Board Meeting – Northwest Passage High School #4049

Board Members Present: Heidi Wold, Drew Klitzke, Jeff Schommer, Amy Gale Maloney, Vashti Martins (virtual), Katie Watkins, Jason Olson, Val Clear, Erin Freitag, Brittany Hammes, **Nicole Kingbird Others Present:** Peter Wieczorek
Board Members Absent: None noted

Call to order: 17:30

Mission Statement: "Rekindling our hope, exploring our world, seeking our path, while building our community."

Non-Disclosure: None

Approval of May 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

Jeff Schommer made a motion to approve the May 2026 Board Meeting Minutes with minor updates. Heidi Wold seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Seeing none and hearing none, public comment was closed.

Treasurer's Report

The May 2026 financial statements were presented. Jeff Schommer reviewed the Executive Summary and highlighted key items from the financial report.

Amy Gale Maloney made a motion to approve the May 2026 Treasurer's Report. Heidi Wold seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report

Peter Wieczorek presented the Director's Report, including the following

updates: **Program Highlights**

- Senior exit interviews
- Graduation ceremony recognizing 40 graduates at Courtyards of Andover • May Term

- Talent Show
- Art Gallery
- Innovator of the Year: Charles Johnson
- Last day of school
- Upcoming staff retreat

Enrollment and Recruiting

- Summer Information Nights: June 30, July 14, August 4, and August 18 • Participation in Anoka Pride on June 6
- June social media recruiting campaign
- School Media 4 Schools Training (June 23–25)
- D&D with WydeWolf (July 18)
- National Night Out

Building Updates

- Sidewalk project began June 15.

Authorizer/MACS Updates

- The authorizer contract was sent to the University of St. Thomas President for signature and will then be forwarded to the Minnesota Department of Education.

Legislative Updates

- Peter provided an update regarding the return of compensatory aid.

Old Business

There was no Old Business requiring Board action.

Jason Olson reported that Katie Watkins, Drew Klitzke, and Amy Gale Maloney had met regarding the development of the Director's Goals and that a second meeting was planned.

New Business

A. Seating of Newly Elected Board Members

Peter Wieczorek administered the oath of office to newly elected

representatives **Brittany Hammes, Drew Klitzke, Val Clear** and **Erin Freitag**.

B. Election of Board Officers

Due to Drew Klitzke's resignation from his teacher representative position and Jason Olson's status as outgoing Board Chair, Erin Freitag made a motion to appoint Jason Olson as Interim Chair for the remainder of the seating process. Vashti Martins seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Board Chair

Nicole Kingbird nominated Drew Klitzke for Board Chair. Vashti Martins seconded the nomination.

A vote was taken, and **Drew Klitzke was unanimously elected Board Chair.**

Vice Chair

Erin Freitag nominated Amy Gale Maloney and Nicole Kingbird for the office of Vice Chair. Brittany Hammes seconded the nomination.

A vote was taken, and Amy Gale Maloney received the majority vote. Brittany Hammes made a motion to seat Amy Gale Maloney as Vice Chair. Erin Freitag seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Secretary

Erin Freitag nominated Nicole Kingbird for Secretary. Brittany Hammes seconded the nomination.

A vote was taken, and Nicole Kingbird was unanimously elected.

Amy Gale Maloney made a motion to seat Nicole Kingbird as Secretary. Erin Freitag seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer

Val Clear nominated Vashti Martins for Treasurer. Nicole Kingbird seconded the nomination.

A vote was taken, and Vashti Martins was elected Treasurer.

Erin Freitag made a motion to seat Vashti Martins as Treasurer. Brittany Hammes seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

C. Teacher Board Member Appointment

Erin Freitag made a motion to appoint Val Clear as the Teacher Board Member. Brittany Hammes seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

D. Student Handbook

Peter Wieczorek reviewed the proposed revisions to the Student Handbook. Vashti Martins and Val Clear provided recommended edits.
Erin Freitag made a motion to approve the Student Handbook with the recommended revisions. Val Clear seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

E. Approval of New Hires and Acceptance of Resignations

Peter Wieczorek presented the following resignations:

- Stephanie Suehr
- Megan Hughes
- Drew Klitzke

Amy Gale Maloney made a motion to approve the hiring of **Alex Carey** as Special Education Teacher. Brittany Hammes seconded the motion. There was no further discussion.
Motion passed unanimously.

F. Designation of MDE Identified Official with Authority (IOwA)

Vashti Martins made a motion to designate Peter Wieczorek as the school's Identified Official with Authority (IOwA). Val Clear seconded the motion. There was no further discussion.
Motion passed unanimously.

G. Designation of Depositories

Erin Freitag made a motion to approve the designation of Northeast Bank as the school's official depository and authorize Peter Wieczorek and Dona Fehr as authorized representatives. Val Clear seconded the motion. There was no further discussion.
Motion passed unanimously.

H. Authorization for Electronic Funds Transfers (EFT)

Val Clear made a motion to authorize the Finance Manager to process Electronic Funds Transfers (EFTs) on behalf of the school. Erin Freitag seconded the motion. There was no further discussion.
Motion passed unanimously.

I. Approval of FY2026 403(b) Match

Val Clear made a motion to approve the FY2026 employer 403(b) matching contribution. Erin Freitag seconded the motion. There was no further

discussion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

J. Final FY2025–2026 Budget

Brittany Hammes made a motion to approve the Final FY2025–2026 Budget. Nicole Kingbird seconded the motion. There was no further discussion.
Motion passed unanimously.

K. Adoption of FY2026–2027 Budget

Amy Gale Maloney made a motion to adopt the FY2026–2022027 Budget based on an enrollment of 160 students. Vashti Martins seconded the motion. There was no further discussion.
Motion passed unanimously.

L. Strategic Planning Focus Group Report

The Board reviewed the Strategic Planning Focus Group Report.
Drew Klitzke made a motion to hold an all-day Board retreat on **July 22**, with the regularly scheduled Board meeting to remain that evening. Brittany Hammes seconded the motion. There was no discussion.
Motion passed unanimously.
Peter Wieczorek presented an initial District Report Card as part of the Board's goal setting process. The Board agreed to continue work on the scorecard during the July retreat.

M. Director Goals

Peter Wieczorek shared his thoughts regarding the continued development of the Director Goals process. The Board agreed to continue this work during the strategic planning retreat.

Future Agenda Items

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) discussion
- Board Retreat Planning
- Director Goals

Adjournment

Drew Klitzke made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Erin Freitag seconded the motion. There was no discussion.
Motion passed unanimously.
The meeting adjourned at **8:10 p.m.**

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