



**Minutes of a Work Session, January 13, 2022
Novi Community School District
Board of Education**

A Work Session of the Board of Trustees of Novi Community School District was held Thursday, January 13, 2022, beginning at 7:00 PM.

Present: Dr. Ruskin, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Hood, Mr. Mena, Mrs. Murphy, Mr. Cook, and Mrs. Roney
by Roll Call Vote

Absent:

Others Present: Dr. Matthews, Dr. RJ Webber, and Dr. Kinzer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Members of the audience joined with the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

WORKSHOP TOPIC(S) DISCUSSED

Guest Teacher Crisis

Dr. Gary Kinzer, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, guided the Board through the Guest Teacher process, presented a comparison of the surrounding districts' pay rates, Novi's fill rate comparison, subs during planning time comparison, and a Q&A.

Proposed Courses

Yoga and Mat Course Proposal

Ms. Leanne Molnar, physical education teacher at Novi High School, would like to propose the addition of an Elective Course, Yoga and Mat Fitness. This course is designed for any level of yogi and will empower students to take control of their mental and physical health.

Yoga helps student to regulate emotions, behaviors, and thoughts in many environments and provides an opportunity for reflection, mindfulness, grounding, and a space to relieve anxiety.

This course will also fill a physical education course requirement.

Study Skills Course Proposal

Ms. Emily Pohlonski, principal of Novi Virtual, would like to propose the addition of two Elective Courses, High School Study Skills and Middle School Study Skills. These courses will not replace any existing courses. It will be in addition to the courses that are already offered at Novi High School and Novi Middle School.

These courses will provide students in grades 7 – 12 with the opportunity to strengthen their skills in the following areas:

- Note-taking
- Executive Functioning
- Time Management
- Everyday math with real world application

- Effective Communication
- Presentation Skills
- Comprehension Techniques
- Goal setting
- Personal Reflection

These courses fill a need for students who need an elective credit or a senior math credit and students will have the opportunity to apply the content to the courses that they are taking concurrently. Students can take this course more than once as needed to support their learning.

Board members also discussed the following topics:

Designation of a law firm to represent the Board
Committee protocols, key items and schedule

- Capital Projects
- Curriculum
- Finance
- Governance and Policy
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – go to G&P for refined description
- Legislative – go to G&P for refined description
- Ad Hoc – time bound - go to G&P for further definition

FOIA, FERPA, OMA Review

Board members were asked to perform their yearly review of Thrun Law’s FOIA, FERPA, and OMA presentation.

Other

No action was taken by the Board at this meeting.

The Work Session adjourned at 9:04 PM. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for January 20, 2022 at 7:00 PM, at the Educational Service Building.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There were two (2) comments from the audience regarding the course proposals that were presented, DEI Committee meetings, STEM Partners, and the NRAAA petition.

Willy Mena, Secretary

An online recording of this meeting is available on YouTube and on the District Website: novi.k12.mi.us