

Nova PTO

Meeting Minutes

December 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 (Sam)

A. In attendance: Samantha Fischer, Chair; Jessie McClary, Co-Chair; Liz Halverson, Treasurer; Robin Cerio, Board Liaison; Beth Hawley, Board Liaison, Brooke Tousignant, Lower School Principal; Eric Williams, Executive Director; Mari Bergerson, Upper School Principal; Marlo Corletto, kindergarten teacher; Melissa Hernandez, LS office manager; Mina Lee, room parent.

B. Agenda Review

II. Requests for additions (Sam)

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting (Sam)– November Minutes were approved.

IV. Officer Reports

A. Board Meeting Report (Robin and Beth)

- i. Information was shared about compliance with World’s Best Workforce Plan.
 - a. The Minnesota Department of Education requires each school to report student achievement based on goals that were set the previous school year.
 - b. Third graders are at 91%. 90% is compliance (reading at grade level).
- ii. Naviance was discussed– a college and career planning tool.

- iii. There was public comment on gender identity.
 - a. Paul Mason, Nova Board Chair, gave a statement, asking for patience, understanding and compromise as a community.
- iv. Eighth grade has more students staying at Nova for ninth grade than last year.
- v. Dr. Williams gave a thank you for Give to the Max.
- vi. The School Climate Committee meeting was changed to Thursday, December 3rd.

B. Executive Director's Update (Dr. Williams)

- i. Shared enrollment numbers- 925 students.
- ii. Nova plans to hire a part-time HR employee that will be shared with another charter school, the Twin Cities German Immersion School.
- iii. Nova is also considering to hire a shared Tech position with another charter school, Eagle Ridge Academy.
- iv. There will be a turf meeting coming up on December 10th at 6pm to consider various options for the field.
- v. Teachers want the new break room to be a spot where they can also work.
 - a. They will consider a laminator in the break room.
- vi. The school is planning to lease 3 copiers. The current copier will stay in the office.
- vii. There is a board retreat on Saturday, and they will work on World's Best Workforce Plan.

C. Development Committee (Liza)

- i. Successful Give to the Max Day; however, only 26% donated.
- ii. Planning to reduce costs with Nova Classic this year to not lose money.
- iii. CG booklets

D. Treasurer's Report (Liza)

- i. The NPTO checking account has approximately \$77,000; however, a few checks have not cleared yet.
- ii. Great Gatherings is approximately \$15,000 after expenses.

V. Updates and Upcoming Events

A. Room Parent Events (Jessie)

- i. Winter Break Treats are coming up– Monday, December 14th for the upper school and Friday, December 18th for the lower school.
 - a. Both principals were contacted and helped to create serving schedules to accommodate grade level schedules.
 - b. A sign-up genius for volunteers was created and sent to the third grade room parents to forward to third grade parents (3rd grade activity). The volunteer link will be in the Nova Notes on Monday.
 - c. Claire Skeps will coordinate the treats for the upper school like she has done in the past.

VI. Discussion/Action Items

A. Great Gatherings/Cafe Latte Expenses (Sam)

- i. Fewer people were in attendance (around 100 tickets less); however, parents bought more this year.
- ii. Raised almost \$22,000. Net gain of around \$15,000 so far.
- iii. The piano man was a big hit, and 14 Cafe Latte cakes were eaten.
- iv. Jennifer Bateman–Grover is looking for a new parent to take over Great Gatherings with a two year training/transition plan in place.

B. Scrip Sales (Liza)

- i. The NPTO will set up a table this week after school for fundraising and continue to sell at Friday coffees.

C. Spirit Wear Flyer (Beth/Robin)

- i. First period and homeroom teachers distributed flyers with a \$10 off coupon to encourage Christmas shopping.

VII. Public Comment on Today's Discussion

VIII. Adjourn