

MINUTES
NORTH STAR CHARTER
GOVERNING BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 16, 2023

Chairman Young called the meeting at 6:02 pm with roll call; Directors Amundson, Anderson, Balch, Broadbent, Dumas, and Young were in attendance. Director Elledge was absent due to being out of town.

Due to an oversight, the Finance Update on the agenda is missing action; modification to the agenda needs to include “action” to the Finance Update.

Motion to approve the amended agenda with action being added to the Finance Update by Director Balch. Seconded by Director Dumas. Vote taken; all in favor except Chairman Young who voted Nay. Motion passes.

CONTINUING SCHOOL BUSINESS

Administration initial response to Statement of Direction and options for High School

Head of School presentation included in the Agenda packet

The agreement with POA to cancel the contract of service has been signed; POA will continue with the copier/printer service. Ednetics, as presented at the last Board meeting, will be the new Network Support.

Voting on the new Husky mascot will be conducted with the Secondary students. Secondary had a successful dance and is looking forward to prom. Student recognition assemblies are underway.

Letter of Direction and Guiding Principles

Andy Horning was given authority from the Board at the last meeting to start looking into options and direction for Secondary. Currently the High School has the IB diploma option and Capstone program. Andy reported that more students are opting for the Capstone program and not the IB diploma option. Evidence from talking to parents and students is that IB is favored mostly for the option of having college credits and some college preparation. Capstone is for students to have a business experience and become ready for life after school. Currently 10 seniors are doing IB track and the forecast for next year is there will be nine students in the IB track. Horning reported that NNU, BSU, U of I, and CWI are willing to assist North Star in creating a program that will provide North Star students with concurrent credits and in particular there is an option to partner with CWI to enable students to earn an Associate Degree in Business. There are options that will help with funding and help students gain more credits and experiences. Horning showed possible class schedules for each grade (9-12) and how the change would affect the upcoming Seniors that have already started the IB diploma program. Director

Amundson stated that the ability to earn an Associate Degree is huge because of the transferability to many universities, regardless of a student's major.

Parent Stephanie Cirrito was given the floor to share her feedback on the IB and the school potentially moving away from it in the future.

Horning recommends having an open forum for question and answers for parents. Chairman Young agreed and will collaborate with Horning to plan this in the near future.

No motion or vote taken.

Proposed 2023-2024 Calendars

Draft Calendars included in the agenda packet.

Administration presented the 2023-2024 calendar to the Board for approval. They have pushed the end of first semester for Secondary to occur in December before the Winter Break, which in turn, moved Fall Break to accommodate the new semester end date. The Board voiced their appreciation that the administration is keeping K-12 calendar as a whole school.

Motion to approve the calendars by Director Balch. Seconded by Director Broadbent. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.

Principal Reports

Shay Davis's report was given by Andy Horning. The Elementary teachers, counselor, and administration will be attending a Dyslexia class at NNU, required for recertification for staff.

Will Bogdanoff reported that the Secondary will also be doing training for Dyslexia as required from the State. Middle School has applied for and been granted acceptance to the PBIS training through BSU, the same positive behavior incentive which Elementary has been working on this past year. Upcoming assembly will be presented by the 6th grade staff to help 5th graders make the choice to stay with North Star for 6th grade.

Tamarack Field Trip

Ski trip for 7th grade students. Tamarack reached out to North Star for this opportunity. Students will have the opportunity to go up to Tamarack, receive their ski equipment rental, ski lessons and time to ski on the mountain for an economical price for students. Students that decline this trip will have an alternative schedule at North Star.

Motion to approve the Tamarack trip as presented by Will by Director Balch. Second by Director Dumas. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.

Employee Benefits Update

Joanna O'Donnell gave a brief overview of the changes to North Star's health insurance. Due to the rising costs of insurance North Star has joined the Idaho School Benefit Trust through Blue Cross of Idaho. Additionally, Open Enrollment will move from February to September, which will help with adding new teachers/staff to our policy.

Finance Update

Presentation included in the agenda packet.

Jonathan Gillen gave a comprehensive update on the budget showing where the current budget is and what he is doing to help bring the budget into a better position for the upcoming budget planning for 2023-2024. He intends to bring a revised budget for 2022-2023 school year at the next board meeting.

Part of his discussion included a discussion on whether North Star should sign an agreement with Piper Sandler for future refinancing. Chairman Young asked that the Finance Committee meet with Fiduciary to evaluate all options before committing to Piper Sandler. The Board agreed to this recommendation.

No vote or approval given regarding Piper Sandler at this time. The Board requests that this item be added to next month's agenda.

BOARD BUSINESS

Board Committee Updates

Policy Committee:

Attendance Policy approval

The Policy Committee is requesting approval of modifications made to the Attendance Policy. The Board had additional questions and concerns with Staff excessive absences and athletic excused absences. The board has asked that the Policy committee continue with their modification/edits of the policy and then present the modifications for the Boards approval next board meeting. No motion, no vote taken.

Election Committee:

The Election committee has reviewed the election process and application with the intent of streamlining the process, wording in the bylaws, and cleaning up old terminology.

Updated definition of stakeholder in bylaws

The current Bylaw section 4.3(d) states, "Directors will be elected to the Board by vote of stakeholders of the Corporation at the Corporation's Annual Meeting, in accordance with an elections policy adopted by the Board of Directors. As used herein, "Stakeholders" shall mean the parents and legal guardians of pupils then attending North Star Charter School, the faculty and employees of North Star Charter School, members of the North Star Charter School Parent-Teacher Organization and such other persons and entities as the Board determines to be stakeholders of the Corporation."

The Election Committee is proposing that the Bylaw be modified to state, "Directors will be elected to the Board by vote of stakeholders of the Corporation according to the election process adopted by the Board in the school policy manual."

Motion to amend Bylaw 4.3(d) as presented by Director Balch. Second by Director Dumas. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.

Revised Election Policy & Application

The Election committee has reviewed and updated the election process policy and the application. The holistic policy, procedures, and application was presented to the Board. Key changes include:

- Both new candidates and current board members will submit the new application.
- The definition of “stakeholder” is expanded to include current community board members (this was previously approved in 2022, but now will be reflected in the permanent document).
- Incumbent board members are asked to declare their intent to seek re-election.
- Clarification that Board review of applications will be specifically to verify eligibility.
- Candidates will be notified of election results before the public.
- The procedure for breaking a tie will be a vote by board members.

Motion to approve the revised election process as presented on February 16, 2023 meeting as an addition to the school policy manual which supersedes Appendix D in the current charter by Director Anderson. Second by Director Amundson. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.

Motion to approve deletion of “Appendix D: New Board Election Process” from the charter document, effective March 1, 2023 by Director Amundson. Second by Director Dumas. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.

Election Timeline

Draft Timeline included in the agenda packet.

Motion to approve the timeline as presented by Director Dumas. Second by Director Broadbent. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.

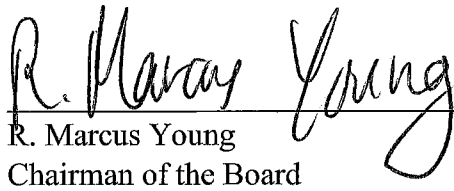
Election Commissioner


Motion to approve Victor Villegas as Election Commissioner by Director Balch. Second by Director Amundson. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Director Broadbent. Second by Director Anderson. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.

Motion to adjourn by Director Anderson at 8:58 pm. Second by Director Dumas.


R. Marcus Young
Chairman of the Board


Sheri Craig
Clerk of the Board

