

MINUTES  
NORTH STAR CHARTER SCHOOL  
GOVERNING BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 19, 2024

Vice Chair Van Beek called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm with roll call. Directors Balch, Anderson, Huffaker, Gregg, Dumas and Van Beek were in attendance. Chairman Wheeler was excused due to illness.

**Motion to approve the agenda by Director Huffaker. Second by Director Dumas. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.**

**GOOD NEWS NORTH STAR**

Kerri Rasmussen, advisor, presented the recently voted student council for this school year. They presented their goals of creating a more positive atmosphere and a close-knit school for everyone. They are planning to have pep rallies, school dances, student spirit weeks and a service project for the Ronald McDonald house for all to participate.

**BOARD BUSINESS**

Financial Report

Jonathan Gillen went through the finances with the board pointing out areas where state funding has been received and where the money will be used in the budget. Overall, the budget is running according to expectations of the proposed budget.

**Motion to approve the presented financial statement by Director Balch. Second by Director Huffaker. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.**

a. Internet RFP

The contract for internet services is up for renewal. The board approved the contract last year and will need to approve the contract for the coming year. Jonathan Gillen is recommending that the board approve a 3-year contract with the understanding that if there are financial concerns the board can modify the contract.

**Motion to approve the internet RFP as presented by Director Balch. Second by Director Anderson. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.**

b. Skyward Software Proposal

Andy and Joanna presented the proposed contract with Skyward Software. Skyward is a finance and payroll software solution. The cost would be high for the setup; however, the overall expense will be lower per year compared to what North Star is currently paying. By approving the contract now, the school can be put on the waitlist with an expectation of going live in January of 2026.

**Motion to approve the purchase of Skyward Software to be installed January 2026 by Director Dumas. Second by Director Gregg. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.**

## **GOOD NEWS NORTH STAR**

### Head of School Report

Andy Horning reminded the board to join the Friendsgiving with Secondary on Friday followed by the Capstone Pitch Party. The annual fundraiser is off and running. There will be a second push after Thanksgiving break. Currently donations total \$46,000 and hoping to receive \$120,000 before the end of the year. Andy also reported that basketball is underway and sixth grade is attending MOSS this week with lots of snow and cold weather.

Justin Durlinger reported that the Student Council is running a food drive this week. They have had record donations from all grades and Star Food Bank is looking forward to the donation. Justin thanked the board for their school visit and let them know how much the students enjoyed being invited to the board lunch.

Shay Davis reported that Parent/Teacher conferences are this week. PTO is planning Cookies with Santa and the Annual Holiday Bazaar is on Dec 7<sup>th</sup>. The Mom and Daughter Sip and Paint was a huge success and the administration is eager to see what other events PTO is planning.

Andy also reported on the visits from the Kuna Student Educators and the Charter Commission everyone was very impressed with the atmosphere at North Star.

## **BOARD BUSINESS**

### ISBA Conference Highlights

The board attended the ISBA Conference in Boise and gave some highlights and thoughts to the classes they attended. The board felt this conference presented good knowledge about writing policy, communication between different school boards, good board practices for better understanding procedures and also the program, Simbli, which helps boards with agenda and meeting planning. Jenna voiced her appreciation for all the information that our administration provides during board meetings which helped them to understand content during the ISBA conference.

### Policy/Safety Committee

- a. Policy Manual Rewrite Contract: The policy committee met and have three areas of concern. Those concerns include the last time the full policy manual had been review and ratified was 2015, there are areas in the policy manual that are missing and missing knowledge of the board regarding the policy manual. The committee would like to present the ISBA Rewrite Policy Service again to the Board. This service would review and blend our current policy with their template and allow North Star admin and board to review sections as they work through all policies. The board originally opted for the service that allowed North Star to make the changes by reading through the ISBA

template and updating our policies accordingly. Using the ISBA Service would take up to 2 years with the Board reviewing each section and approving the changes, this is shorter than the time expected with North Star doing all the reviewing and edits for all policies. The administration will review each section received from ISBA, then the policy committee will review and finally the board will be presented the new section for the two-read requirement.

**Motion to approve the manual rewrite contract pending the addition of the statutory certifications section by Director Huffaker. Second by Director Anderson. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.**

- b. Policy 201.11 Charter School Policy: States that the board will be solely responsible for the revision and amending of existing policies. After discussing this policy and the option of annual or biannual review, the board opted to review policy every other year.

**Motion to approve policy 201.11 with the adjustment of the board to review the policy biannually (meaning every other year) by Director Balch. Second by Director Huffaker. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.**

- c. Policy 201.12 conflicting Policies and Procedures: The board discussed the purpose of this policy.

**Motion to approve the conflicting policies and procedures policy by Director Huffaker. Second by Director Gregg. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.**

### Strategic Planning

The Strategic Planning committee reported on their meeting where they discussed the future of North Star including how to retain students, new staff and how to give support to families. The committee is looking at providing a “what to expect when coming to North Star” contract. The counselors are working toward helping the staff feel wanted and appreciated.

No action, no vote taken.

### Lottery Dates

Administration is asking for approval for the 2025-2026 Lottery dates which includes Lottery going live on the website January 9<sup>th</sup>, all applications due March 13<sup>th</sup>, and the Lottery Drawing March 27<sup>th</sup>. The Lottery commissioner will be approved at the January board meeting.

**Motion to approve the proposed lottery dates as presented by Director Balch. Second by Director Dumas. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.**

Field Trip

Administration is asking for approval to have seniors attend an Economic competition.

**Motion to approve the field trip proposal by Director Huffaker. Second by Director Gregg. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.**

Cycle Club

The Mountain Bike Club currently runs through the National Interscholastic Cycling Association (NICA) and their season runs from July to October. North Star's Bike club is growing and would like to extend their season, however, that is not possible as a member of NICA. The club is proposing to start an additional club that will be separate from the NICA Bike Club. This club would be called the North Star Cycling Club. The club will provide training and clinics for upcoming cyclists. The club will adopt a waiver similar to the ski team.

**Motion to approve the creation of the Cycle Club by Director Gregg. Second by Director Huffaker. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.**

BPA Club (Business Professional of America)

BPA club is coming back to North Star. This club will help with teaching leadership for North Star students and as an organization can go out and represent North Star. The club presented their plan to Student Council per policy.

**Motion to approve Business Professional of America Club by Director Balch. Second by Director Anderson. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

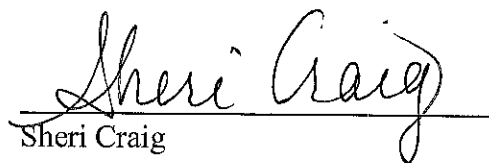
The board asked administration to follow up on p-cards from former employees to ensure they have been cancelled.

**Motion to approve the consent agenda by Director Balch. Second by Director Huffaker. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.**

**Motion to adjourn by Director Huffaker at 7:44 pm. Second by Director Dumas. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion passes.**



Michelle Van Beek  
Vice Chair of the Board



Sheri Craig  
Clerk of the Board