

Regular Board Meeting of the Organization February 28, 2022 5:30p.m.	Northland Preparatory Academy 3300 East Sparrow Avenue Flagstaff, AZ 86004
---	---

DRAFT Minutes

I. Call to Order Nihal Sarikaya
5:30pm

II. Pledge of Allegiance Nihal Sarikaya

III. Mission Statement

Northland Preparatory academy provides a collaborative, well-rounded education through academics, arts, and athletics, and provides educational opportunities for a successful future, while fostering a diverse and inclusive community.

IV. Roll Call of Members Nihal Sarikaya

	Officers*		Members*
X	Nihal Sarikaya (President)	X	Scott Keller
X	Ian Cribbs (Vice President)	X	Bonnie Baker
X	Susan McCullough (Treasurer)	X	Priscilla Rost
X	Jessica Gabrys (Secretary)	X	Brian van Meerten
X	David Lykins (Superintendent, Nonvoting)	X	Alicia Vaughan

*Quorum requirement met

	Administrators in Attendance	Others in Attendance
		Thomas Byers
X	Jay Litwicki (Principal)	Anne Vonesh, Natalie Auker, Noe Rhon, Terra Weiss, Michael Shafer, Joy Auker, Brett Auker, Grace Schulz, Stella Schulz, Chad Auker
X	Vada Visockis (Assistant Principal)	Randy Schulz, Brielle Williams, Jana Robles, Stacy Auza, Angelo Pappas
X	Steve Danner (Business Manager)	Dave Bereson from FlagIT

V. Call to the Public (Public Comment) Nihal Sarikaya
(30 minute time allotment)
There were six presenters this evening.

VI. Approval of Minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 1/24/2022 Nihal Sarikaya

A motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 1/24/2022 was made by Alicia Vaughan. Scott Keller seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

VII. NPA Business Items and Presentations David Lykins

A. COVID 19 Presentation

***Coconino County Schools COVID 19 Dashboard**

*** NPA COVID 19 Dashboard**

Superintendent Lykins presented the COVID-19 Dashboard County locator, which shows Flagstaff to be in the medium level. He then thanked the board for their approach and the NPA community for their response to COVID mask mandates and safety protocols. Superintendent Lykins referenced the many changes that have occurred in our country, including CDC updates, FUSD updates, community and school spread. He opened it up to the board for discussion.

***Review NPA Mask Policy**

The NPA Governing Board, in a Special Meeting, on Thursday, August 12th, 2021, approved a mandatory mask policy requiring all NPA students, staff, and visitors wear a mask while indoors at NPA during the school day and all school activities on campus. The policy continued, as a result of Board action on Monday, September 27, 2021. The board discussed amending the NPA Mask Policy to incorporate changes and follow CDC guidance.

Action Item: Discussion and possible action to continue/or discontinue the current NPA mask policy for students, staff and visitors while indoors at NPA.

After a brief discussion, a motion to discontinue the current NPA mask policy while indoors with the understanding to monitor COVID 19 community levels, follow CDC guidelines, and act accordingly was made by Ian Cribbs and seconded by Jessica Gabrys. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Presentation on remote audio/video conferencing (Board Meetings)

Superintendent Lykins provided a brief history on the options that were explored by FLAGIT to address the audio/video limitations in the multi-purpose room. Dave from FlagIT discussed the scenarios and options to enhance NPA's audio/video conferencing capabilities. He explained what would be involved in setting up each option, along with their corresponding costs. Upon discussion by the Board Members, NPA will not pursue the program at this time and will wait for more information.

Action Item: Discussion and Possible action to contract with FLAGIT to purchase, install video conferencing equipment as presented for virtual participation in NPA Board meetings

No action was taken.

C. Board Member Candidate Presentations (alphabetical order)

Ian Cribbs, Mark Shafer, and Alicia Vaughan provided presentations as to why they would like to become/remain Board Members.

Action Item: Discussion and possible action to elect/approve 2022 Governing Board candidates for seats #7, #8, and #9.

The motion to elect/approve 2022 Governing Board Candidates for seats #7, #8, and #9 (Ian Cribbs, Mark Shafer, and Alicia Vaughan) was made by Jessica Gabrys and seconded by Susan

McCullough. The motion passed unanimously. Nihal Sarikaya abstained from the vote because she works in the same college, at NAU, with one of the candidates.

D. NPA Budget Presentation

Steve Danner

Mr. Danner presented the latest draft of the FY23 Budget Projection Version 1.0. The goal is to continue balance between equity and efficiency, especially with new faculty. A revised second draft will be presented in the March Board Meeting. The board and the finance committee have a fiduciary responsibility to provide oversight to the proposed budget and updates, to ensure our students and teachers are well-served. The finalized budget will be submitted to the State by July 15, 2022.

E. Principal Presentation

Jay Litwicki

Principal Litwicki provided a safety update which included information on recent lockdown procedures and drills, hate speech presentations, follow ups, and proper use of the “anonymous app.” He then reported on NPA’s Kindness initiatives, acknowledging presentations on front-line workers, random cards of kindness (and their distribution), and the “Bring Change to Mind” kindness assembly, to further address issues of social and emotional learning.

Principal Litwicki transitioned his presentation to efforts in the works such as course pre-registration, master scheduling, PLC reporting, and building safety recommendations. He then presented dates, subjects, and the grades affected by upcoming testing season. Principal Litwicki concluded his presentation by reminding the board about the upcoming Spring Break dates (March 14-18).

F. AZ State Board for Charter Schools Amendment Dave Lykins/Steve Danner

Superintendent Lykins and Mr. Danner presented on a finding that needs attention, per the ASBCS review. A housekeeping item surfaced during the recent interval review where the ASBCS did not see the “new” building as part of NPA’s campus. The certificate of occupancy for that building shows the address of 1400 N. Fourth Street rather than the main 3300 E. Sparrow address. ASBCS wants the 1400 N. Fourth Street address to be reflected as a secondary physical address.

Action Item: Discussion and possible action to authorize administration to submit a Member Campus Amendment Request to the AZ State Board for Charter Schools to update ASBCS records to include the building whose address is 1400 N. Fourth Street as part of NPA’s campus.

A motion was made to authorize administration to submit a Member Campus Amendment Request to the AZ State Board for Charter Schools to update ASBCS records to include the building whose address is 1400 N. Fourth Street as part of NPA’s campus by Ian Cribbs and seconded by Alicia Vaughan. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Possible executive session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 (C)—Personnel—Consideration and discussion of a request from teacher Missy Acker to consider her placement on the School salary schedule.

Superintendent Lykins provided the history of events that led to Mrs. Acker's request. Upon her request to speak to the board, he presented Mrs. Acker with the option of moving to an executive session to which she declined. Mrs. Acker addressed the board about her situation after taking a sabbatical. She explained that there were salary increases for every teacher from the Red for Ed movement that reflected efforts from previous years, rather than normal yearly increases. The Board discussed the matter and consulted with Ben Hufford for legal advice.

Member Bonnie Baker departed the meeting at 7:20pm.

Action Item: Possible action on a request by teacher Missy Acker concerning her placement on the School salary schedule.

After a lengthy discussion, a motion to deny the request by teacher Missy Acker concerning her placement on the School salary schedule was made by Alicia Vaughan and seconded by Scott Keller. The motion passed with 6 members in favor and 2 in opposition (Susan McCullough and Jessica Gabrys).

IX. Committee Reports
(Chairpersons and Meeting times) (30-45 minutes)

Member Brian van Meerten departed the meeting at 8:25pm.

- a. Bylaws and Policies- Review and decision recommendations
Chairperson: Ian Cribbs
Member(s): Bonnie Baker
Report: Did not meet. Dave met today with ASBA to discuss new policies; more to come.
- b. Community Enrichment- Review and decision recommendations
Chairperson: Alicia Vaughan
Member(s): Susan McCullough
Report: Officer elections occurred for this year. The CEC had a teacher celebration and discussed various ideas for fundraisers. The SpiritWear store will shift from a CEC responsibility to a student-led responsibility. The request to begin working on senior swag bags was also brought up.
- c. Finance- Review and decision recommendations
Chairperson: Susan McCullough
Member(s): Ian Cribbs, Scott Keller, Nihal Sarikaya
Report: The budget/YTD financials was explained earlier, by Steve Danner. The finance committee is recommending a \$1200 bonus to each staff member, before Spring Break.

Action Item: Discussion and possible action to accept the Year to Date as presented.

A motion was made to accept the Year to Date Financials, as presented, by Ian Cribbs and seconded by Scott Keller. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Discussion and possible action to approve budget variance as presented.

In appreciation of the continued efforts of teachers and staff in carrying out NPA's mission, a motion was made to authorize Administration to issue a bonus of \$1200 as allowed by Clause 11 in contracts for all contract employees and one regular employee, to be prorated as appropriate for part-year staff by Alicia Vaughan and seconded by Susan McCullough. The motion passed unanimously.

- d. Fundraising/Grant Writing- Review and decision recommendations
Chairperson: Nihal Sarikaya
Member(s): Priscilla Rost
Report: Confirmed the gold tournament for Monday, Sept. 12. Efforts are underway to obtain playground/outside equipment to install by next fall.
- e. Strategic Planning- Review and decision recommendations
Chairperson: Ian Cribbs
Member(s): Susan McCullough, Nihal Sarikaya, Alicia Vaughan
Report: Discussed relevance about NPA supporting faculty staff and STEM wing.
- f. Board Recruitment- Review and decision recommendations
Chairperson: Priscilla Rost
Member(s): Brian van Meerten
Report: The committee presented three wonderful candidates who presented their reasons for joining the board. All three candidates were elected to the three open positions.
- g. Personnel- Review and decision recommendations
Chairperson: Scott Keller
Member(s): Alicia Vaughan, Jessica Gabrys
Report: The committee met with Superintendent Lykins to review and finalize the proposed edits to his SMART goals. The group approved his changes.

Action Item: Discussion and possible action to approve Personnel Committee recommendation for Superintendent SMART Goals.

A motion was made to approve Personnel Committee recommendation for Superintendent SMART Goals by Scott Keller and seconded by Ian Cribbs. The motion passed unanimously.

- h. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)-Review and decision recommendations
C&T Chairperson: Jessica Gabrys
PAR Chairperson: Bonnie Baker
Members: Ian Cribbs, Scott Keller, Nihal Sarikaya, Brian van Meerten, Alicia Vaughan
Report: Meetings will occur in the next two weeks for both committees.

X. Other Business

Future Board meeting dates and agenda items
March 28th, 2022 (employee contracts 1.0)

April 25th, 2022

XI. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Jessica Gabrys and seconded by Susan McCullough. The motion passed unanimously at 8:40pm.