

**Nova Classical Academy
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting
October 27, 2025**

Directors Present: Teo Flesher, Colleen Hansen, Shannon Hooge (Zoom, medical reasons), Becky Lund, Heather Meeker, Todd Sample, Chris Shepard, Bavi Weston,

Directors Absent: Lisa Wikman

Advisors Present: Brett Wedlund, Tamra Paschall, Carolyn Farrell, Missy Johnson, Sawyer Owens (student representative, Zoom)

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 6:02 pm. Bavi Weston chaired the meeting.

II. Business Meeting: Approval of Agenda

Ms. Lund moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Hansen seconded. A roll call vote was held. Mr. Flesher, Ms. Hansen, Mr. Hooge, Ms. Lund, Mr. Sample, Mr. Shepard, and Ms. Weston voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Spotlight Award

James Garske is the recipient of this month's Spotlight Award. He embodies what it means to be a Nova student with national recognition as a Nation Merit Finalist, serves as vice president of Nova's National Honor Society. He's involved in several student leadership groups including the Cooperative, the Knights Round Table student advisory group, mock trial, and choir at Nova as well as the MN page program, Boy Scouts and other programs outside of Nova. James consistently displays a character of service and humility as well as academic excellence.

The Board recognizes James Gaske's achievements and service to Nova Classical and congratulates him on receiving the Spotlight Award!

IV. Student Representative Report

Sawyer spoke about the close of fall sports and the many successes from the Nova Classical athletes. 14 new National Honor Society members were inducted, and House tutoring has begun. He also recognized several academic successes.

Sawyer shared about the LS Grandparents/Special Persons Day. Winter sports will start soon including basketball and a co-op for hockey. There was discussion. Sawyer received all-state recognition for soccer.

Heather Meeker arrived at 6:11 pm.

V. Public Comment

Patty Mathews (parent) spoke about the expansion and the difference of Nova Classical since it started. She would like the school to not expand and find a way to go back to having Nova feel like a small school environment.

Crystal Schuweiler (parent) spoke about the police presence last week and that while teachers were notified, but parents weren't. She would like parents to also be informed.

VI. Consent Agenda

- A. September 29, 2025 Minutes HR Report
- B. 1st reading of revised policy NP 101 (Legal Authority of the Board)
- C. 1st reading of revised policy NP 102 (Definitions)
- D. Accept the 2025 Election Report
- E. Contracted service agreement with Strategic Staffing Solutions

Ms. Meeker moved to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Hansen seconded. There was discussion. Mr. Flesher, Ms. Hansen, Mr. Hooge, Ms. Lund, Ms. Meeker, Mr. Sample, Mr. Shepard, and Ms. Weston voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Reports received by the Board

A. Executive Director Report

Dr. Wedlund added that last weekend was the Section Cross Country meet; the boys won, which qualifies them for state. Isabel Pass won the girls meet, so she also qualified for state.

B. Board Chair Report

There was no report this month.

C. Board Committees

a. Governance Report

There was no discussion.

b. Budget and Finance Report

Mr. Sample gave an overview; they reviewed the September finances and then Dr. Wedlund gave a brief update on the facilities expansion.

Finances look good; we're one quarter through the year and have spent 24% of our budget, though we've received 21% of our funding. This is typical for this point in the year. We should receive our 10% holdback from last year by the end of October. Cash on hand is currently \$4.9 million. There was discussion regarding the federal shutdown; at this time there isn't an impact on our funding.

c. ED Review Committee

There was no report this month.

d. Academic Excellence Report

There was no report this month.

D. NPTO Report

Ms. Meeker shared that the Carnival is coming upon November 8; if you RSVP by the end of this week, you can attend for free. Currently 350 people have signed up. There are a lot of open spots for volunteers. She also spoke about providing meals for teachers for fall conferences. There was discussion.

VIII. Business

A. Expansion Update

Dr. Wedlund gave an update on the number of approvals Nova Classical needed to proceed. MDE has approved our Review and Comment with no findings. We are currently still waiting on air rights vacation approval. Our site plan review is still being finalized.

He also gave an update on conversations with the contractor and that they anticipate a \$10.6 million construction cost and \$11.9 million project cost. They've moved on to discussing contract language and we expect to get a draft by the end of this week. It will be reviewed by our attorney and by PiperSandler and then will come to the Board, most likely during a special board meeting. At that time the Board would have all the information needed to go out to bond.

There was discussion about the probable timeline for the special board meeting.

The Board complimented Dr. Wedlund on his work with the value engineering.

B. Assurance of Compliance FY26

Dr. Wedlund shared this with the Board for our information. He gave further background information.

C. FoE Academic Goal Review – Part Two

Dr. Johnson shared data for goals 2 (nationally normed assessments), 3 (high school graduation), and 4 (school culture) with Friends of Education. There was discussion along the way.

Overall, Nova Classical is meeting or on track to meet these goals. There are a few partial pieces where we are not yet meeting the goal.

There was discussion regarding looking at different demographics as well as interventions to support students who are not meeting goals.

D. Enrollment Update

Mrs. Gabor highlighted that we continue to receive record numbers of applications. She also spoke about strong current enrollment numbers but shared that we are not as overenrolled as much as we have been the past two years. There was discussion about enrollment timelines during the school year. Mrs. Gabor shared that our current senior class is the largest in Nova Classical's history and that approximately 75% started here in the School of Grammar. There was further discussion.

IX. Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items

The next regular board meeting will be on Monday, November 24, 2025.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Becky Lund.