Minutes of the Budget Hearing for North Star Montessori Academy. Held in the North Star Montessori Academy Cafeteria on May 27th, 2026 at 4:15pm

Members Present: Melissa Bowers, Roger Zappa, Marguerite Guter, Jessica Pfitzer, Derek Pugh

Others Present: Mary VanderMolen, Angela Chang, Miranda Roose, Betty LaPointe, Michelle Kyles and Frank Patterson

1. The meeting was called to order by President Melissa Bowers at 4:16 pm.
2. A quorum of the board was established.
3. There were no amendments needed to the agenda.
4. Motion by Derek Pugh to approve the proposed Consent Agenda, supported by Jessica Pfitzer. Motion passed 4-0.
5. Public comment: None

Action Items

6. Review of the proposed 2026-2027 General Fund Budget, 2026-2027 Hot Lunch Budget, & the 2026-2027 School Activity Fund Budget.
    1. Chief Financial Officer Frank Patterson reviewed revenue projections with the School Board. He provided updates regarding the General Fund, student enrollment, and additional budget areas. Frank also informed the Board about grants that will be carried over into the beginning of the 2026–2027 school year.
    2. **Board Member Comments: None.**

Announcements

1. Public Comment: None.
2. Board Member Comment: None.
3. Motion by Derek Pugh to adjourn, supported by Marguerite Guter. Motion passed 5-0.
4. Meeting adjourned at 4:44 pm.

Melissa Bowers — 6-24-26

Melissa Bowers, NSMA Board Secretary — Date Approved

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting for North Star Montessori Academy. Held in the North Star Montessori Academy Cafeteria on May 27th, 2026 at 4:30pm

Members Present: Melissa Bowers, Roger Zappa, Marguerite Guter, Jessica Pfitzer, Derek Pugh

Others Present: Mary VanderMolen, Angela Chang, Miranda Roose, Betty LaPointe, Michelle Kyles, and Frank Patterson

1. The meeting was called to order by President Melissa Bowers at 4:45 pm.
2. A quorum of the board was established.
3. One amendment was made to the agenda. Under Action Items, the approval of the Anderson Tackman dates was corrected to reflect the 2026–2027 school year.
4. Motion by Marguerite Guter to approve the proposed Consent Agenda, supported by Jessica Pfitzer. Motion passed 5-0
5. Public comment: None.

Consent Agenda

6. Motion by Jessica Pfitzer to approve the proposed Consent Agenda, supported by Roger Zappa. Motion 5-0.

Action Items

8. Approval of proposed 2026-2027 General Fund Budget.
    1. **Board Member Comments: None**
9. Motion by Roger Zappa to approve the 2026-2027 General Fund Budget, supported by Jessica Pfitzer. Motion passed 5-0.
10. Approval of proposed 2026-2027 Hot Lunch Budget.
    1. **Board Member Comments: None**
11. Motion by Derek Pugh to approve the 2026-2027 Hot Lunch Budget, supported by Marguerite Guter. Motion passed 5-0.
12. Approval of 2026-2027 School Activity Fund Budget.
    1. **Board Member Comments: None**
13. Motion by Marguerite Guter to approve the 2026-2027 School Activity Fund Budget supported by Derek Pugh. Motion passed 5-0.
14. Approval of the Anderson Tackman 2026-2027 Audit Engagement Letter & Preliminary Communication.
    1. **Board Member Comments: None**
15. Motion by Jessica Pfitzer to approve the Anderson Tackman 2026-2027 Audit Engagement Letter & Preliminary Communication, supported by Marguerite Guter. Motion passed 5-0.

Reports/ Discussions

14. Board Member Numbers:
    1. Superintendent Mary Vandermolen led a discussion regarding current board membership numbers and prospective interest in expanding the school board.

15. Teachers First Report:
    1. Michelle Kyles from Teachers First informed the Board about future opportunities for North Star as well as staffing considerations for the 2026–2027 school year.
16. Superintendent Report- Mary VanderMolen
    1. Superintendent Mary VanderMolen provided an update regarding communication with the State of Michigan related to snow days and the last day of school. She shared that, in order to comply with recently signed legislation by Governor Gretchen Whitmer, the school year will need to be extended by one additional day. Mary also updated the Board on marketing team initiatives and ideas aimed at increasing student enrollment. In addition, she discussed plans for staffing adjustments, staff retention, and grade-band realignment for the upcoming school year. Mary concluded her report by recognizing the North Star Special Education team for their continued dedication and commitment to supporting students.
17. Principal Report:
    1. Principal Angela Chang provided an update on the Instrumental Program Spring Concert, sharing that the event was a success. During the concert, North Star was presented with a donation check from Range Bank. Angela also shared information regarding the upcoming Primary Graduation and Eighth Grade Graduation ceremonies, including that a student will be speaking at the event. She provided updates on the middle school trips to Clear Lake and Wildcat Camp, as well as details regarding Field Day, which will take place on Friday, May 29th. In addition, Angela updated the Board on the Smile on Wheels program, which provides dental cleanings and services to students at the school.
18. NMU Chart Schools Office Report:
    1. Betty LaPointe from Northern Michigan University reviewed the recent trip to Mount Pleasant for the Board Workshop. She also shared praise and recognition for the students and staff members who participated in Wildcat Camp.
19. Next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, June 24th, 2026, at 4:15 pm
20. Public Comment: None.
21. Board Member Comment: President Melissa Bowers shared information about a workshop proposal for administration and board members. A discussion was held regarding the status of the modular building.
22. Motion by Jessica Pfitzer to adjourn, supported by Derek Pugh. Motion passed 5-0.
23. Meeting adjourned at 5:53 pm.

Melissa Bowers

Melissa Bowers, NSMA Board Secretary

6-24-26

Date Approved