

**North Star Academy**  
**3030 Wright Street**  
**Marquette, MI 49855**  
**Regular Board Meeting Agenda**  
**September 18, 2024**  
**4:15 p.m.**

*North Star Montessori Academy fosters a Montessori environment allowing the whole child the freedom and support to question, think deeply, and make connections. Our Montessori environment yields confident, motivated, and self-directed learners able to think critically, work collaboratively, and become respectful citizens in an ever-changing world.*

**Board Members:** Melissa Bowers, Roger Zappa, Nicole Harrington

**NMU:** Betty LaPointe, EdD – Director, Charter Schools Curriculum Assessment & Quality Control

1. Call to Order Melissa Bowers called the regular NSMA Board meeting to order at 4:17 p.m.
2. Roll call – Board of Directors present: Melissa Bowers and Nicole Harrington. Roger Zappa absent and excused. Quorum reached.
3. Others present Mary VanderMolen, Angela Chang, Betty LaPointe, and Stephanie Sinischo. Via zoom Dave Patterson, Ryan Marshall, and Michelle Kyles
4. Agenda adoption
  - a) Motion by Nicole Harrington, supported by Melissa Bowers to approve the agenda as presented. Unanimous approval. Motion passed.
5. Public comment - None

#### **Consent Agenda**

6. a) Approval of proposed minutes August 21, 2024 meeting
  - b) Approval of August financial statements and August bills for payment
    1. Motion by Nicole Harrington, supported by Melissa Bowers to approve proposed minutes August 21, 2024 meeting. July, August, and September financial statements and August bills are expected to be presented at the October board meeting. Unanimous approval. Motion passed.

#### **Action Items**

7. Approval of Emergency Response Plan
  - a) Motion by, Nicole Harrington supported by Melissa Bowers to approve Emergency Response Plan as presented. Unanimous approval. Motion passed.
8. Approval of Teacher and Administrative Evaluation Tools
  - a) Motion by, Nicole Harrington supported by Melissa Bowers to approve Teacher and Administrative Evaluation Tools as presented. Unanimous approval. Motion passed.
9. Approval of Jessica Pfitzer as SEPAC representative
  - a) Motion by, Nicole Harrington supported by Melissa Bowers to approve Jessica Pfitzer as SEPAC representative as presented. Unanimous approval. Motion passed.
10. Resolution to allow Teachers First to use a stamp with Mary VanderMolen signature for financial checks
  - a) Motion by, Nicole Harrington supported by Melissa Bowers to approve Teachers First to use a stamp with Mary VanderMolen signature representative as presented. Unanimous approval. Motion passed.

#### **Discussion Items**

11. October Audit
  - a) Board was updated on status of audit.
12. Workers' Compensation Audit
  - a) Board was updated on status of audit.

13. Teachers First & ORS Office retirement services
  - a) Board was updated on legislature impacting retirement packages for staff.
14. NSMA Board & Teachers First Check-In
  - a) Board was advised about the process in place with Teachers 1<sup>st</sup> of the monthly "State of the school" report that will start next month. Also Teachers 1<sup>st</sup> will coordinate with school leadership for board committee meetings
15. Website update
  - a) School leadership recommends Teacher 1<sup>st</sup> manage our website.

#### **Reports**

16. Superintendent Report- Mary VanderMolen
  - a) Board was updated on current state of the school
17. Principal Report – Angela Chang
  - a) Board was updated on the first 3 weeks of school.
18. Transportation Update
  - a) Board was updated on the status of recruiting of bus drivers.
19. NMU Charter Schools Office Report
  - a) Board was updated on dates of upcoming conferences.

#### **Announcements**

20. Next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, October 16, 2024
20. Public Comment
21. Board Member Comment
22. Motion to adjourn
  - a) Motion by Nicole Harrington, supported by Melissa Bowers adjourn at 5:36 PM Unanimous approval.  
Motion passed

NOTICE: The location of the meeting provides barrier-free access to all persons. Persons needing assistance should call North Star 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.

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Melissa Bowers, NSMA Board Secretary- 2024/2025

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Date Approved