

NovaPTO Upper School Parent Advisory “Strengthening the Nova Community” Minutes – October 9, 2018, 4:05 pm to 5pm in Exhibition Hall

NovaPTO Mission - Nova Classical Academy PTO is an organization of volunteers engaging families, teachers, and staff in fostering a school community that actively supports Nova’s mission and enriches the students and the school. Any and all current Nova parents and staff are considered members. There are no dues.

USPA Mission - Interaction between Parents and Administration in an informal setting to discuss particular events and issues, thoughts and perspectives in a positive and proactive manner.

X	6th Grade	Michelle	Granberg	msshelby29@hotmail.com	Raptor Registered
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	6th Grade	Erika	Roberts	Eroberts_@yahoo.com	Raptor Registered
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X	10th Grade	Jane	Lagerquist	jglager@gmail.com	Raptor Registered
x	10th Grade	Christina	Selander Bouzouina	directeur@afmosp.org	Raptor Registered
	10th Grade	Katherine	Scheil	kscheil@comcast.net	Next report
X	11th Grade	Maura	Hackenmueller	maurahackenmueller@gmail.com	Raptor Registered
X	11th Grade	Kimberly	Adelsman	kimberlyadelsman@hotmail.com	Next report
	12th Grade	Sara	Waters	sara@saras-stories.com	Raptor Registered
X	Dean of Students	Michael	Pelofske	mpelofske@novaclassical.org	Registered
X	U.S. Principal	Mari	Bergerson	mbergerson@novaclassical.org	Registered
X	Licensed School Counselor	David	Shuman	dshuman@novaclassical.org	Registered
X	L.S. Principal	Brooke	Tousignant	btousignant@novaclassical.org	Registered
X	L.S. Counselor	Emily	Cranberg	ecranberg@novaclassical.org	Registered
	LSPA Chair	Stefanie	Herschbach	stefanie@herschbachconstruction.com	Raptor Registered
	NPTO Webpage	Colleen	Hansen	cmk@uwalumni.com	Raptor Registered
X	Yearbook Advisor	Kate	Tetmeyer	ktetmeyer@novaclassical.org	Registered

I. Welcome and Roll Call (Jane)

- a. USPA Mission - Interaction between Parents and Administration in an informal setting to discuss particular events and issues, thoughts and perspectives in a positive and proactive manner
- b. Represent not only our family but other families. Be respectful.
 - a. Provide time for all parents in the group to respond.

Discussion items:

- 1) Will the U/S lockers have locks put on them? If so, when?
 - Yes - US lockers will have locks installed over MEA - October 18-19
 - Lower grades – first few days teachers will provide assistance, especially for those new to system, a tip card will also be shared in House so they know the process.
- 2) Will school supplied laptops be available in study hall, as they were last year?

- Yes, we will designate 10 chrome books to study hall. The only exception to that will be during MCA testing when we will need all computers in the building to facilitate online testing (2 weeks in April).
 - Chromebooks are used in study hall for keyboarding and grammar.
- 3) Review for new parents to explain cell phone rules at school.
- Phones must be powered off and stored in locked lockers all day.
 - During time when didn't have locks, were allowed to keep in backpacks.
 - I. Once locks are installed, backpacks & cellphones will need to stay in lockers for day.
 - Do allow SOR during lunch period to use, as needed; once in academic wing, needs to be in backpack, powered off.
 - If students ever feel locker has been violated, they should reach out to any admin member.
- 4) October 18 will be the Minnesota Classical Conference hosted at Nova. It's meant for MN Classical schools and their faculty. Kicks off on Oct 17 with event below. Developing character and understanding through literature.

Wednesday, October 17, will be a Parent Education night with the keynote speaker, Daniel Coupland from Hillsdale College.

4:30-5:30 Jane needs help at set up sweets, brew coffee, etc. contact if able...

5:30-6:00 refreshments/social hour (*we are encouraged to attend...*)

6:00 pm -7:00 pm presentation from the conference keynote speaker

- Thursday you are welcome also; \$50 for 6 hours; primary focus is educators, but parents are welcome.
- 5) Buy your Great Gathering Kick-off Tickets prior to October 21. Grapes of Math...
- \$25 up until 21st of Oct
- 6) Fall Ball – SoL - The expectation for attire is semi-formal; Nova's great room
- Student senate requested a change to attire.
 - An evolution has occurred where students have become less likely to wear costume
 - Attire is semi-formal
 - There will be open gym
 - To have a student outside of Nova, they must get a permission slip from their principal and then that note must be presented when they check in
 - Should bring money for refreshments
- 7) Is there a guideline for teachers re: what goes on Infinite Campus?
- Weekly assignments must be posted
 - No guidelines on assignment detail
 - Grades expected to be recorded within two weeks
 - "M" needs to be posted if missing by 4pm on the day it is due
 - You are encouraged to reach out to the teachers if specific feedback on something
 - Many teachers do post "exemplars" (what a great example looks like), but not all
- 8) Raptor system – Representative roster on page one shows who is Raptor Registered
- 9) Barnes and Noble Book Fair update

- Successful – 271 books purchased for teachers
- Can purchase books up until Oct 11th

10) Adhoc items:

- Dances comment – issue going on with off campus parties going on the same time, as parents we should try to encourage the kids to attend the Nova events since they are so limited so there is good attendance; also encouraged to plan off campus events not on Nova event days
- Ms. Tousignant put in a plug for the LS parent advisory committee they are putting together; first meeting is Oct 29th
- Yearbook advisor mentioned that she is still seeking any photos for the yearbook if you want to submit them

Future Events:

- 8th Grade DC Trip Parent Meeting 6-7 pm October 8
 - Working with EF tours to coordinate
 - Historically 30-45 kids have gone
 - Jun 8-13 are dates this year
 - Nova receives no money for this
- PSAT (10th/11th) October 10
- Fall Dance October 12 @ 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm
- Senior Breakfast October 12
- Comedy Sportz Date TBD (Ms. Bergerson to reach out to Angela)
 - All school assembly first
 - 6th grade then has a break-out improv workshop to demonstrate flexibility in communication
- Nova/Harvest Pack/Sholom Home Service Event, October 14 @ 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
- Classical Education Conference at Nova, October 18
- Enrollment Information Night, October 22 @ 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
- October 24 – Anti-bullying day; all students encouraged to wear orange

Past Events and feedback – if time

- Upper School Meet the Teacher Night Tuesday, September 18 from 6.30-8 pm
- Homecoming Week, September 24 - September 28
- Homecoming Parade September 28
- Homecoming Dance September 28 @ 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm
- Financial Aid Parent Education Night - Sept 25
 - Good turnout; about 45 showed up
 - Presentation available if wanted; they are posted on website
- Barnes and Noble Book Fair October 6
- St. Croix Retreat October 6 @ 9:00 am - 7 @ 2:00 pm (9th grade)
 - Went well; could have used more chaperones
 - Meant for teambuilding; good lesson in patience
 - First year where they couldn't choose cabinmates and heard no complaints
 - 2/3 participation (52/77), but was better attendance than past

FYI - Future Meeting dates

- Tuesday, November 13, 4-5pm **ROOM 131**
- Tuesday, December 11, 4-5pm Exhibition hall

- Tuesday, January 8, 4-5pm - At a restaurant tbd
- Tuesday, February 12, 4-5pm Exhibition hall
- Tuesday, March 12, 4-5pm Exhibition hall
- Tuesday, April 9, 4-5pm - At a restaurant tbd
- Tuesday, May 14, 4-5pm Exhibition hall