

Columbia Heights Public Schools
Minutes of the
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
October 10, 2023

Chair Mueller called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Granlund called roll.

Members present: Ms. Granlund, Ms. Mueller, Ms. Medearis, Ms. Houle, Ms. Pettway and Superintendent Stenvik

Members absent: Ms. Palmer

AGENDA APPROVAL/ADJUSTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS.

A. Approval of Agenda motion by Medearis, seconded by Pettway, to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion carried unanimously

B. Announcements

- Oct. 17 5:30 School Board Work Session, Community Room
- Oct. 17 7:00 Sub- committee on Community engagement, Community Room
- Oct. 19 & 20 No School
- Oct 24 6:45 Tenured Teachers Ceremony, Community Room
- Oct 24 7:00 Regular School Board Meeting, Community Room
- Nov 7 Election Day
- Nov 7 No School
- November 14 5:00 Sub-Committee on Policy Meeting, Community Room
- Nov. 14, 7:00 Regular School Board Meeting, Community Room

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD –A District Grandparent Question: What is the process for submitting proposals to changes to a school property.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Houle, seconded by Granlund, to approve the action required for implementation of the items on the consent agenda. Minutes of the September 12 and 26 Regular Meeting Minutes and September 19 Work Session.

Personnel Report of October 10, 2023

Motion carries unanimously

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS RESOLUTION:

Whereas: Minnesota Statute 123B.02 permits school boards to “...receive, for the benefit of the district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose and apply the same to the purpose designated. In that behalf, the board may act as trustee of any trust created for the benefit of the district, and for the benefit of pupils thereof.”

Therefore: Be it resolved by the School Board of Columbia Heights Public Schools, Independent School District No. 13 that the School Board accepts with appreciation the contributions, detailed in the background, in the amount of \$15,691.05.

DETAILED BACKGROUND:

MONETARY

- A donation of \$3,400 was made to Valley View from The Columbia Heights Athletic Boosters (CHAB) for a GaGa Pit.

- A donation of \$1,000 was made to Valley View from The CHAB for Culture night and Fun run.
- A donation of \$200 was made to Valley View from St. Timothy's Church for Family Support.
- A donation of \$1,000 was made to Valley View from The CHAB to Valley View Support.
- A donation of \$1,676 was made to Activities at CHHS Girls Basketball program from the CHAB.
- A donation of \$1,603 was made to Activities at CHHS Boys Soccer program from the CHAB.
- A donation of \$497.50 was made to Activities at CHHS Wrestling program from the CHAB.
- A donation of \$685.00 was made to Activities at CHHS Lacrosse program from the CHAB.
- A donation of \$456.55 was made to Activities at CHHS Dance Team from the CHAB.
- A donation of \$212.00 was made to Activities at CHHS Synchro Team from the CHAB.
- A donation of \$255.00 was made to Activities at CHHS Activities department from the CHAB.
- A donation of \$261.00 was made to Activities at CHHS Girls Swim Team from the CHAB.
- A donation of \$2,400.00 was made to Activities at CHHS Strength Training from the CHAB.
- A donation of \$600.00 was made to Activities at CHHS Boys Soccer from the CHAB.

Value in Kind

- A donation of School supplies was made to Valley View Elementary from St. Timothy's Church for student's needs. Estimated value of \$200
- A donation of Flexible seating chairs and Gift cards was made to Valley View LEAP classroom from anonymous donor. Estimated value of \$364.92.
- A donation of Stickers was made to Highland Elementary from Jaci Conley. Estimated value of \$50.
- A donation of School Supplies was made to Highland Elementary-Mr. Lee's classroom from Kariima Abdullahi. Estimated value of \$260.
- A donation of school supplies was made to Highland Elementary from American Legion Post 555. Estimated value of 40.
- A donation of white boards, Spanish books and school supplies was made to Highland Elementary- Mrs. Rademacher classroom by SAGE Auto. Estimated value of 500.
- A donation of N95 masks was made to Columbia Heights Public Schools by Mary Granlund. Estimated value of \$30.

Total fiscal year 2023-2024 monetary contributions to date: \$22,032.67

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Pettway, seconded by Houle and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

Granlund-Aye

Houle-Aye

Medearis-Aye

Mueller- Aye

Pettway-Aye

Resolution and Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Ms. Granlund-Attend Homecoming Football game and the Homecoming dance, the Local 710 candidate forum, AMSD monthly update on student involvement, and conversations with students, staff and families on how legislative changes have impacted our school community.

Ms. Mueller-Attended the Homecoming Football game, Local 710 Teachers Candidate Forum, Columbia Heights Athletic Boosters Awards dinner, Subcommittee on Policy meeting had conversations with Community members about concerns in the Girls Basketball team, a walking Chair meeting and attended Varsity girls Volleyball game.

Ms. Houle- Nothing to report

Ms. Medearis- Attended the Work Session and subcommittee on Community Engagement meeting, Highland PTO meeting, MSBA Phase 3 training on advocacy a virtually tour of legislative lobbying and starting phase 4 training.

Ms. Pettway- Attended my first Homecoming Game, participated in the local 710 candidate Forum, a community event adult and coffee at Community Grounds, helped clean up LaBelle Park, attended the Poland Slide show extravaganza hosted by our mayor and the sister city Lomianki committee at the City Hall, attended the Columbia Heights City council meeting updated community members of the school board and district wide. Proclamation for Indigenous Peoples Day and Proclamation for Polish Heritage month. Discussion on the SRO was a topic at the City Council Meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Stenvik, attended the Columbia Heights Athletic Boosters Annual awards dinner. Principal Kuhlman was awarded the Distinguished Service Award. Attended the American Indian parent advisory committee meeting and the North Park parents of color advisory meeting. Executive Director Nyembwe, Director Thukral and she toured a metro school that is in the third year of implementing functional phonics and functional morphology which is what we implemented, and is looking forward to observations of our district's classrooms. Monthly Labor Management Meeting, Communicated with Chair Mueller, Member Pettway and Member Granlund.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION B IMPROVING OUR STUDENTS' ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND CAREER/COLLEGE READINESS

Sarah Godfrey, Director of Special Education and Tara Thukral, Director of Teaching and Learning presented Strategic Direction B Improving our students' academic achievement and career/college readiness. This is informational only.

MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE FOUNDATION FORM-A APPLICATION AND FORM-B RESOLUTION FOR 2023-2024.

Jake Henderson, Athletic Director presented information on the MSHSL Foundation Grant Form A and B Resolutions. This is informational only.

FALL SEASON ACTIVITY UPDATE

Jake Henderson, Athletic Director presented information on the 2023 Fall season activities and sports. We are experiencing increased numbers of participates in our athletics and activities. New activities, Cheer and Cross Country, Columbia Academy athletics and activities are thriving. The 2023 Homecoming Week was fantastic with a lot of Hylander Pride.

SCHOOL BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE IN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

Member Medearis presented information from September 19, 2023 meeting. The subcommittee met on September 19th for a wide-ranging discussion of community engagement goals and a framework to support these goals. Potential goals include: building connections between the communities we serve and governance, providing opportunities to listen to community voices, and serving as ambassadors of the district and the work of the Board. In service of these goals, members discussed a recommendation that the Board shift our community engagement model towards more organic engagement within the community. We discussed that there remains a need for formal listening sessions, and we'd recommend continuing virtual listening sessions a few times a year, including in the lead up to the November levy questions. We also recommend increasing our meeting cadence to align with the frequency of the Subcommittee on Policy meetings. This will allow for sufficient time to identify and build out a community engagement model with recommendations to the full Board. Some possibilities to discuss further include seeking engagement opportunities within each school, having more organized Board presence at community events, seeking out collaborations with city councils, hosting listening sessions interpreted in Spanish, and looking at ways of bringing student voice into the community engagement work.

RESOLUTION APPOINTING ELECTION JUDGES FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS SPECIAL ELECTION

Motion by Granlund seconded by Pettway to approve the Resolution for appointing election Judges for the school districts Special Election November 7, 2023.

RESOLUTION APPOINTING ELECTION JUDGES FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 7, 2023

WHEREAS, Columbia Heights Independent School District No. 13 will be

conducting a Special Election on November 7, 2023; and
WHEREAS, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 204B.21, election judges for precincts in a school district election must be appointed by the board of that school district; and
WHEREAS, persons selected to serve meet all requirements of MN statute and county administrative policy, and have been trained and certified pursuant to law.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD OF COLUMBIA HEIGHTS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 13, STATE OF MINNESOTA, as follows:

1) The individuals listed on Attachment A are hereby appointed to serve as election judges for the School District Special Election to be held on November 7, 2023.

2) In the event circumstances require judges to be appointed in addition to the persons named in this resolution, the Clerk of Election is authorized to appoint as necessary, provided that the persons appointed meet all requirements of MN statute and administrative policy.

Election Judges Appointed to Serve

2023 School District General Election of November 7, 2023

ISD 13 P-1 Valley View Elementary School, 800 49th Ave NE, Hilltop, MN 55421

Dan Steiskal, Head Judge

Linda Munson, Assistant Head Judge

Duncan Shober-Fernback, Election Judge

David Novak, Election Judge

Cathleen Peterson, Election Judge

Stephen Emme, Election Judge

Diane Northrup, Election Judge

Stacy Nekora, Election Judge

ISD 13 P-2 Highland Elementary, 1500 49th Ave, Columbia Heights, MN 55421

Susan Betzold, Head Judge

Joel Andrychowic, Assistant Head Judge

Renee Sawyer, Election Judge

Gordon Anderson, Election Judge

Marsha Stroik, Election Judge

Janis Arnold, Election Judge

Dave Comstock, Election Judge

Celeste Johnston, Election Judge

Roll Call Vote

Granlund- Aye

Medearis-Aye

Pettway-Aye

Houle-Aye

Mueller-Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD TOPICS –

Granlund: Columbia Academy holding a book fair October 23-27. First Robotics meet is Friday October 13 at St. Paul Academy

Mueller October 28th is the Trunk or Treat please let Stephanie Alvarez know if interested in participating at the school table.

Pettway National Principals month and recognize them and the work they do in our district. Note the October 24th Referendum informational session forum at 6 PM in the Community room.

Stenvik Student School board members have received invitations to attend The MSBA event supporting Student School Board Representative conference at Shakopee High School October 24. Board members let Superintendent know if interested in attending this event.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed all of the items on the regular agenda, at 8:27p.m. Chair Mueller adjourned the meeting.

Date minutes approved

Mary Granlund, Clerk, Board of Education
Independent School District 13