

Columbia Heights Public Schools
Minutes of the
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
April 9, 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

AGENDA APPROVAL/ADJUSTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

B. Announcements

- April 10, Wed. No School
- April 16, Tue. 5:30 p.m. School Board Work Session, Valley View-library
- April 23, Tue. 6:00 p.m. School Board Meeting, Community Room
- 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
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COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD –

Kristen addressed a need for academic counselors at the high school.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Granlund, seconded by Houle, to approve the action required for implementing the items on the consent agenda: **School Board Minutes** for March 12 Regular School Board Meeting, March 19 Work Session, **Mini Adventures and Adventure Club Fees, Treasury Report-** February 2024 and **Personnel Report** of April 9: Licensed Abby Olson: Change to EL Teacher, CA, 1.167 FTE, for 22 days from 4/8/24-6/7/24. Marti Tschida: Elementary Teacher, VV, rehire, 186 days for the 2024-2025 school year. Allison Coleman: Elementary Teacher, NP, rehire, 186 days for the 2024-2025 school year. Licensed - Conditional Hannah Appleton: EL Teacher, CHHS, new hire, step 10, lane 6 (MA), \$79,574 for 189 days for the 2024-2025 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). Kent Harrison: Special Education Teacher, CA, new hire, step 17, lane 10 (MA+60), \$101,277 for 189 days for the 2024-2025 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). Breonna Robinson: Elementary Teacher, NPSfI, new hire, step 1, lane 1 (BA), \$45,936 for 189 days for the 2024-2025 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to obtaining the appropriate license and successful completion of a criminal background check). Support - Conditional Lizbeth Cando: PreK4 Assistant Sub, VV, new hire, step 3, \$22.70/hr for 50 of 176 days during the 2023-2024 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). Dannesia Rubio-Gonzalez: Mini Adventure Club Assistant, FC, new hire, step 5, \$15.52/hr for the 2023- 2024 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). Support Junia James: Lifeguard, CHHS, new hire, effective 3/23/24. Coach/Advisor/Additional Assignment Mike Sorenson: Assistant Track and Field Coach, CHHS, rehire, effective 2023-2024 school year. Kamryn Green: Assistant Softball Coach, CA, rehire, effective 2023-2024 school year. Nikki Aug: Head Softball Coach, CA, rehire, effective 2023-2024 school year. Jessica Bolles: Play Director, CHHS, current employee, effective 2023-2024 school year. 3 Holly Besinger: ENCORE EA, HL, current employee, effective 2023-2024 school year. Jen Heveron: Assistant Softball Coach, CA, current employee, effective 2023-2024 school year. Emily Gartner: MTSS Coordination, DW, current employee, effective 2023-2024 school year. Disa Fabeck: MTSS Coordination, DW, current employee, effective 2023-2024 school year. Megan Endresen: MTSS Coordination, DW, current employee, effective 2023-2024 school year. Jessica Krause:

After School Track EA 1:1, DW, current employee, effective 2023-2024 school year. Leave Requests Kim Landry: The teacher and NP requested FMLA from 2/8/24 for up to 12 weeks. Marc Jerue: Teacher, CHHS, requests FMLA from approx. 5/6/24 for up to 4 weeks. Resignations/Terminations Gary Sichak: Custodian Specialist, CHHS, effective 4/26/24. Reason: Retirement Manuel Alvarez: Wrestling Coach, CHHS, effective 3/1/23. Reason: Seasonal Rabbit Rexhepi: Custodian, CHHS, effective 3/28/24. Reason: Resignation Julio Batres: Spanish Teacher, CHHS, effective 6/7/24. Reason: Retirement Jordan Rushton: Special Education Teacher, VV, effective 6/7/24. Reason: Resignation Whitney Hout: Special Education Teacher, CHHS, effective 3/22/24. Reason: Resignation The following list of employees will receive a salary increase proportional to what the teachers received for 2023-2024 at 2.25%. Staff hired after 7/1/23 will not have an increase for 2023-2024. Activities Director Activities Facilitator Special Education Coordinator Research and Assessment Coordinator Teaching and Learning Coordinator Community Education Coordinator Deputy Director of Finance and Operations Deputy Director of Technology and Security District Technology Support Specialist IT Support Specialist Human Resources Manager Adult Enrichment Manager Communications Coordinator Personalized Learning Facilitator Food Service Manager Buildings and Grounds Manager District Accountant Payroll Accountant MARSS Manager 4 Dean of Students Food Service Facilitator Benefits Specialist Special Education Finance Specialist Systems Helpdesk Support Specialists Community Education Compensation Schedule, 2024. The motion was Carried unanimously.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

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 \$10,425.70.

DETAILED BACKGROUND: Monetary • Donations to the Retired Staff Scholarship were made by • Beverly Schwartz for \$25. • Albert Ogdie, Louann Restad, Carolyn Bang, Dawn, and Stanley Hoium each for \$50 • Stephanie Nowak for \$75 • Edward Nelson, Janice Olson, Roger and Karen Sadlowsky, Glenda Glore, Gerald and Diane Boldt, Elsie Boquist, Michelle Edwardson, Steven and Paula Hall, Wayne and Linda Kutzke each for \$100. • Janet Larson, Dean and Brian Miley, Ann O'Neill, Coleman Nemerov and Laurie White, Howard and Nance Hornibrook, Leo and Catherine McAvoy each for \$200. • John and Kathleen Kane, Randy, and Kathy Kelly, and Gerald Ryding each for \$500 • The Blackbaud Giving Fund donated \$30 to North Park School for Innovation. • Valley View PTO donated \$200 to Valley View for the Fun Run. • The James R. and Patricia Hemak Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation donated \$661.00 to Columbia Academy for student involvement in JA Finance Park. • The Columbia Heights Athletic Boosters donated \$5614.70 to the Activities department for robotics, boys' tennis, softball, and Activities fund. • Beverly Schwartz donated \$25, and Suzy Vescio donated \$20 to support the Robotics Team at the State tournament. Value in Kind • The Columbia Heights Lions Club Donated \$750 worth of Hygiene products to Columbia Heights High School for student use. • Neil Granlund donated six spools of ABS for a 3D printer valued at \$1,000 to Columbia Heights High School for the 3D printer. Total fiscal year 2023-2024 monetary contributions to date: \$88,381.12. The motion for the adoption of the preceding resolution by Member Houle, seconded by Member Granlund, and upon vote being taken, 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 policy meeting with MSBA to learn about the Policy process, met with Mr. Henderson to learn about MSHSL membership, and held conversations with Principal Cacek and Superintendent Stenvik. I attended the March Work session and the Sub-Committee on Policy meeting.

Ms. Palmer Attended the March work session and the Sub-Committee on Community Engagement. meetings

Ms. Medearis attended four of the core strategic planning team's meetings, participated in the Highland Book Bash and Book Fair, attended the Policy meeting with MSBA and the Sub-Committee on Policy, attended a PTO meeting, and watched an MSBA webinar about Budgets.

Ms. Pettway participated in the Strategic planning core meetings, attended the March work session, and attended the Science of Reading. She also attended the BeSmart event at Columbia Heights Public Library, viewed the AMSD presentation on school funding, and participated in the Sub-Committee on Community Engagement.

Ms. Granlund attended the BeSmart event at Columbia Heights Library. Held conversations with community members, district staff, and Chair Mueller and participated in the Chair Meeting and the Sub-Committee on Community Engagement.

Ms. Mueller Attended some Synchro team meets, and the JV team won a meet. Attended the work session and enjoyed the conversation around the circle. I participated in the Chair Meeting and Sub-Committee on Policy Meeting and had conversations with Superintendent Stenvik.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

Superintendent Stenvik This morning, I testified before the Senate Education Finance Committee on a bill that would provide financial support for improving attendance. I met with the Columbia Heights Police Department to discuss possible collaborative programming that would be grant-funded. After the new chief is named, we hope to meet with the school board and city council members in a working group in May to discuss School Resource Officers. I, too, attended the Be SMART for Kids presentation at the Columbia Heights Library. Since then, I have been communicating with our local reps to plan how we can get the message out about gun safety and locking up firearms. The strategic planning process is still underway. Next month, the Board will provide input on the draft strategic priorities. I participated in the MSBA and MN Association of School Administrators Day at the capitol. I have also had several opportunities to connect with lawmakers. This morning, I spoke to the education finance committee in the Senate regarding a proposed bill that would fund efforts to decrease school absenteeism. My peers elected me to represent Region 9 on the Minnesota Association of School Administrators Board of Directors. I have communicated with most of the Board members since our last meeting.

K-12 Activities Update

Jake Henderson, Activities Director, and Crystal Vital-Schwartz- Activities Facilitator, presented an update on the K-12 Activities—information Item.

Blooming Heights Update

The Board was presented with information on Blooming Heights by Kristen Stuenkel, Dir. of Comm. Education and Communications, and Melissa Trent, Agriculture Specialist—information Item.

Transportation Contract

Bryan Hennekens, director of finance and operations, presented the board with an update on the Transportation Contract. Information item, will be brought to action at a future meeting.

Policy First Reading

The Sub-Committee on Policy reviewed the following policies on March 12, 2024: 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.

High School Stadium Lights

Houle made a motion, seconded by Palmer, to award the project to Musco Lighting for the High School Stadium Lights Project. All were in favor. The Motion was Carried.

BOARD TOPICS –

Ms. Houle, I would like information on the money from Anoka County for Social Services. I question the amount and where the funds are used in the district.

Ms. Mueller will not be in attendance at the April 16 Work Session. Member Granlund will Chair the Work Session.

Ms. Granlund, Eid Mubarak for our Muslim community.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed all the items on the regular agenda, Chair Mueller adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Date minutes approved

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