

## Brief summary of NPA Special Session

Topic: Possible Land Acquisition and Expansion of Enrollment to ~500 students  
October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009

- 1) Mr. Lombardi and Mr. Danner gave a brief overview of the academic philosophies of the school and the realities of the upcoming changes that would occur to the various grades, if NPA continues on its current pattern of registration/retention. They spoke regarding the desire to allow more Flagstaff students to participate in the type of program that NPA offers. They also addressed the wish to keep the academic rigor at the high school level where it is, while possibly adding to the variety of classes and flexibility of scheduling that a small increase in the high school program would allow. In general, the plan would be to increase the enrollment of the school by about 40 students/year to a goal of about 480-520 students over a four year period. The ultimate goal would be to have 220-240 students in the middle school and 260-280 in the high school. This would be accomplished with no increase in class size (max of ~20 students/class). The increased size of the middle school grades would result in a high school almost fully made up of students who attended NPA for middle school.
- 2) Tim Whiteside (architect with Johnson-Walzer) Mr. Whiteside has been working to come up with some possible site plans for the school. They include changes to the parking lots and flow patterns for parking, as well as pick-up/drop-off. There are several possible plans depending on financing and how fast the school is willing/able to increase its enrollment. Plans were presented via power-point demonstration.
- 3) John Kalanich (NPA finance committee) The finance committee has been working to analyze different options regarding purchasing the land, as well as putting in the structures that would allow for the increased enrollment. The increased money would basically come from increased state per student revenues, as well as some increased economy within the current system. The feasibility of the project depends on many things, primarily the actual cost of the project, the number of students that are added at a time, and the purchase/lease options. There are no plans for a capital campaign at this point.
- 4) Megan Dwyer (NPA student) Megan spoke as a student, representing some of the student body, regarding concerns about increasing enrollment at NPA. She mentioned a decrease in student pride for the school, a decrease in student cohesiveness, and a decrease in student-teacher communication as potential problems.
- 5) Further general discussion ensued. Questions were taken. Further information gathering is necessary before any decisions can be made. Specifically, a specific building plan is needed, further information regarding city regulations is needed, decisions regarding implementation of the increased enrollment are needed, and finally, based on these pieces of information, a financial feasibility plan is needed. These topics will be discussed at the next board meeting on Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM.

