

Academic Excellence Committee Report

Committee Name: Academic Excellence Committee

Date of Report: 6/23/2026

Written/submitted by: Colleen Hansen

Date of last meeting: 5/28/2026

Next meeting date: TBD

Committee Update:

Although this is the June meeting report, we met at the end of May. Our committee addressed the topic that arose at the April board meeting regarding class sizes, how it affects classical style of teaching and how the board, and specifically the AEC, can address these discussion points. We individually reviewed the class size report that was created as a result of Strategic Plan Goal 9.4. After this review, we found significant gaps in the broader educational research, leaving insufficient evidence to confirm or refute the value of small class sizes in classical education. Other creative solutions to address the topic of class size were discussed. We also discussed several other pressing needs at Nova and considered whether class size is the most critical issue for the school to address at this time.

The AEC will continue to monitor student progress and school culture to determine next steps.

Shannon Hooge will be the chair at the next meeting and 2026-27 school year.

Motions/ Action Items for the Board Meeting:

For the Consent Agenda:

none

For the Business Section:

none

2025-2026

Committee Goals

“The Academic Excellence Committee is charged by and shall be responsible to the Board for ensuring that Nova Classical maintains high academic standards, adheres to the board-approved classical education definition, and sustains academic operations

consistent with the mission and vision as outlined in the Strategic Plan.” (Revised by AEC 1/25, adopted by the board 3/25)

| Goal | Notes | Due Date/ Complete? |
|--|--------------------|----------------------------|
| For FY2023 through FY2026, the School’s Board of Directors will evaluate academic progress at a public meeting at least twice annually and shall include a summary of its findings in the applicable board minute | | complete |
| The Committee shall be responsible to the Board for ensuring that Nova Classical maintains high academic standards | (continual) | In progress |
| The Committee shall be responsible to the Board for ensuring that Nova Classical adheres to the board approved definition of classical education | (continual) | In progress |
| | | |