

# ***Nova PTO***

## ***Meeting Minutes***

*April, 2015*

### **“Strengthening the Nova Community”**

Our Mission: Nova Classical Academy NPTO 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.

- I. Welcome and Roll Call (Robin/Beth)**
  - A. In attendance: Robin Cerio, Chair; Beth Hawley, Chair; Melissa DeJesus Hernandez, Co-Chair; Jessie McClary, Secretary; Dr. Jennifer Marker Johnson, Treasurer; Susan Hooge, Board Liaison; Bruce Watkins, Executive Director; Gina Zelinka, Lower-School Director; Marlo Corletto, Kindergarten Teacher; Sara Knudsen, Kindergarten Teacher; Faith Pawl, Room Parent; Liza Halverson
  - B. Agenda Review
- II. Requests for additions**
  - A. Friendship Bench Proposal
  - B. Kindergarten Round-up
- III. Approval of minutes from last meeting-** March Minutes were approved.
- IV. Officer Reports**
  - A. Board Meeting Report (Susan)
    - i. A Human Resources Committee has been formed.
    - ii. Curriculum changes were approved for the Upper-School.
    - iii. Lateral enrollment was approved for the Upper-School.
    - iv. College credit bearing offerings will soon be implemented.
  - B. Development Committee Update (Mr. Watkins)
    - i. This committee is being restructured as a more cohesive representation of all Nova’s fundraising bodies including the NPTO.
    - ii. Planning meetings are happening every Wednesday night for the Nova Classic Run, which will occur on May 16<sup>th</sup>.
    - iii. The SweeTen fundraiser is next week. The goal is to raise \$18,000 for science and technology needs at the school.
  - C. Executive Director’s Update (Mr. Watkins)
    - i. Legislature

- a. The governor would like to increase education spending by \$650 million a year.
- b. Both the House and Senate prefer to increase education spending by considerably less.
- c. For all three, the focus of this increased spending seems to be adding Pre-Kindergarten programming rather than supporting existing structure, therefore it is not looking like Nova will see any benefit.

D. Treasurer's Report (Jennifer)

- i. Our account is currently at \$60,949.
- ii. We have currently granted 21 of 65 teacher grants.

**V. Updates and Upcoming Events**

- A. Room Parent Responsibilities- The next big event is Staff Appreciation which is a 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Room Parent Responsibility. The week will include chair massages, treats, and a pizza lunch among other possibilities.

**VI. Discussion/Action Items**

A. Gym/Snow Bag Proposal Update (Jenni)

- i. The gym bags are in. We paid \$400 for 300 of them and will sell them for \$5 each.
- ii. The snow bags will be in soon.

B. Candidates for Board Announced and Published (Robin/Beth)

- i. Candidates are Jessie McClary and Sara Knudsen together for co-chair, and Liza Halverson for Treasurer. There is currently no candidate for Secretary.
- ii. Elections will occur at our May meeting.

C. Website Update (Robin)

- i. Nova's website now has a link directly to our new website.
- ii. There are still some problems with adding the retail/fundraising portion of the site.

D. Should we assign social media and website work to a role within the NPTO? (Robin)

- i. It was decided to keep this as a separate position from a particular board role.

E. Should we assign the new Development Committee position to a role within the NPTO? (Robin/Beth)

- i. It was decided to rotate this responsibility among NPTO board members.

F. Restaurant Fundraiser Update (Melissa)

- i. Culvers, Domino's, Papa John's, and Panera all have potentially worthwhile fundraising options for schools.
- ii. It was decided to give the Panera option a try and see how it goes. It will probably run on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

G. Friendship Bench Proposal

- i. This would be a special place for kids to sit if they are looking for someone to play with.
  - ii. This kind of project has a rich history and some interesting success stories connected with it.
  - iii. The NPTO is being asked to possibly purchase the bench for the school.
  - iv. No decisions were made on the spot due to time constraints.
- H. Kindergarten Round-up
- i. Kindergarten Round-up will occur on Tuesday April 21<sup>st</sup> from 4:30-5:30.
  - ii. The NPTO will support the event by having a table to provide refreshments and to showcase our organization to new families.

**VII. Public Comment on Today's Discussion**

**VIII. Adjourn**