

## Executive Director's Report to the Board

**Date of the Report:** June 17, 2023

**Report Prepared By:** Dr. Brett Wedlund



### Strategic Plan Updates

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**Goal 1:** Provide all Nova Classical students guaranteed access to Minnesota's leading classical education.

**Objective 1.1:** Nova Classical will provide exposure to the core components of the classical education model to all students who are new to Nova Classical.

**Strategy:** Nova Classical will identify core components that are included in our existing new student orientation.

**Stage:** Completed

**Update:** As part of our work to strengthen student onboarding, this baseline strategy outlines what is currently being done across the school. The attached deliverable will serve as a foundation as we move toward developing a more formal onboarding program that integrates key elements of the classical education model.

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**Goal 3:** Foster an environment that values structure and classical culture in the classroom as well as joy and connections between members of Nova Classical's learning community in and outside the classroom

**Objective 3.5:** Nova Classical will review its class sizes.

**Strategies:**

- Compile data on class sizes at schools with similar instructional models (ERA & SCPA)
- Write a summary of available peer reviewed research related to class size which includes information from peer reviewed sources about class size in the classical education model or identifies if this body of research does not exist.
- Compile data on class sizes at Nova Classical disaggregated by school and department.
- Compile all information from the three strategies into a format that allows for clear communication of the findings to the Board.

**Stage:** Complete

**Update:** These items have been completed and the written report will be presented at tonight's meeting.

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### MSHSL Participation Numbers

As part of our annual reporting cycle, we have compiled an overview of student participation in Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) sports and activities during the 2024–25 school year. This includes unduplicated athlete counts by grade level and participation in individual sports and fine arts activities.

**A total of 101 male and 109 female students participated** on at least one MSHSL team this year. Among male athletes, the highest participation was in grades 10 and 11 (23 athletes each). Among female athletes, the highest participation occurred in grade 12 (28 athletes).

In the fall, Nova students participated in boys' and girls' cross country, boys' and girls' soccer, girls' tennis (via co-op), and girls' volleyball. Notable participation included 37 boys in soccer, 34 girls in volleyball, 24 boys in cross country, and 22 girls in soccer.

Winter offerings included boys' and girls' basketball, boys' hockey (co-op), and Nordic skiing (co-op). Boys' basketball had 30 participants and girls' basketball had 21. Two students joined the boys' hockey co-op team, and one student participated in Nordic skiing.

Spring participation was highest in track and field, with 40 boys and 34 girls competing. Other spring sports included baseball (16 participants), boys' and girls' lacrosse (2 and 5 participants respectively, via co-op), boys' tennis (5, co-op), and boys' volleyball (4, co-op).

In the fine arts, students engaged in MSHSL-sponsored debate, one act play, and speech. Debate had 13 students (7 boys, 6 girls), one act play had 13 (5 boys, 8 girls), and speech had 11 (2 boys, 9 girls). Music and visual arts were not offered through MSHSL programs this year.

Outside of traditional MSHSL activities, Nova also participated in robotics, with 14 students (10 boys, 4 girls). Clay target shooting was not offered.

These participation numbers reflect a strong level of engagement across a range of athletics and activities, particularly in fall and spring seasons. Co-op arrangements continue to be a critical means of access for several programs.