



Know Yourself. Know The World.

NOVA CLASSICAL
ACADEMY™

School Performance Analysis/Evaluation

Friends of Education Academic & Non-Academic Outcomes/Goals for Nova Classical Academy

Goal 1: State Assessment Tests (MCAs) (50% weight)

Sub Goal 1.1: Absolute Proficiency

World's Best Workforce Charter Contract Target: All third-graders can read at grade level.

At the conclusion of FY2026, the School's third-grade reading proficiency rates for the most recent four years will average no fewer than 22 points higher than the state average in reading.

Result: Data not available until September 30, 2026.

Sub Goal 1.2: Comparative Proficiencies

District. Each year FY2023 through FY2026, the School will demonstrate higher school-wide proficiency rates than each of the St. Paul and Edina school districts for each reading, math, and science.

Result: Data not available until September 30, 2026.

Sub Goal 1.3: Growth

At the conclusion of FY2026, the average number of progress points generated by all students based on changes in their achievement levels, for the three highest of the immediately preceding four years, will average no less than 2.75 combined reading and math, as published by the Minnesota Department of Education NorthStar system.

Result: Data not available until September 30, 2026.

Sub Goal 1.4: Achievement Gap Reduction

World's Best Workforce Charter Contract Target: All racial and economic achievement gaps between students are closed.

At the conclusion of FY2026, the average number of progress points generated by School students based on changes in their achievement levels, for the three highest of the immediately preceding four years will average no less than:

Black/African American: 2.85 for each reading and math

FRP: 2.20 for math; 2.55 for reading

Result: Data not available until September 30, 2026.

Goal 2: Nationally-Normed Assessment (20% weight)

Sub Goal 2.1: Elementary.

The School will administer a nationally-normed assessment in at least grades 1 through 5.

For FY2026, for 1st grade students who remain in the School through 5th grade:

- If their 1st grade national percentile ranking was less or equal to 19%, 50% of the students will increase their national percentile ranking by a minimum of ten percentage points by 5th grade, and
- If their 1st grade national percentile ranking was between 20-30%, 50% of the students will increase their national percentile ranking by a minimum of five percentage points by 5th grade, and
- If their 1st grade national percentile ranking was over 30% and less than 85%, 50% of the students will increase their national percentile ranking by 5th grade.

Result: Goal Partially Made. See Appendix B for detail.

Sub Goal 2.2: Secondary.

World's Best Workforce Charter Contract Target: All students are ready for career and college.

- Each year FY2023 through FY2026, a minimum of 90% of 12th grade students will have taken the ACT, and a minimum of 50% of those students will exceed the state average composite by at least 5 percentage points.
- Each year FY2023 through FY2026, a minimum of 50% of 12th graders who have taken the ACT will meet English, Math, Reading, and Science College-Readiness Benchmarks.

Result: Goal Partially Made. This goal was met in 2023, 2024, and 2026, but was not met in 2025. See Appendix B for detail.

Goal 3: High School Graduation (15% Weight)

World's Best Workforce Charter Contract Target: All students graduate from high school.

Each year FY2023 through FY2026, a minimum of 91% of 12th grade students will graduate on time.

Result: SFY26 Data not yet available from MDE. See Appendix B for detail.

Goal 4: School Culture Goal (15% Weight)

Sub Goal 4.1: Kindergarten Readiness

World's Best Workforce Charter Contract Target: All students ready for Kindergarten.

By June 1st of each year FY2023 through FY2026, 90% of all the School's kindergarten students enrolled since the first day of school will be able to, based on school records:

- Generate all sounds of the first 26 phonograms (letters a-z),
- Count to 32, and
- Identify all 26 upper and lower case letters

Result: **Goal Made.** This goal was met in FY2023 through FY2026. See Appendix C for detail.

Sub Goal 4.2: Data Driven Instruction

Each year FY2023 through FY2026, the Upper and Lower Schools will each administer and review DDI summative assessments on a quarterly basis in all grades for both reading and math. The staff will review results with the building principal or their DDI leaders within five school days following the assessment and will re-teach necessary components the week following the assessment. The School will invite Friends to attend all quarterly meetings to review results.

Result: **Goal Made.** See Appendix C for detail.

Sub Goal 4.3: Professional Development

- For FY2023 through FY2026, 100% of all staff employed for at least one academic year shall receive professional development each year, as demonstrated by School records.
- For FY2023 through FY2026, 100% of all licensed teachers will participate yearly in professional development focused on cultural competency and/or equity.

Result: **Goal Made.** See Appendix C for detail.

Sub Goal 4.4: Academic Governance

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 minutes.

Result: **Goal Made.** See Appendix C for detail.

Fiscal Review

Enrollment

Nova has maintained relatively consistent enrollment over the life of this contract with 1027 students in 2022-2023 and 1023 students in 2025-2026. It is anticipated that Nova's enrollment will stay within a range of 1020-1060 during the life of this contract.

Historically, Nova has had a very strong waitlist, and this continues to be the case. Nova saw a small decrease in the number of applicants for the lottery for the 2026-2026 school year which is largely linked to a deprioritization of marketing following the completion of successfully bonding for a facilities expansion in December of 2025.

Waitlist by Grade Level

Grades	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027*
K	158	211	203	174
1 st	144	102	144	91

2 nd	99	142	91	100
3 rd	106	115	145	64
4 th	112	121	95	95
5 th	111	138	120	88
6 th	161	197	180	127
7 th	101	114	119	75
8 th	82	116	106	56
9 th	101	103	85	67
10 th	33	15	42	2
11 th	6	1	1	0
12 th	0	0	0	0
Totals	1214	1375	1331	939

Source: Charter School internal records. * As of July 21.

Demographics

Nova Classical Academy has seen slow changes to the demographics of its student body. When this contract was signed in 2022, Nova Classical reported that 63.3% of its students were white and 36.7% of the students were identified as representing other race groups. On October 1, 2025, the breakdown had changed to 53.4% of students being white and 46.6% representing other racial groups. This continues an ongoing trend of the demographics of Nova Classical moving to more closely align with the broader Saint Paul city demographics where census data shows that 51.5% of the population is white and 49.5% represent other racial groups.

During the same time, the school's population of students receiving special education services increased by 1.5%. The population of English Learners increased by 3.5%. The population of students receiving free/reduced lunches during this time increased by 2%.

Financial Audits

Nova Classical Academy has had an external financial audit completed each of the past five years. There have not been any MDE audits conducted during this time period. A summary of the audit findings include:

2022 – No Findings

2023 – 1 Findings

2024 – No Findings

2025 – No Findings

2026 – In Progress

Financial Governance

The Board approves an initial budget each spring for the following year. It monitors and revises that budget as is deemed necessary. Nova Classical's Budget and Finance Committee meets monthly throughout the school year to review the adherence to or deviation from the approved budget. The Committee Report and monthly financial statements are approved monthly at the Board of Directors meeting. All members of Nova Classical Academy's Board of Directors receive training in financial governance within six months of being seated on the Board.

Financial Position

Based on unaudited financials, Nova Classical Academy finished FY26 with expenditures and revenues that were each 1% over budget. It had a total general revenue fund of \$16,245,028 compared to \$16,074,631 of expenditures. Nova Classical's general fund balance was \$3,284,019 at the end of June 2026 and when accounting for the state holdback represents 35% of Nova's annual expenditures.

Operations & Legal Compliance Review

Compliance with Applicable Law

Nova Classical Academy adopts and follows policies aligned with applicable state and federal laws including Minnesota's statutes regulating areas including, but not limited to [enrollment](#), [public and private data](#), [data retention](#), [disability nondiscrimination](#), drug free schools, [student discipline](#), [bullying prohibition](#), [Title IX](#), [the Pledge of Allegiance](#), [religion](#), and [wellness](#).

Nova Classical's executive leadership team and Board of Directors are not aware of any areas in which the School is out of compliance with any applicable laws or regulations.

Charter Contract Reporting Obligations

Over the term of the current charter, Nova Classical believes it has completed all required reporting obligations to Friends of Education including submitting reports on Teacher Licensure, Enrollment, Professional Development, Board, Financial and Annual Reports. Nova Classical Academy acknowledges that over the life of the contract there have been reports that were submitted after the deadline including finance and Board reports. Nova Classical will work to correct this through various means including looking at the cadence of its meetings in relation to the reporting deadlines set by Friends of Education.

Governance Review

Nova Classical Academy has a parent majority board with nine members. Members of the Board participate in the required Board training during the year in accordance with state statute. In addition, Nova Classical works to provide ongoing Board Development. This often occurs during the Board's annual retreat or during a regularly scheduled Board meeting. Areas where additional Board development has occurred during the life of this contract included, but are not limited to:

- Nova Classical's model of classical education and virtue education
- Strategic planning and goal setting
- The relationship between governance and management
- Using the classical model in decision making
- Nova's financial systems and documents
- Equity processes at Nova Classical Academy
- Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports

APPENDIX B

Goal 2: Nationally-Normed Assessment (20% weight)

Sub Goal 2.1: Elementary. The School will administer a nationally-normed assessment in at least grades 1 and 5.

For FY2026, for 1st grade students who remain in the School through 5th grade:

If their 1st grade national percentile ranking was less or equal to 19%, 50% of the students will increase their national percentile ranking by a minimum of ten percentage points by 5th grade, and

If their 1st grade national percentile ranking was between 20-30%, 50% of the students will increase their national percentile ranking by a minimum of five percentage points by 5th grade, and

If their 1st grade national percentile ranking was over 30% and less than 85%, 50% of the students will increase their national percentile ranking by 5th grade.

5th grade national percentile ranking goal	2022 Reading data (1st grade)	2022 Math data (1st grade)	2023 Reading data (2nd grade)	2023 Math data (2nd grade)	2024 Reading data (3rd grade)	2024 Math data (3rd grade)	Growth/ Non-growth (grades 1-3)	2025 Reading data (4th grade)	2025 Math data (4th grade)	Growth/ Non-growth (grades 1-4)	2026 Reading data (5th grade)	2026 Math data (5th grade)	Growth/ Non-growth	Reading Goal Progress	Math Goal Progress
1st grade national percentile less than or equal to 19% (50% of the students will increase their national percentile ranking by a minimum of ten percentage points by 5th grade)	8 of 72 Students (11.11%)	5 of 68 Students (7.35%)	9 of 72 Students (12.5%)	8 of 68 Students (11.76%)	7 of 72 Students (9.72%)	7 of 68 Students (10.29%)	As of Spring FY24, 60% of students ranked ≤19% in first grade have made growth in math, and 87.5% of students ranked ≤19% in first grade have made growth in reading.	6 of 72 Students (8.33%)	7 of 68 Students (10.29%)	As of Spring FY25, 3 out of the 5 students ranked ≤ the 19th percentile nationally in first grade (60%) have made growth in math , and 7 of the 8 students ranked ≤ the 19th percentile nationally in first grade (87.50%) have made growth in reading	3 of 72 Students (4.17%)	4 of 68 Students (5.88%)	As of Spring FY26, 5 out of the 8 students ranked ≤ the 19th percentile nationally on the aReading test in first grade (62.5%) have made growth by at least 10 percentile points, and 2 out of the 5 students ranked the 19th percentile nationally on the aMath test in first grade (40%) have made growth by at least 10 percentile points.	Met Goal	Did not meet goal
1st grade national percentile between 20-30% (50% of the students will increase their national percentile ranking by a minimum of five percentage points by 5th grade)	5 of 72 Students (6.94%)	3 of 68 Students (4.41%)	3 of 72 Students (4.17%)	5 of 68 Students (7.35%)	3 of 72 Students (4.17%)	10 of 68 Students (14.71%)	As of Spring FY24, 0% of students ranked between 20-30% in first grade have made growth in math, and 40% of students ranked between 20-30% in first grade have made growth in reading.	6 of 72 Students (8.33%)	2 of 72 Students (2.94%)	As of Spring FY25, 0 out of the 3 students ranked between the 20th and 30th percentiles nationally in first grade (0%) have made growth in math, and 3 out of the 5 students ranked between the 20th and 30th percentiles nationally in first (60%) grade have made growth in reading.	3 of 72 Students (4.17%)	6 of 68 Students (8.82%)	As of Spring FY26, 4 out of the 5 students ranked between the 20th and 30th percentiles nationally on the aReading test in first grade (80%) have made growth by at least 5 percentile points, and 0 out of the 3 students ranked between the 20th and 30th percentiles nationally on the aMath test in first grade (0%) have made growth by at least 5 percentile points.	Met Goal	Did not meet goal
1st grade national percentile was over 30% and less than 85% (50% of the students will increase their national percentile ranking by 5th grade)	25 of 72 Students (34.72%)	27 of 72 Students (39.71%)	26 of 72 Students (36.11%)	28 of 68 Students (41.18%)	27 of 72 Students (37.50%)	23 of 68 Students (33.82%)	As of Spring FY24, 35.7% of students ranked between 31-84% in first grade have made growth in math, and 40 % of students ranked between 31-84% in first grade have made growth in reading.	28 of 72 Students (38.89%)	31 of 68 Students (45.59%)	As of Spring FY25, 17 out of the 28 students ranked between the 31st and 84th percentiles in first grade (60.71%) have made growth in math, and 12 out of the 25 students ranked between the 20th and 30th percentiles nationally in first grade (48%) have made growth in reading.	32 of 72 Students (44.44%)	31 of 68 Students (45.59%)	As of Spring FY26, 12 out of the 23 students ranked between the 31st and 84th percentiles in first grade (52.17%) have increased their national percentiles in reading, and 12 out of the 27 students ranked between the 31st and 84th percentiles on the aMath test in first grade (44.44%) have made growth as measured by national percentile points.	Met Goal	Did not meet goal

Sub Goal 2.2: Secondary:

World's Best Workforce Charter Contract Target: All students are ready for career and college.

Each year FY2023 through FY2026, a minimum of 90% of 12th grade students will have taken the ACT, and a minimum of 50% of those students will exceed the state average composite by at least 5 percentage points.

Each year FY2023 through FY2026, a minimum of 50% of 12th graders who have taken the ACT will meet English, Math, Reading, and Science College-Readiness Benchmarks.

	2022 (not in calc)	2023	2024	2025	2026	Goal Progress
Percentage of 12th grade students who took the ACT	96.8%	94.0%	95.0%	88.90%	95.94%	Met Goal
Number of students who took ACT	65/67	63/67	57/60	64/72	71/74	
Percentage of those students who exceeded state average composite by at least 5 percentage points	64.6%	69.8%	66.7%	59.4%	50.70%	Met Goal
Number of those students who exceeded state average composite by at least 5 percentage points	42/65	44/63	38/57	38/64	36/71	
Percentage of 12th graders who met all College-Readiness Benchmarks	58.5%	58.7%	68.4%	43.80%	57.70%	Did not meet goal. This goal was met in 2023, 2024, and 2025, but was not met in 2025.
Number of 12th graders who met all College-Readiness Benchmarks	38/65	37/63	39/57	28/64	41/71	

Goal 3: High School Graduation (15% Weight)

World's Best Workforce Charter Contract Target: All students graduate from high school.

Each year, a minimum of 91% of 12th grade students will graduate on time.

	2022 (not in calc)	2023	2024	2025	2026
Nova Classical Academy	95.5%	97.0%	96.7%	93.0%	N/A until
Percent graduated	64/67	65/67	58/60	66/71	Spring 2027
Number graduated					

APPENDIX C: School Culture

Sub Goal 4.1: Kindergarten Readiness: World's Best Workforce Charter Contract Target: All students ready for Kindergarten.

By June 1st of each year FY2023 through FY2026, 90% of all the School's kindergarten students enrolled since the first day of school will be able to, based on school records:

	2023	2024	2025	2026	Results
Generate all sounds of the first 26 phonograms (letters a-z)	97.5% (77/79)	97.4% (74/76)	92.4% (73/79)	98.6% (72/73)	Goal Made
Count to 32 and	98.7% (78/79)	96.1% (73/76)	97.5% (77/79)	97.3% (71/73)	Goal Made
Identify all 26 upper and lower case letters	97.5% (77/79)	97.4% (74/76)	97.5% (77/79)	94.5% (69/73)	Goal Made
Number of KG Students enrolled from first day of school	79	76	79	73	

Sub Goal 4.2: Data-Driven Instruction

Each year FY2023 through FY2026, the Lower School will create and implement DDI summative assessments on a quarterly basis in all grades for both reading and math. The staff will review results with the building principal or their DDI leader within five school days following the assessment and will re-teach necessary components the week following the assessment. The School will invite Friends to attend all quarterly meetings to review results.

	2023	2024	2025	2026		
Create and implement DDI summative assessments	93.7%	95.8%	94.40%	97.30%	Goal Made	*Note: Any numbers less than 100% were teachers out on parental leave.
Review of results within 5 days	93.7%	95.8%	94.40%	98.60%	Goal Made	
Invite Friends to attend all quarterly meetings to review results	100%	100%	100%	100%	Goal Made	
	63 faculty	72 faculty	72 faculty	73 faculty		

Sub Goal 4.3: Professional Development

For FY2023 through FY2026, 100% of all staff employed for at least one academic year shall receive professional development each year, as demonstrated by School records.

2023	2024	2025	2026	
100%	100%	100%	100%	Goal Made

For FY2023 through FY2026, 100% of licensed teachers will participate each year in professional development focused on cultural competency and/or equity.

2023	2024	2025	2026	
100%	100%	100%	100%	Goal Made

Sub Goal 4.4: Academic Governance

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 minutes.

	2023	2024	2025	2026	
Academic Excellence Committee: AEC	AEC report 9.26.22	AEC report 9.18.23	AEC report 9.30.24	AEC report 9.29.25	Goal Made
	AEC report 2.27.23	AEC report 10.30.23	AEC report 10.28.24	AEC report 2.23.26	
		AEC report 1.29.24	AEC report 1.27.25	AEC report 5.18.26	
		AEC report 2.26.24	AEC report 2.24.25	AEC report 6.29.26	
		AEC report 6.24.24	AEC report 5.19.25	AEC report 7.27.26	