

**Nova Classical Academy
Board of Directors Meeting
June 14, 2005, 6:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting**

Directors Present: Lisa Knudson, Simon Fung, Margaret Ryther, Maria Marchand, Tom Blindt, Ted Olsen (arrived at 6:57 p.m.)

Directors Absent: Jennifer Strautman, Evon Spangler, Jim Day

Advisors Present: Bob Kreischer, Louise Wilson

Advisors Absent: Jane Marie Phillips

Others in attendance: Steve Bosacker, Chad Long, Rick Stempkovski, Brian Mak, Joe Michalak, numerous other parents

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Uniforms and busing were added to Action Items. Discussion of build out was added to Committee Reports. Public Comment was added after New Business.

Approval of Minutes

**Margaret Ryther moved that the minutes of the May 10, 2005 Board of Directors be approved as amended.

Tom Blindt seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

(Director Olsen was not yet present)

**Margaret Ryther moved that the Annual Board of Directors meeting minutes of May 24, 2005 be approved as set forth.

Maria Marchand seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

(Director Olsen was not yet present)

Special Board of Directors Meeting

The Board Chair scheduled a special meeting for Monday, June 27, at 6:30 p.m. to meet with Judith Darling to approve the 05-06 budget.

Treasurer's Report

None submitted (new business manager, Judith Darling, of Beltz, Kes and Associates, was not yet prepared to submit report; will do so for future meetings).

Director's Report

None (items to be addressed as Action Items)

Sponsor's Report

None

Action Items

Uniform Policy

Report attached

**Tom Blindt moved to adopt the changes to the Nova Classical Academy Uniform Policy as made by the Uniform Committee.

Margaret Ryther seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

(Director Olsen was not yet present)

School Calendar

**Margaret Ryther moved that the Nova Classical Academy school calendar for the 2005-2006 school year be adopted as submitted.

Tom Blindt seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

(Director Olsen was not yet present)

School Lunch Program

Report attached

Bob Kreischer will speak to Caravan Kids Catering about having the option of opting out of the contract early (rather than the year long commitment as in the current contract).

The CKC contract was tabled until the special June 27 meeting.

Lunch Supervisor Position

**Tom Blindt moved that Nova Classical Academy hire a lunch supervisor for next year's lunch program as outlined in the job description (attached).

Simon Fung seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Busing

Bob Kreischer surveyed St. Paul residents to determine if they were willing to waive their rights to have their child bused to school. 25 people responded that they did require busing. Much discussion ensued regarding how, in the future, we could work with other charter schools cooperatively to share private busing. However, the members felt we had run out of time, and didn't have a clear enough direction to make a decision at this point.

The Board Chair thanked Bob Kreischer for all of the work he put into this project, and for diligently trying to make an earlier start time a reality. However, she felt that at this point we should continue with SPPS transportation, with the recommendation that a committee be put together to study this issue and set forth recommendation for the 06-07 school year. The committee should take all of the initial data gathered by Mr. Kreischer, and continue on.

**Tom Blindt moved to use the SPPS busing system for the 2005-2006 school year provided that the start time is 10:00 or near it.

Margaret Ryther seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Designs for Learning Contract

****Margaret Ryther** moved that the Proposal from Designs for Learning for the 05-06 school year for 150 hours at an hourly rate of \$65 per hour be adopted.
Tom Blindt seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

Proposal regarding Waiver for Board Composition

This was tabled until the June 27 meeting. Board members wanted to get more proposals, and to see what other schools have done regarding this matter. Maria Marchand will look into this.

Board Training

****Tom Blindt** moved to approve a day of board training on July 13, 2005, with one-half day board training, and one-half day of strategic planning.
Maria Marchand seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

****Maria Marchand** moved to approve one-half day of legal and financial board training on a Saturday in July, date to be determined.
Tom Blindt seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

Staff Development

****Maria Marchand** moved to solicit proposals from Ronald Grosh and Dr. Keating to overview training of the classical model based on the Trivium for the board, staff and community. Proposals must be received by June 24, 2005.
Tom Blindt seconded the motion.

Discussion: Ted Olsen wanted to amend the motion to leave it open for soliciting unnamed proposals.

****Ted Olsen** amended the motion to state proposals will be solicited from Ronald Grosh, Dr. Keating and others to over training of the classical model based on the Trivium for the board, staff and community. Proposals must be received by June 24, 2005.
Simon Fung seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

Two recommendations were given by Eileen Douglass of the Staff Development Committee. 1) Teachers who need Singapore math training should go to the training being held this summer (Madison Country Day School); 2) Training is needed for the community, staff and board on the elements of classical education, in order to create a common starting point.

Curriculum Review Process

****Tom Blindt** moved to accept the curriculum review document with the revision of May 27, 2005.
Margaret Ryther seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

K-8 Document

****Tom Blindt** moved to adopt the Nova Classical Academy K-8 curriculum document with the addition of Margaret Ryther's introductory notes.
Margaret Ryther seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

Principles of Classical Education Document

****Maria Marchand** moved to approve the Principles of Classical Education at Nova Classical Academy; the Broad Outline as a Guide for the Curriculum, version for board approval dated 06-14-05 from which we will create a synopsis.
Ted Olsen seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

Margaret Ryther suggested some wording changes (attached).

Discussion Items

Spanish

Discussion: It was pointed out that the initial charge of the Modern Foreign Language committee was to see if we could offer Spanish without compromising the current academic program. Questions regarding this still need to be answered; specifically, if a student has had four years of Latin, will he or she pick up a modern foreign language more quickly? A recommendation was made to table the issue of Spanish for one year, so that John Greving and the new curriculum specialist can take the information we have gathered and make a recommendation.

****Tom Blindt** moved to table adding a modern foreign language for one year until the new director and curriculum specialist have a chance to review this.
Simon Fung seconded the motion.
Directors voting for: Knudson, Fung, Blindt, Olsen, Ryther
Directors abstaining: Marchand

Building

The bids for the build out came in significantly higher than anticipated. Lumen Christi has agreed to another \$100,00 for building improvements. This \$100,00 would be amortized over 10 years, but payment would not be required for the 05-06 school year. \$20,000 would be required for the 06-07 school year, with \$10,000 per school year after that.

****Simon Fung** moved that the board authorize Tom Blindt to further negotiate with Lumen Christi for an additional \$100,000 for building improvements.
Maria Marchand seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Policy Development

Weapons Policy

****Simon Fung** moved to approve the weapon policy dated 06/07/05.
Margaret Ryther seconded the motion.
Directors voting for: Knudson, Marchand, Ryther, Blindt, Fung
Director voting against: Olsen

Communication Policy

Board chair wants the board and school communication policies combined. Incoming director Chad Long will take over the communications committee; Chad will work on this policy.

**The policy was tabled.

Board Training

The Board wants a time frame added to the board training policy.

**Margaret Ryther moved that according to Brian Mak of the Policy Committee, we add the following people as voting members of record: Paul Sterzinger, Taylor Burr and Paul Osterbauer.

Ted Olsen seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Accountability Report

Greta Wenzel submitted a report at the meeting. The Board Chair requested that the report be submitted to the board as a recommendation, since the board is ultimately in charge of accountability.

Board Officer Slate

**Maria Marchand moved that the officers and chair position as listed (attached) be adopted for one year.

Margaret Ryther seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Project Manager

Steve Bosacker gave a report (attached).

The Board Chair thanked outgoing board members Margaret Ryther, Jennifer Strautman and Evon Spangler

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jeanie Anderson, recording secretary.