

**Nova Classical Academy  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
November 27, 2023**

**Directors Present: Nneka Constantino, Colleen Hansen, Jeremy Hubbell, Becky Lund, Suzanne McInroy, Theresa Nelson, Sasha Ross, Todd Sample, Bavi Weston**

**Directors Absent:**

**Advisors Present: Brett Wedlund, Tamra Paschall** (via Zoom), **Missy Johnson** (via Zoom), **Abby Kelley-Hands** (via Zoom), **Joe Aliperto** (Dieci Finance), **Kriscel Estrella** (via Zoom), **Ginger Gabor** (NPTO, via Zoom), **Demekech Williamson** (Student Representative, via 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 6:01 pm. Suzanne McInroy chaired the meeting.

**II. Business Meeting: Approval of Agenda**

Ms. Nelson moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Hansen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**III. Consent Agenda**

- A. 2<sup>nd</sup> reading/potential approval of revised policy 102 (Equal Educational Opportunity)
- B. 2<sup>nd</sup> reading/potential approval of revised policy 609 (Religion)
- C. 1<sup>st</sup> reading of revised policy 801 (Equal Access to School Facilities)
- D. Emergency approval of new policy 516.5 (Overdose Medication)
- E. 1<sup>st</sup> reading of new policy 516.5 (Overdose Medication)
- F. Regular October 30, 2023 minutes

Ms. Lund moved to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Constantino seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**IV. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**V. NPTO Report**

Mrs. Gabor said that more than 200 people attended the Great Gatherings Kick-off and has raised over \$23,000 so far. Petra Riedi is looking for an apprentice for next year to eventually take over putting together that event. Mrs. Gabor also spoke about the meals for teachers during conferences and the upcoming ice-skating event at the Charles Shultz Arena this coming Sunday. The NPTO will again serve winter treats to the scholars on the last day before Winter Break. On Friday, January 5, there will be another fundraising opportunity at Chuck E. Cheese. There is also an upcoming LS Family game night on February 23.

**VI. Student Report**

Demekech Williamson spoke about recent successes in extra curriculars including the volleyball team, our cross-country teams, and the fall musical. She also spoke about several

upcoming items like One Act plays and drives. Student concerns include the enforcement of the shoe/ uniform policy and concerns about areas where fundraising could be done by student organizations/clubs and how much fundraising could be done. Students enjoyed the long Thanksgiving Break and are ready for the push to Winter Break.

## **VII. FY23 Audit Presentation**

Christopher Knopik from CliftonLarsonAllen LLP presented the FY23 audit. He explained that it's currently in draft form as we're waiting for final MARSS numbers from MDE. Ms. Knopik walked the Board through the financial statement document, explaining several items. There was a material weakness in internal control over financial reporting related to our building company. A prior period adjustment was made regarding unrecorded rental revenues and receivables. Further training of staff is being implemented along with additional procedures to prevent this from happening. There was discussion. Mr. Knopik does not expect notable changes from the draft audit to the actual audit.

Ms. Constantino, "Resolved that the Board approves the FY23 Audit." Ms. Nelson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **VIII. Board Training**

Mr. Aliperto and Dr. Wedlund gave a broad overview of Nova Classical's current financial status including how we compare to other schools and the current state of charter school funding. There was discussion regarding Nova Classical's current student membership, the Employee Retention Credit and PPP monies, and financial requirements from our Authorizer and bond holders. There was further discussion as the presentation continued.

## **IX. Reports received by the Board**

### **A. Executive Director Report**

Dr. Wedlund highlighted Give to the Max and that it looks like we raised around \$42,000, which is comparable to what was raised at this time last year. That money is not currently in our budget, but will appear in a revised budget along with the expenditures that go with it. He also highlighted the National Blue Ribbon award that Nova Classical received and how big a deal that is for reducing the achievement gap.

### **B. Board Chair Report**

There was no report this month.

### **C. Board Committees**

#### **i. Governance Report**

There was no discussion.

#### **ii. Finance and Budget Report**

There was no discussion.

#### **iii. ED Review Committee**

There was no discussion.

#### **iv. Academic Excellence Report**

There was no report this month.

## **X. Business**

### **A. Proposed Alternate 3-color Logo**

Dr. Wedlund gave background information regarding the difficulty of our current 1-color logo.

Ms. Nelson, “Resolved, that the Board approves the use of a 3-color logo.” Ms. Hansen seconded. There was discussion.

Ms. Hansen left at 7:59 pm.

Ms. Constantino, Ms. Lund, Ms. McInroy, Ms. Nelson, Ms. Ross, Mr. Sample, and Ms. Weston voted in favor. Dr. Hubbell abstained. The motion passed.

### **B. 22-23 Annual Report**

Dr. Johnson presented the annual report, showing the eight areas we are required to have along with some of the additional information we include. There was discussion.

Ms. Lund, “Resolved, that the Board approves the 2022-2023 Annual Report with the following revisions:

1. Changing the section “Equitable Access to Excellent and Diverse Educators” by striking the sentence beginning with “The root causes...” through items 1 and 2 and replacing them with language from goal 9 of the strategic plan, and
2. Removing the last row of the board trainings table.” Ms. Nelson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **C. Delegation of Representative Assembly Member for Brightworks**

Dr. Wedlund gave background information regarding this state service co-op. We joined them primarily because they have a big catalog of professional development.

Ms. Constantino, Resolved, that Dr. Brett Wedlund is named the representative assembly member for Brightworks.” Ms. Ross seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **XI. Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items**

The next regular board meeting will be on Monday, January 29, 2023. There is a December board “retreat” on Monday, December 18 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm to review the strategic plan.

## **XII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Becky Lund.