

Nova PTO

Meeting Minutes

May, 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 enriched 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; Samantha Fischer, Co-Chair; Jessie McClary, Secretary; Dr. Jennifer Marker Johnson, Treasurer; Liza Halverson, Treasurer Elect; Bruce Watkins, Executive Director; Mari Bergerson, Upper School Director; Marlo Corletto, Kindergarten Teacher; Sara Knudsen, Kindergarten Teacher; Jane Lagerquist, Upper School Parent Advisory Committee; Jessica Faulken, Room Parent; Amy Filo, parent
- B. Agenda Review

II. Requests for additions

- A. Meeting times for next year.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting- April minutes were approved.

IV. Officer Reports

- A. Board Meeting Report (Beth)
 - i. Changes in the School of Rhetoric
 - a. Rhetoric requirements were reduced from 3.5 to 2.5 to allow more room for electives.
 - b. New lateral transfer policy was finalized. Maximum number of new students not to exceed eight per grade, fewer for seniors. Mrs. Bergerson will work closely with incoming families to insure successful assimilation into the school culture.
 - ii. Survey Results
 - a. In May the Parent Satisfaction Survey will be presented to the board.
 - b. In June, the Staff Satisfaction Survey and School Life Balance Survey results will be presented to the board.
- B. Development Committee Update (Mr. Watkins)

- i. Thanks to a highly successful SweeTen, we're ending the year on a great note with over \$100 thousand in donations this year.
 - ii. The Nova Classic Run will be on Saturday May 16th.
- C. Executive Director's Update (Mr. Watkins)
 - i. Thank you to the NPTO for a wonderful Staff Appreciation.
 - ii. The Board elections are going on right now, with the ballots due on the 15th.
 - iii. Senior graduation is coming up on Sunday June 7th, with a senior party to follow.
 - iv. Legislature- We're still hoping for more than either the House or Senate currently have in their proposals for per pupil spending.
- D. Treasurer's Report (Jennifer)
 - i. We are on budget for this year. This year's budget is based on the money we earned last year.
 - ii. Since we have raised about \$4,000 less than last year, next year's budget will be reduced accordingly.
 - iii. We have started working on the fundraising expectations part of next year's budget.
 - iv. At the next meeting we will not only finish going over our fundraising expectations for next year, but also the distribution part of the budget. At this time we will have more information from the entire year, and have a stronger idea of what to plan for.
- E. Upper School Parent Advisory (Beth/Jane)
 - i. There have been no meetings in the last month.

V. Updates and Upcoming Events

- A. Room Parent Responsibilities
 - i. The last event was staff appreciation which went well.
 - ii. The next event will be the Carnival, which happens on May 16th.

VI. Discussion/Action Items

- A. Election of candidates to the 2015-2016 Board (Robin/Beth)
 - i. All candidates were approved.
 - ii. Next year's board will be Claire Helin, Secretary; Liza Halverson, Treasurer; Jessie McClary and Sarah Knudsen, Co-Chairs; Samantha Fischer, Chair; and Robin Cerio and Beth Hawley, Board Liaisons.
 - iii. All candidates will take their position at the NPTO July meeting except Liza Halverson who will take her position in August.
- B. Update on Kindergarten Round-up (Sam)
 - i. A lot of information on the NPTO was given out, as well as a lot of cookies.
 - ii. It was not as well attended as it might have been with nicer weather.
 - iii. It was our first time doing this particular event, so we're still getting ideas for how to make it even better next time.

- C. Update on Kindergarten Picnic (Jessie)
 - i. The tables and Great Room are now reserved for this event, which will take place on August 20th from 5-7 pm.
 - ii. A sign-up will be sent out soon to current kindergarten parents, as this their event.
- D. Usborne Book Fair (Beth)
 - i. This event is to take place in room 130 during the school carnival on the 15th.
 - ii. Most teachers have gotten in wish lists of books they'd like to have in their classrooms.
 - iii. Families can shop both for themselves and their favorite teachers.
- E. Staff Appreciation
 - i. All went as planned. Staff seemed happy with the event, which is of course the goal.
- F. EduKit Update (Melissa)
 - i. This year's EduKit's pricing will be similar to previous years, but will also include an optional \$5 add-on if you'd like to have either a winter-gear bag (Lower School) or a gym bag (Upper School).
 - ii. As usual the kits will include most everything your child will need for the grade they'll be going into.
 - iii. The ordering period will be the same length as last year, but is starting one week later this year on Monday May 18th.
- G. GoBuyLocal Initiative (Jessie)
 - i. This non-profit organization helps raise money for other local non-profits and helps support local business.
 - ii. After an individual person signs up to give to a specific organization, GoBuyLocal provides coupons for local businesses. When the individual uses one of these coupons, the local business then donates to the non-profit that the individual has signed up to contribute to.
 - iii. We are already on the list of organizations that the individual can sign up to give to, all we have to do is to give our non-profit ID number.
 - iv. We voted to approve giving GoBuyLocal the information they need so that we can start to earn the profits from people who may sign up to support us.
- H. Meeting Times (Sam)
 - i. Our current meeting time does not work for Samantha. She suggested that perhaps we have our meetings at the same time but on Tuesdays next year.
 - ii. The motion was approved.

VII. Public Comment on Today's Discussion

VIII. Adjourn

