

**Nova Classical Academy
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting
May 18th, 2009**

Directors Present: Damon Fraser, Simon Fung, Dianne Krizan, Becky Lund, Jason Belter, Diane Cossairt, Ken Silver, Brandon Foat, John Bujan, Tom Blindt

Directors Absent: Robert Kreischer

Advisors Present: Wendy Swanson-Choi, Brian Bloomfield, Miranda Morton, Dawn Ellerd (PTO representative)

Others in Attendance: Nova parents and faculty

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM. Damon Fraser led the meeting.

II. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Belter moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Foat seconded approval of the agenda. Mrs. Krizan, Mr. Bujan, Mr. Foat, Mr. Belter, Mr. Fraser, and Mr. Blindt voted for the motion. The motion passed.

III. Public Comment

There was public comment.

Ken Silver arrived at 6:09 PM.

IV. Board Election Results

Mrs. Cossairt arrived at 6:11 PM.

Mrs. Cossairt announced that Mrs. Swanson-Choi and Mr. Corrigan had won 3 year terms as parents. Mrs. Hornseth won the 1 year parent seat. Mr. Foat won the 3 year teacher term, and Mr. Belter won the 1 year term. Mr. Buyan won the 3 year community member seat, and Mr. Fung won the 1 year community member seat.

Ms. Lund arrived at 6:12 PM.

V. Consent Agenda

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes for April 20, 2009
- B. Approve 2009/10 School Calendar in board pack

Mrs. Krizan moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Belter seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Treasurer Finance Update

Mr. Silver gave an overview of the finance report. The general fund will run a surplus for the 2008-2009 school year. Depending on the final outcome from the legislature/governor on the school holdback percentage we might have to use a line of credit for cash flow purposes in June and July.

Mr. Fraser stated that there was a meeting with Park Midway to look at options to deal with the holdback scenarios.

Mr. Fung arrived at 6:18 PM.

VII. Reports received by the Board

Mrs. Swanson Choi discussed the efforts for opening the school of Rhetoric for next year. MDE has approved the site expansion application. Mrs. Morton gave an update on the transportation plan and official start and end times. The time of the longest bus trip has not increased, and we are maintaining 5 bus routes despite the split campus and increased student population. Mr. Bloomfield gave an update on the 9th grade curriculum and faculty hiring.

Mrs. Cossairt asked if the Joust period was optional. Mr. Bloomfield stated that it was not and was still a legal part of the school day per state statute.

Mr. Rovn gave an update on the sports program and extra-curriculars for the Upper School. There were 125 responses to an online survey from the students to help judge interest for which programs to maintain and which to expand into. The Minnesota State High School League allows the formation of Co-ops with other schools, which should make it easier to expand into other athletic activities. There was discussion of the athletic program.

Mr. Fung asked about the vetting process for the science and math maps. There was discussion of the curriculum development process Mr. Bloomfield noted that in addition to the Curriculum Committees review parents with content background had offered in depth feedback on the math and science maps.

Mrs. Cossairt “Be it resolved that the Governance Committee be charged with reviewing draft board governance policies #201 - #206 before they are considered again by the board; the Governance Committee is requesting of the Board the courtesy of a month’s delay before the 2nd reading of these policies so that we may appropriately review and make recommendations on the good work of the Accountability Committee.” Mr. Blindt seconded. There was discussion. Mrs. Cossairt voted for. Ms. Lund, Mrs. Krizan, Mr. Bujan, Mr. Foat, Mr. Belter, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Silver, Mr. Fung, and Mr. Blindt opposed. The motion was defeated.

There was a second reading of Nova policy 201 the Board of Directors Policy

There was a second reading of Nova policy 202 the Selection of Board Members Policy
There was discussion of some previous changes.

There was a second reading of Nova policy 203 the Meetings of the Board Policy

There was a second reading of Nova policy 204 the Agenda for Regular School Board Meetings Policy
There was discussion of some grammatical changes.

There was a second reading of Nova policy 205 the Committee Policy.

There was a second reading of Nova policy 206 the Orientation and Training of Board Members Policy

There was a second reading of Nova policy 302 the Early Admission to Kindergarten Policy

There was a second reading of Nova policy 303 the Whole Grade Acceleration Policy

There was a second reading of Nova policy 703 the NCA Fundraising Policy

There was discussion of some grammatical changes to policy 703.

There was a second reading of Nova policy 9301 Notice of Special Education Retention Policy

There was a second reading of Nova policy 9302 Highly Qualified Requirements for Special Education Teachers Policy

There was a second reading of Nova policy 9303 Special Education Conditional Intervention Policy

There was a second reading of Nova policy 9304 Special Education Do Not Resuscitate- Do Not Intubate Policy

Mr. Fraser gave an overview of the budget and finance report.

VIII. Board Updates/Action Items

Mr. Fraser moved, "Whereas, the school, the NPTO, and Friends of Nova are now separate nonprofit, tax exempt Minnesota corporations, both supporting the mission of the school;

Whereas, the board wishes to continue the longstanding, respectful and mutually-beneficial relationship between the school and these organizations, consistent with the fiduciary and governance obligations of each organization;

Resolved, that the school administration and the board budget and finance committee are directed to commence discussions to establish an agreement of understanding between the school and the PTO and the school and Friends of Nova on the subject of the providing of services between the two organizations, and present such agreement of understanding to the board for discussion and approval at the August 2009 regular board meeting." Ms. Lund seconded. There was discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

There was lengthy discussion of the election process including whether the Governance committee or another group should review the process. Mrs. Cossairt stated that the Governance committee should review the election. Mr. Bujan noted that under pending board policy 202 there would be a formalized review process set-up within 90 days of the start of the fiscal year.

There was discussion of the Sponsor's renewal. Mr. Belter noted that the Sponsor's report was very complimentary, except stating that they received more complaints from Nova families than all of the rest of their schools combined. Mr. Fung stressed the importance of bringing issues to the board directly to handle rather than risking our relationship with our Sponsor.

Ms. Lund moved to approve Policy # 304 the gifted and Talented Policy and, Policy # 102 the Definitions Policy effective immediately. Mr. Foat seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Fraser "Be it resolved the Board of Directors sets the following dates to be the Regular board meetings for the 2009/10 school year. All meetings are scheduled to begin at 6 pm and will be held at the location indicated below:

426 Osceola Avenue South:

July 20, 2009

August 17, 2009

September 21, 2009

October 19, 2009

November 16, 2009
1668 Montreal Avenue – Quinn Hall:
January 11, 2010
February 22, 2010
March 22, 2010
April 19, 2010
May 17, 2010”

Mr. Belter seconded. There was discussion. There was a friendly amendment to change the start time to 6:30 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion of the 2009-2010 budget proposal.

Mr. Belter moved to approve the 2009-2010 budget with a general fund with projected revenue of \$4,629,189 and projected expenses of \$4,544,246 with a net surplus of \$84,943. Mr. Silver seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion of the Head of School search process and the need to have information both on long term school needs and the availability of funds.

IX. Public Comment

There was public comment.

X. Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items

June 15th is the next meeting. There was a brief discussion of some of the agenda items for that meeting.

XI. Adjournment

Mr. Belter moved to adjourn. Mr. Fraser seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Minutes submitted by Jason Belter.