highlighted a few pieces of the report including the internal positioning statement and the external brand promise and the reasoning behind the wording. Dr. Wedlund also spoke about the five key messages included in the report. There was discussion. A request was made to have the Board vote on the statements and key messages. The discussion continued regarding what was strategic versus operational oversight with

B. Board Chair Report

Ms. Nelson stated that the Board will vote on board roles (chairs, etc.) in July.

C. Board Committees

i. Governance Report

There was no discussion.

ii. Finance and Budget Report

There was no meeting this month.

iii. Academic Excellence Report

There was no report this month.

D. Ad Hoc Committees

E. NPTO Report

There was no report this month.

F. Student Report

There was no report this month.

VI. Business

A. 2021-2022 Student and Parent Handbook

Dr. Johnson and Mr. Pelofske gave background information regarding this item and highlighted the changes.

Ms. Nelson, “Resolved that the Board approves the 2021-2022 Student and Parent Handbook.” Ms. Gumbiner Hungs seconded. A roll call vote was held. Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Gumbiner Hungs, Ms. Karan, Ms. Lund, Ms. Nelson, and Mr. Ross voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Evaluation Handbook

Dr. Johnson gave background information regarding this item, focusing on how Q Comp funds our teacher leadership positions and teacher development. There was discussion.

Ms. Nelson, “Resolved that the Board approves the Evaluation Handbook.” Ms. Lund seconded. A roll call vote was held. Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Gumbiner Hungs, Ms. Karan, Ms. Lund, Ms. Nelson, and Mr. Ross voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

C. District Testing in FY22

Dr. Johnson gave background information regarding this item including what Nova already does and what is proposed. She also explained the new FastBridge assessment that will replace the ACT Aspire test. There was discussion.

Ms. Nelson, “Resolved that the Board approves the district testing calendar for FY22.” Ms. Karan seconded. A roll call vote was held. Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Gumbiner Hungs, Ms. Karan, Ms. Lund, Ms. Nelson, and Mr. Ross voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

D. FY22 Transportation Agreement

Dr. Wedlund and Ms. Maciej gave background information regarding this item. Negotiating with Monarch has not gone well as they are not willing to work with our timeline or listen to our concerns. Further work has been done to look at other possible vendors, though a full comparison was not done. A lot of research went into the background of Pride Transportation to see if they’re a viable second choice. A draft contract was shared with the Board, but it has some items that still need to be finalized. Dr. Wedlund recommended switching our bussing to Pride Transportation. There was discussion.

Ms. Lund, “Resolved that the Board gives Dr. Wedlund the authority to enter into an agreement with Pride Transportation, not to exceed \$400,000, for FY22.” Ms. Nelson seconded. There was discussion. A roll call vote was held. Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Gumbiner Hungs, Ms. Karan, Ms. Lund, Ms. Nelson, and Mr. Ross voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Graduation Requirements

Dr. Wedlund and Mr. Pelofske gave the background information regarding adding credit for the senior thesis.

Ms. Nelson, “Resolved, that the Board approves the revised graduation requirements.” Ms. Gumbiner Hungs seconded. A roll call vote was held. Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Gumbiner Hungs, Ms. Karan, Ms. Lund, Ms. Nelson, and Mr. Ross voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Summer Programming at Nova Mitigation Strategies

Dr. Wedlund shared Nova’s mitigation strategies for summer programming.

G. Playworks Agreement

Dr. Wedlund gave the background information behind this motion. There was discussion.

Ms. Nelson, “Resolved, that the Board approves Playworks TeamUp plan for SY22.” Ms. Lund seconded. A roll call vote was held. Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Gumbiner Hungs, Ms. Karan, Ms. Lund, Ms. Nelson, and Mr. Ross voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

H. FY22 Board Calendar

Mr. Ross explained the options for the board calendar. There was discussion.

Mr. Ross, “Resolved, that the Board approves continuing with its current format of meeting on the last Monday of each month with the exception of December’s Saturday retreat and meeting on May 23 because of Memorial Day.” Ms. Gumbiner Hungs seconded. There was discussion. A roll call vote was held. Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Gumbiner Hungs, Ms. Karan, Ms. Lund, Ms. Nelson, and Mr. Ross voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

I. **2021-2022 Resolution for Membership in the MSHSL**

Dr. Wedlund gave some brief background information.

Ms. Lund, “Resolved, that the Board approves the MSHSL 2021-2022 resolution for membership with the addition of Frank Ross being the board representative.” Ms. Gumbiner Hungs seconded. A roll call vote was held. Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Gumbiner Hungs, Ms. Karan, Ms. Lund, Ms. Nelson, and Mr. Ross voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

J. **Branding - Tagline**

Dr. Wedlund presented taglines from Nova’s branding consultants. He explained that it should convey the product benefit, be memorable, and be language that our audience will relate to. There was discussion.

Ms. Lund, “Resolved, that the Board approves the tagline ‘Know yourself. Know the world.’” Ms. Gumbiner Hungs seconded. A roll call vote was held. Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Gumbiner Hungs, Ms. Karan, Ms. Lund, Ms. Nelson, and Mr. Ross voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. **Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items**

The next regular board meeting will be on July 26, 2021. Sasha Ross will be joining the Board as a teacher member. Tonight was the last meeting for parent/chair Theresa Nelson and teacher Jason Belter. The Board thanks them both for many years of service and hard work on the Board.

VIII. **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Becky Lund.