

**North Star Montessori Academy
3030 Wright Street
Marquette, MI 49855**

**Proposed Regular Board Meeting Minutes
November 16th, 2022
5:15 p.m.**

North Star Montessori Academy-Cultivating blended learning and success by inspiring every child in a student-centered community.

Board Members: Roger Zappa, Lydia Bucklin, Jessica Danek, Melissa Bowers.

NMU: Betty LaPointe, NMU Charter Schools Office

“This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Directors in public for the purpose of conducting the School’s business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as inducted in the agenda”

1. Call to Order: Melissa Bowers called the regular NSMA Board meeting to order at 5:17 p.m.
2. Roll Call - Board of Directors present: Lydia Bucklin, Jessica Danek, Melissa Bowers, Roger Zappa. Quorum reached.
3. Others Present: Andrea Ballard, Betty LaPointe, Nicole Harrington
4. Agenda Adoption:
 - a) Motion by Lydia Bucklin, supported by Roger Zappa to approve the agenda as presented, with the removal of the Elementary Principal Report as Angela Chang was not present. Unanimous approval. Motion passed.
5. Public Comment: None.

Consent Agenda

1.
 - a) Approval of proposed minutes from the October 26th, 2022 meeting
 - b) Approval of October financial statements and October bills for payment.
- Motion by Jessica Danek, supported by Roger Zappa, to approve the consent agenda. Vote: Unanimous approval. Motion passed.

Action Items

1. Nicole Harrington CSO Oath of Office
 - Motion by Roger Zappa, supported by Jessica Danek, to approve Nicole Harrington to the North Star Montessori Academy Charter School Board. Unanimous approval. Motion passed.
2. Approval of hiring a Roaming Teacher

- Caitlin Johnson has been observing this year and has been a wonderful asset. Would like to hire her as a roaming sub for the remainder of the academic year. She will also be assisting with the larger art class.
- Motion by Roger Zappa, supported by Lydia Bucklin, to approve the hiring of a roaming teacher. Unanimous approval. Motion passed.

Reports/Discussion

1. **High School Discussion:** A financial report showing High School expenses was presented and it showed we were near a break-even point with budget expenses and state aid. With the original expectation that we were considerably over budget for the High School, this helped outweigh the benefits to continue with the High School. Andrea Ballard shared that they are in discussion with N.I.C.E. to see if we'd be able to use one of their buses next year to supply 4 points of pick-up for our students. If that happens, we might be able to increase enrollment from our current 32 High School students. We'd like to involve the students more with how to best promote the High School and what they'd like to do with the space, as we do need to discuss what to do with the facility going forward. Administration will reach back out to IDI about options and costs for expanding the school. The Elementary building does have a leaky roof issue, but we can't get a quote or it fixed until it is free of snow. There will be a discussion meeting about the facilities on January 11th at noon.
2. **Superintendent/Secondary Principal Report:** Andrea Ballard said the student advisory board has its third meeting coming up to go over what to do next to help their fellow students with bullying and mental health issues. She felt they have done well and had good ideas so far. Next week is conferences and an extended break will follow. The middle school robotics team made it to the state competition, so they will be traveling downstate for that. Our middle school basketball team has been 6-0, so that has been quite exciting. Cross-country and basketball have been a wonderful addition to middle school. First Bank has generously donated funds for students that may not be able to purchase a book during the book fair. Range Bank donated school supplies at the beginning of the year as well. Count day total was 188.5 students. Our before and after school program has some staffing struggles, mostly due to the ratio required for certain ages. If we do get access to a bus through N.I.C.E. next year, we would plan on a stop at Kids Club.
3. **Elementary Principal Report:** Not presented.
4. **NMU Charter School Office report:** Betty LaPointe reminded the board about the symposium on December 7th and 8th in Detroit. The CSO will cover the cost of three people to attend the symposium and there will be several sessions for the board. She felt it would be a great opportunity to network.

Announcements


1. **Next meeting:** Wednesday, December 14th, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.
2. **Public comment:** None
3. **Board member comment:** Jessica Danek attended the Student Council meeting the previous week and will work with them to attend a meeting each month. She

said PTO will be supplying dinner for staff during Parent/Teacher Conferences. They are also working on Santa's Workshop, with the planned date of Friday, December 16th, and Monday the 19th. The holiday concert will be on December 21st, beginning in the morning, and continue in a tiered system like we did the previous year. This will help with keeping crowds and parking manageable.

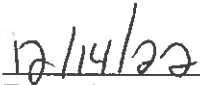
4. **Motion to adjourn** by Lydia Bucklin, supported by Nicole Harrington. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

NOTICE: The location of the meeting provides barrier-free access to all persons. Persons needing assistance should call North Star Montessori Academy (906) 226-0156 approximately 1 hour before the meeting is scheduled.

Official minutes of the school board meetings are stored in the school's business office and available for public inspection eight days after a meeting as proposed minutes and five days after the meeting at which they are approved.



Jessica Danek, NSMA Board Secretary



Date Approved

