

## **Executive Director's Report to the Board**

**Date of the Report:** March 30, 2026

**Report Prepared By:** Dr. Brett Wedlund



### **School Safety Trainings**

Staff received additional guidance and training on crisis management procedures at staff meetings on March 6 and March 10. These sessions were led by Jesse Prins in his role as chair of the Safety Committee.

The focus of the training was not on the mechanics of a lockdown itself, as those procedures are established and regularly drilled. Instead, the content concentrated on decision making in the moments leading up to a potential lockdown or other protocol being initiated. Much of the recent staff feedback had centered on questions about appropriate early response when staff observe specific concerning behaviors, and when to initiate a formal emergency response. These are not questions about the technical steps of a protocol once activated, but about thresholds, judgment, and escalation.

The goal of these sessions was to provide clearer guidance, reinforce expectations, and ensure staff feel confident in recognizing when and how to escalate concerns and activate emergency procedures when warranted.

### **Mock Trial State Championship**

Nova Classical Academy's Mock Trial Team won the MSBA High School State Tournament, defeating Watertown Mayer at the Warren E. Burger U.S. Courthouse. The team has been competing over the past two days following several months of preparation.

This victory advances the team to the National Tournament, scheduled for May 7-9 in Des Moines, Iowa.

Nova extends its appreciation to the students, coaches, and volunteers whose dedication throughout the season made this accomplishment possible. Pictured above: the championship team with their MSBA High School Mock Trial Competition trophy in the Warren E. Burger U.S. Courthouse, District of Minnesota.

### **Trauma Training**

On April 3 and April 17, Nova Classical Academy will offer optional two-part trauma training for staff. Part 1 will focus on the brain in stress, covering brain development, developmental stages, and how stress impacts brain development and functioning for adults and students. Part 2 will address responding to distress behavior, including understanding behavior as a dysregulated nervous system, how to respond in developmentally appropriate ways, and why adult regulation is an important part of supporting students.

### **Athletic Conference**

The Minnesota Classical Athletic Association voted to admit Nova Classical Academy as a member of the MCAA conference. This is a meaningful development in our evaluation of the school's athletic conference alignment.

We will bring a formal recommendation for Board action in April which will likely be one of the following: (1) remain in the Skyline Athletic Conference, (2) transition to the MCAA following the

conclusion of the 2026–27 school year, or (3) transition to the MCAA following the fall 2026 season. Each option carries distinct considerations related to scheduling, student experience, and competitive fit.

**Groundbreaking**

The triangle project groundbreaking is scheduled for this Thursday at 3:15 p.m. It will be an intentionally low-key event, with a more formal community celebration planned at opening.