



Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting, January 12, 2023
Novi Community School District
Board of Education

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Novi Community School District was held Thursday, January 12, 2023, beginning at 7:01 PM.

Present: Dr. Ruskin, Mr. Mena, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Roney, Mr. Cook, Mrs. Beaudoin, and Mr. Michener

Absent: by Roll Call Vote

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Approve the Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Smith and supported by Mr. Michener that the Novi Community School Board of Education approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: 7 Dr. Ruskin, Mr. Mena, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Roney, Mr. Cook, Mrs. Beaudoin, and Mr. Michener

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BOARD MEMBER OATH OF OFFICE

We have received from the Board of County Canvassers, for the County of Oakland, the Certificate of Determination of the election results of the Novi Community School District. The official document states that it has been determined that at the regular election held on November 8, 2022, Betsy Beaudoin and Jason W. Michener were elected to six-year terms of office, expiring December 31, 2028. The Revised School Code provides within 10 business days after notification of election or appointment to the board, each person shall file with the secretary of the board an acceptance of the office to which the person has been elected or appointed. Prior to the member-elect performing the duties of office, the Oath of Office must be administered within ten days after they have been notified of election results. This activity has already been completed for both individuals. Tonight, the Oath of Office will publically and ceremoniously be administered to the newly elected Board members.

The oath is as follows:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this State and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Member of the Board of Education of Novi Community School District, Michigan, according to the best of my ability."

Mrs. Betsy Beaudoin was sworn into office by Dr. RJ Webber.

Mr. Jason W. Michener was sworn into office by Mrs. Tara Michener.

There was a short break beginning at 7:07 PM and ending at 7:19 PM.

CELEBRATIONS

Board members congratulated Mr. Mainka on his first snow day announcement.

Mr. Mainka reported that it was a hard call and he did have the opportunity, the day before, to hear our high school Novi Singers and our high school orchestra. He stated that we have phenomenal musicians and singers. Mr. Mainka said that it is great to see the arts being celebrated in such a way, kudos to them all for their hard work.

Board members celebrated the athletic department for keeping events going when an issue occurred in the performance gym. It was reported that they oved some basketball games and did not miss a beat keeping the events moving.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Board of Education elects officers annually not earlier than January 1st immediately following an election held on a November regular election date and not later than the first meeting in January.

Tonight the Board will recommend and vote on the officer positions of the Board.

Recommendation for President:

It was moved by Mr. Mena and supported by Mrs. Roney that the Novi Board of Education elects Dr. Danielle Ruskin as the President of the Novi Community School District Board of Education for the 2023 Calendar Year, so be it resolved by roll call vote:

Ayes: Dr. Ruskin, Mr. Mena, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Roney, Mr. Cook, Mrs. Beaudoin, and Mr. Michener

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Recommendation for Vice President:

It was moved by Mrs. Beaudoin and supported by Mr. Michener that the Novi Board of Education elects Mr. Tom Smith as the Vice-President of the Novi Community School District Board of Education for the 2023 Calendar Year, so be it resolved by roll call vote:

Ayes: 6 Dr. Ruskin, Mr. Mena, Mr. Smith, Mr. Cook, Mrs. Beaudoin, and Mr. Michener

Nays: 1 Mrs. Roney,

MOTION CARRIED

Recommendation for Secretary:

It was moved by Mr. Cook and supported by Mrs. Roney that the Novi Board of Education elects Mr. Willy Mena a as the Secretary of the Novi Community School District Board of Education for the 2023 Calendar Year, so be it resolved by roll call vote:

Ayes: 4 Dr. Ruskin, Mr. Mena, Mrs. Roney, and Mr. Cook

Nays: 3 Mr. Smith, Mrs. Beaudoin, and Mr. Michener

MOTION CARRIED

Recommendation for Treasurer:

It was moved by Mr. Mena and supported by Mr. Cook that the Novi Board of Education elects Mrs. Mary Ann Roney as the Treasurer of the Novi Community School District Board of Education for the 2023 Calendar Year, so be it resolved by roll call vote:

Ayes: Dr. Ruskin, Mr. Mena, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Roney, Mr. Cook, Mrs. Beaudoin, and Mr. Michener

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There were thirteen comments from the audience. Two (2) congratulating our new Board members on their elected position. One (1) introducing the teachers who were present tonight. One (1) thanking the new superintendent for being inviting and looking forward to working with him. One (1) supporting a Board member on his election to office. Eight (8) regarding Board responsibility and past actions.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items included in the Consent Items are those which have previously been considered by the Board in committee or at a prior meeting, or of such a routine nature, that discussion is not required. Board members may request that any items be removed from Consent Items for further discussion, if additional information is needed or available.

It was moved by Mr. Cook and supported by Mr. Smith that the Novi Community School Board of Education approve the Consent Item(s) as presented.

Ayes: 7 Dr. Ruskin, Mr. Mena, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Roney, Mr. Cook, Mrs. Beaudoin, and Mr. Michener

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

DONATIONS

The Band Boosters is presenting donations to the Novi Community School District as listed below. These generous donations total \$ 11,746.12.

It was moved by Mr. Cook and supported by Mrs. Beaudoin that the Novi Community Schools Board of Education accept the donation(s) as presented, with appreciation and thanks.

Ayes: 7 Dr. Ruskin, Mr. Mena, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Roney, Mr. Cook, Mrs. Beaudoin, and Mr. Michener

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Robotics is presenting donations to the Novi Community School District as listed below. These generous donations total \$ 51,000.00.

It was moved by Mrs. Roney and supported by Mr. Michener that the Novi Community Schools Board of Education accept the donation(s) as presented, with appreciation and thanks.

Ayes: 7 Dr. Ruskin, Mr. Mena, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Roney, Mr. Cook, Mrs. Beaudoin, and Mr. Michener

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS

Personnel Report

Laura Carino, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, presented for the Board’s consideration the personnel changes.

It was moved by Mr. Cook and supported by Mrs. Roney that the Novi Community School Board of Education adopts the personnel report recommendations as presented.

Ayes: 7 Dr. Ruskin, Mr. Mena, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Roney, Mr. Cook, Mrs. Beaudoin, and Mr. Michener

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Designate Depositories for School Funds

The Board shall, at the organizational meeting:

- A. Designate depositories for school funds:

The Novi Community School District currently has accounts and investments with the following banks:

<u>BANK</u>	<u>ACCOUNT</u>
Fifth Third Bank	General Fund Checking
	Debt Fund Checking
MILAF/Fifth Third	Bond Funds
Huntington Bank	Money Market Account
CIBC Bank USA	Money Market Account
Comerica Bank	Money Market Account
Chemical Bank	Money Market Account

The Novi Community School District currently uses the following banks for purchase of investments and the ability to wire money to and from the following banks:

Bank of America	Flagstar Bank
Bank of New York Mellon	Huntington Bank
CIBC Bank USA	JP Morgan Chase Bank
Citizens Bank	Level One Bank
Comerica Bank	PNC Bank
Fifth Third Bank	TCF Bank
	Washington Trust Bank

- B.** Designate those persons authorized to sign checks, contracts, agreements, and purchase orders:
The Novi Community School District Board of Education currently authorizes the Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations to sign checks; the Superintendent or designee to sign contracts, and agreements; and the Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations to sign purchase orders.
- C.** Designate those persons authorized to use the safe deposit box:
The Novi Community School District Board of Education currently does not have a safe deposit box.
- D.** Determine fee charged to individuals who request notice of Board meetings:
The Novi Community School District Board of Education currently does not charge a fee.
- E.** Designate an administrator to assume the specified responsibilities of the Treasurer and/or of the Secretary:
The Novi Community School District Board of Education currently designates the Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations to assume the specified responsibilities of the Treasurer.
The Novi Community School District Board of Education currently designates the Executive Assistant to the Superintendent to assume the specified responsibilities of the Recording Secretary.
- F.** Designate the Electronic Transfer Officer (ETO):
The Novi Community School District Board of Education currently designates the Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations as the Electronic Transfer Officer (ETO).
- G.** Designate a law firm to represent the School Board:
The Novi Community School District Board of Education designates Thrun Law Firm to represent the District.

H. Designate a day, place and time for regular meetings which shall be held at least once every month: The Novi Community School District Board of Education currently designates a minimum of one (1) Thursday a month for their regular meetings of the Board to be held at the Educational Services Building, located at 25345 Taft Road, Novi, Michigan 48374, at 7:00 PM. All dates and times are posted on the Novi Community School District website.

It was moved by Mrs. Roney and supported by Mrs. Beaudoin that the Novi Community Schools Board of Education accept designate depositories for school funds as presented.

Ayes: 7 Dr. Ruskin, Mr. Mena, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Roney, Mr. Cook, Mrs. Beaudoin, and Mr. Michener
Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Benjamin Mainka, Superintendent of Schools, reported that he has had a tremendous listening tour opportunity and he is so thankful to have Heather Burnside visiting with him. He stated that they have gone to three (3) buildings so far. Mr. Mainka said that some of the Board asked about some of the things that they saw and some of the teacher and cultural surveys and where the question about what is so hard, right now, about being a teacher in a public ed setting.

Mr. Mainka mentioned that there was a recent study where people with advanced degrees, doctors, lawyers, and other professionals were put in a classroom for six (6) months and they could not make it because it is really hard to be an educator. He reported that we are trying to understand how we can support them and make Novi not just a great place to raise a family and come to school, but to make Novi the place where you want to come to work and love to come to work.

Mr. Mainka reported that this is School Board Appreciation Month. He stated that there is a lot of work, time and energy that is done by school board members that people do not know about. He stated that we are going to be excited to celebrate with our Board and you at our next meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. Devin Kling, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations, reported his son was born on the day that he was supposed to start and the District was very supportive of me when I needed them most. He expressed his gratitude. Mr. Kling stated that this is his first full week, although he did work over winter break. He said that Superintendent Mainka was generous enough to give him a tour of the facilities and he got to see all of the schools.

Mr. Kling reported that he had a Bond meeting yesterday and met with McCarthy and Smith and Plante Moran Cresa who give him an update on where we are with our 2020 Bond and 2022 Bond Series. He stated that he is working on the December Financial Statement and then the big budget and budget planning for the amendment next month.

Dr. Laura Carino, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, reported that she is excited to have a table of three (3) and excited that Devin is here. She stated that she looks forward to partnering with him as they begin the collective bargaining this spring.

Dr. Carino said that they are already looking forward to the upcoming job fairs. She mentioned that they registered for Michigan State and they are looking at U of M as well as other organizations to

recruit fantastic teachers. Dr. Carino reported that one of their goals is to increase the diversity of our staff, so that we can enhance our wonderful and amazing Novi educators.

Dr. Carino stated that she is looking forward to subbing in Ms. Jarjis' room tomorrow at Novi Woods. She said that she is going back to her first grade roots. Dr. Carino congratulated our new Board members.

Mr. Mike Giromini, Assistant Superintendent of Academic Services, reported that he is very appreciative of this team. He stated that he just learned we have over 35 students participating in the Novi Unified Basketball team. Mr. Giromini said that it is such a wonderful experience with our special ed students and our general ed peers. He mentioned that working together they get to build community and they get to have fun.

Mr. Giromini stated that an athletic director once told him that Unified sports is the truest form of sport and he thinks that is true. He said that the highlight of our next big game is that it is against Northville, on February 3, at 7:00 PM. Mr. Giromini mentioned that it is a home game.

BOARD COMMUNICATION

A new Board member reported that he is really looking forward to serving the community and the staff, working with the rest of the Board. He stated that they are looking forward to a great 2023.

A new Board member echoed those sentiments and stated she is honored to serve all of and looking forward to build bridges and figure out how everybody is going to move forward. She welcomed Mr. Kling and congratulated him and his wife on their son. The new Board member reported that it was wonderful to have all hands on deck at this point. She thanked the high school teachers who came out stating that it was nice to see their faces. The new Board member thanked everyone who spoke this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Michener and supported by Mrs. Roney that the Novi Community School District Board of Education Regular Board meeting be adjourned.

Ayes: 7 Dr. Ruskin, Mr. Mena, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Roney, Mr. Cook, Mrs. Beaudoin, and Mr. Michener

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for January 19, 2023 p.m., at the Educational Services Building.

Willy Mena, Board of Education Secretary