

Columbia Heights Public Schools
Minutes of the
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
April 23, 2024

Chair Mueller called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Pettway called roll.

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

Members absent: None

HYLANDER HIGHLIGHT

2023-2024 Columbia Heights High School Scholastic Art Award Winners. Art Teachers Sarah Honeywell, Michelle Dietz, and Isaac Glidden. Students present:

AGENDA APPROVAL/ADJUSTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Approval of Agenda motion by Granlund, seconded by Medearis, to approve the agenda as presented.

B. Announcements

- May 14, Tue. 5:00 p.m. Sub Committee on Policy, Community Room
- May 14, Tue. 5:00 p.m. Sub Committee on Community Engagement, Training Room
- May 14, Tue. 6:00 p.m. School Board Meeting, Community Room
- May 21, Tue. 5:30 p.m. Work Session, Columbia Academy- Library
- May 28, Tue. 6:00 p.m. Regular School Board Meeting, Community Room

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD – None

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Houle, seconded by Pettway, to approve the action required for implementing the items on the consent agenda: **Personal Report, School Board Minutes** April 9 Regular Meeting, April 16 Work Session and Special Called Meeting Policy **Second Reading** 405- Veteran's Preference, 409- Employee Publication, 410-Family and Medical Leave Policy, 413-Harassment and Violence, 711- Video Recording on School Buses, 712- Video Surveillance Other Than on Buses

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Motion by Palmer and seconded by Pettway accept the Resolution.

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. On 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, the School Board of Columbia Heights Public Schools, Independent School District No. 13, resolves to accept with appreciation the contributions detailed in the background for \$10,966.24

DETAILED BACKGROUND:

Monetary

- The Early Childhood Parent Advisory Council donated \$150.82 to the Early Childhood Family Education program for materials
- An anonymous donor donated \$5,000 to Columbia Heights High School for the William B & June E Kuether Designated Fund.
- Donations to Columbia Heights High School for the Retired Staff Scholarship were made by
- Corliss Johnson and Jean Richards each for \$25

- Connie Hansen for \$75
- Jean & Robert Richards for \$100
- Harlan & Molly Downing for \$200
- Scott & Ann Larson for \$250
- Pamela Sigurdson for \$300
- Pat Johnson for \$2,000
- Lindsey Lang donated \$2,000 to the Columbia Heights High School Scholarship Fund-Kopp Family.
- Scott and Laura Martinson donated \$975, and Megan Adamski donated \$25 to the Columbia Heights Scholarship Fund—Highland Alumni.
- Alka Jain and Rekha Patel each donated \$200 to the Columbia Heights Scholarship Fund-Valley View.

Value in Kind

- Donors Choose donated Glaze for clay projects to Valley View for art projects valued at \$440.42.
- Tumbl Trak donated two balance beams and two eight-foot logs valued at \$ 1,000 for Valley View Physical Education classes.

Total fiscal year 2023-2024 monetary contributions to date: \$99,347.36

Upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

Granlund – Aye, Houle-Aye, Medearis-Aye, Mueller- Aye, Palmer-Aye, Pettway- Aye

The following voted against the same: None

Thereupon, the said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Ms. Houle Attended the Work Session and highlighted the enjoyment of the Science of Reading. I completed the MSBA phase 3 training and will start phase 4.

Ms. Palmer sat on the interview panel for the new police chief of Columbia Heights.

Ms. Medearis attended the Work Session at Valley View, participated in the PTO meeting at Highland Elementary, and worked on planning a family picnic on May 23rd news of A few AmeriCorps Vistas at Highland next year.

Ms. Pettway Attended the fine arts event at North Park and enjoyed the dance and art at the event. Attended the Work Session at Valley View. Participated in the Earth Day clean up at the Bruce Nawrocki Park

Ms. Granlund had the opportunity to Chair the Work Session at Valley View. I volunteered at the Valley View Carnival and talked with many staff members, including families, Mayor Marquez Simula, Council Member Spriggs, and Representative Omar.

Ms. Mueller Held conversations with Member Granlund and Superintendent Stenvik and attended many Synchro Meets.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

Superintendent Stenvik

I attended the BrightWorks Board meeting last week. The MN Department of Education has asked BrightWorks to be the metro area hub to support the implementation of the READ Act. They are dissolving the Regional Centers of Excellence, moving those staff to BrightWorks, and hiring additional Literacy coaches. Meeting participants expressed their support for the READ Act and their frustration with the timeline and the fact that it is underfunded. Last week, the first-class size committee met. We first established committee norms. I then had the opportunity to provide an overview of per-pupil funding and the staffing process and hear teachers' perspectives on the topic. I have had many meetings with principals and directors as we are nearing the end of this school year and planning for next year. Today is National Bus Driver Appreciation Day. This morning, a team of district staff started our day at Columbia Academy to thank each bus driver personally. An enthusiastic group of students joined us, who held up signs and thanked the bus drivers. It was a great way to start the day.

Since our last board meeting, I have communicated with Chair Mueller, Vice Chair Granlund, Member Pettway, and Member Houle. Thank you for your time.

Summer Programming

Exec. Dir. of Education Services, Bondo Nyembwe **Dir. of Communications and Community Education**, Kristen Stuenkel **Dir. of Special Education** Sarah Godfrey.
Presented an update on summer Programming

2025-2026 Calendar- Draft

Dir. of Human Resources Lindsey Bennett presented the tentative draft of the 2025-2026 Calendar. The calendar will be included in the Consent agenda.

Policy First Reading

101.1 Name of The District
104 School District Mission Statement
501 School Weapons Policy
502 Search of Students, lockers, Desk, and Person
901 Community Education
905 Advertising

K-12 Activities Update

Jake Henderson, Activities Director, recommended the K-12 Activities fee increase. Palmer motioned, seconded by Granlund, to approve the K-12 Activity Fees. All were in favor. The motion carried.

Principals' Contract

Pettway moved, seconded by Medearis, to approve the master agreement between Independent School District #13 Columbia Heights and the Principals covering the school years 2023-2025 as presented. All were in Favor. The Motion Carried.

Transportation Contract

Motion by Palmer, seconded by Houle to approve the Transportation Contract. All in Favor, Motion carried.

Revised 2023-2024 Budget

Motion by Pettway seconded by Houle to approve the Revised 2023- 2024 Budget. All in favor, Motion carried.

BOARD TOPICS –

Ms. Mueller, The Synchro team has their Greatest Show in H2O on May 9th at 5 PM in the Columbia Heights Pool. The High School theater performance The Day the Internet Died is this weekend, April 26, 27, and 28.

Ms. Granlund, the Community, is aware of a former student who had a GoFundMe account in a severe car accident.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed all the items on the regular agenda, Chair Mueller adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Date minutes approved

Michelle Pettway, Clerk, Board of Education.
Independent School District 13