

NOVA ACADEMY

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 24, 2019, 6 PM
500 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana CA 92701

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman, Dr. Sanford Otsuji.

Members Present:

Dr. Sanford Otsuji, Chairman
Dr. Susan Garrett, Co-Chair
Norm Lester, Secretary
Karen Lester, Treasurer
Gloria Grana, Member

Members Not Present

Brenda Gonzalez, Member

Staff Present

Renee Lancaster, CEO/Founder
Denise Pascoe, Chief Business Officer
John Bowen, Director of Human Resources & Operations
Angie Dillon, Executive Assistant

Members Present via Conference Line:

None

Staff Present via Conference Line:

Lisa Hernandez, Principal

Karen Lester, Board Treasurer, motioned to move agenda item #7, Executive Report, to #5 on the Board Agenda.

Motion: Karen Lester

Second: Susan Garrett

Vote	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Otsuji	X		
S. Garrett	X		
N. Lester	X		
K. Lester	X		
G. Grana	X		

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar was presented for approval. The Consent Calendar contained the following matters:

- Minutes from the December 6, 2018, Board Meeting
- NOVA Academy-Coachella field trip to Wildwood School in Los Angeles
- NOVA Academy-Santa Ana field trip to Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach
- NOVA Academy-Santa Ana field trip to USC in Los Angeles

Motion to approve the Minutes from the December 6, 2018, Board Meeting, the Coachella campus field trip, and the Santa Ana campus field trips.

Motion: Susan Garrett

Second: Karen Lester

Vote	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Otsuji	X		
S. Garrett	X		
N. Lester	X		
K. Lester	X		
G. Grana	X		

EXECUTIVE REPORT

Renee Lancaster, CEO, introduced Tristen Seagondollar, Director of Development of NOVA Academy Children’s Foundation, who presented information about current student activities. Ms. Seagondollar reported that there was a recent Children’s Foundation Board Meeting where Foundation Board Members reviewed student proposals requesting funding for the Hippocrates Circle, CyberPatriot program, Technical Drafting and C.A.D. Technologies, and a field trip for the Physics Class to visit Knott’s Berry Farm for Physics Day. She shared that students from the Hippocrates Circle, a club for students interested in a medical career, appeared at the Children’s Foundation Board Meeting to present their proposal in person. The Hippocrates Circle club was granted \$300 from the Children’s Foundation but they were short on their goal of raising \$1,800.

A donation was made by the NOVA Academy Board Members of \$1,500 towards the Hippocrates Circle and another \$1,500 for the Coachella campus academic campaign. Ms. Seagondollar thanked the Board for their contribution and invited all Board Members to attend a future Hippocrates Circle anatomy lab.

Renee Lancaster presented the Governor’s 2019-2020 Budget. Under the previous governor, there was additional funding for students based on unduplicated counts. Now there will be no new revenue to bridge the gap and existing funds will flatten out. There was 3% GDP growth in 2018. The Governor’s proposed Budget plans to increase funding for early childhood education, reduce the cost of CalSTRS for employers by 1 point, and implement 3.46% COLA. Ms. Lancaster concluded that the budget still has to be approved by our state legislators and there will be an update in May prior to the year-end budget.

Renee Lancaster and Lisa Hernandez, Principal, provided an update on the Coachella campus. Recently Ms. Lancaster and Ms. Hernandez met with the Dean from College of the Desert to strengthen the

relationship with the Coachella campus. Going forward, College of the Desert will provide greater access to its college courses for NOVA students and a college pathway towards an AA degree.

The Coachella campus is implementing a schoolwide academic campaign to support students. Dr. Sanford Otsuji, Board Chair, recommended that the Coachella campus implement a small task force to help students. Ms. Hernandez will present her academic plan at the next Board Meeting. Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) is providing English Language (EL) training to all Coachella staff. A trainer is scheduled to visit the campus for five sessions this semester. Staff are being trained on EL standards and how to support EL students in the classroom.

Renee Lancaster reminded the Board that the Coachella campus will have Senior Exit Interviews on May 1, 2019. May 6-10 is Teacher Appreciation Week. Ms. Lancaster is planning a teacher appreciation event for Coachella staff on May 1.

Renee Lancaster provided an update on the Santa Ana campus. WASC committee members are scheduled to visit February 4-5, 2019, for mid-cycle WASC.

Ms. Lancaster reminded the Board that Santa Ana will have their Senior Exit Interviews on April 26, 2019. The next Board Meeting will be held on March 7 at NOVA Academy's Coachella campus.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Karen Lester motioned to move the Financial Update to the Special Board of Directors Meeting, scheduled for 6:45 PM after the current regular Board of Directors Meeting.

Motion: Karen Lester

Second: Norm Lester

Vote	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Otsuji	X		
S. Garrett	X		
N. Lester	X		
K. Lester	X		
G. Grana	X		

THREE PERCENT ADMINISTRATION PERFORMANCE PAY INCREASE

Motion to approve date of June 15, 2019, for the one-time 3% Administration Performance Pay Increase for Santa Ana and for the pay increase to be based on maintaining ADA for the 2018-2019 school year.

Motion: Susan Garrett

Second: Karen Lester

Vote	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Otsuji	X		
S. Garrett	X		
N. Lester	X		
K. Lester	X		
G. Grana	X		

Motion to approve date of October 15, 2019, for the one-time 3% Administration Performance Pay Increase for Coachella and for the pay increase to be based on increased CAASPP scores in both English and math.

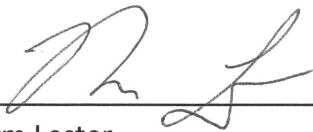
Motion: Karen Lester

Second: Gloria Grana

Vote	Yes	No	Abstain
S. Otsuji	X		
S. Garrett	X		
N. Lester	X		
K. Lester	X		
G. Grana	X		

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM.



Norm Lester