

Columbia Heights Public Schools
Minutes of the
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
February 6, 2024

Chair Mueller called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 Best in SNO was presented to Jalue Dorjee for the article Chinese Communist Party Attempts to Force Tibet Name Change.

AGENDA APPROVAL/ADJUSTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE

A. Approval of Agenda motion by Palmer, seconded by Houle, to approve the agenda as presented.

B. Announcements

- Feb 8, Thur. Flex Learning Day
- Feb 9, Friday No School
- Feb 19, No School, District Closed
- Feb 20, Tue. 5:30 p.m. School Board Work Session, Community Room
- Feb 20, Tue. 6:00 p.m. Regular School Board Meeting, Community

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD –

Mark- Valley View EL teacher-EL Support and Staffing Crisis

Jacqueline- English teacher at High School-Negotiations

Ella- 7th Grade Student –Student Experience, Choir class.

Jack- High School Student- The high school needs counselors and advocates for the Teachers Union.

Darin- Teacher at High School- EL numbers and class sizes.

Brad Columbia Academy Teacher- class sizes and student safety.

Kristen =Social Studies at the High School- Teacher burnout.

Heidi-Teacher- Job.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Granlund, seconded by Pettway, to approve the action required to implement the items on the consent agenda. **Personal Report Licensed Andre Nelson:** Change to Theatre Teacher, CA, 1.167 FTE, effective 1/29/24-6/7/24 (44 days total). **Scott Opatz:** Change to PE Teacher, CA, 1.167 FTE, effective 1/29/24-4/5/24 (22 days total). **Licensed – Conditional Mya Skaare:** Art Teacher, CA, new hire, step 1, lane 1 (BA), \$20,798.56 (22-23 salary schedule) for 91 of 189 days for the 2023-2024 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check).

Support Jesse Baker: Change to Custodian, HL, 1.0 FTE, effective 1/29/24.

Coach/Advisor/Additional Assignment Jordan Rushton: Head Lacrosse Coach, CHHS, current employee, effective 2023-2024 school year. **Jason Stockwell:** ENCORE Strength and Conditioning Coach, CHHS, rehire, effective 2023-2024 school year. **Peter Heryla:** ENCORE Strength and Conditioning Coach, CHHS, rehire, effective 2023-2024 school year. **John Rockwell:** ENCORE Strength and Conditioning Coach, CHHS, rehire, effective 2023-2024 school year. **Marti Tschida:** ENCORE Teacher, VV, current employee, effective 2023-2024 school year. **Callee Ayt:** ENCORE Teacher, HL, current employee, effective 2023-2024 school year. **David Jorgenson:** ENCORE Teacher, HL, current employee, effective 2023-2024 school year. **Abigail Olson:** ENCORE Teacher, CA, current employee, effective 2023-2024 school year. **Jen Cahill:** ENCORE Teacher, VV, current employee, effective 2023-2024 school year. **Leave Requests Gary Sichak:** Custodian, CHHS, requests medical

leave from 1/19/24-1/26/24. **Resignations/Terminations Laurel Osterkamp:** Teacher, CHHS, effective 6/7/24. Reason: Resignation. **Dorothy Williams:** Educ Asst, CA, effective 1/24/24. Reason: Resignation. **Stephanie Moore:** Teacher, VV, effective 6/7/24. Reason: Resignation. **Linda Maylish:** Art Teacher, CA, effective 6/7/24. Reason: Retirement.

School Board Minutes for January 9 Organizational Meeting, Special Called meeting and Regular School Board Meetings, January 16 work session, January 23 Regular Meeting, and January 29 Joint Meeting with Columbia Heights City Council. The motion Carried unanimously.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS 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, 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, for \$9,667.

DETAILED BACKGROUND:

Monetary

- A donation of \$1,200 was made to Valley View Music Program from the Cilongu Foundation for new risers for the music program.
- A donation of \$1,500 was made to the Activities Department from The Columbia Heights Athletic Boosters to support the Cheer Squad.
- A donation of \$6,000 was made to the Activities Department from The Columbia Heights Athletic Boosters to support State Tournament participants.
- A donation of \$30 was made to North Park School for Innovation from the Blackbaud Giving Fund.
- A donation of \$500 was made to Valley View from Maureen Reilly.
- A donation of \$337 was made to the 2022-2023 CHHS Scholarship Fund from the K-12 PE Department for the Team PE Physical Education Scholarship.

Value in Kind

- A professional-quality xylophone and snare drum donation was made to the Columbia Academy Music Department from Cindy Harper. The Estimated value is \$300.

Total fiscal year 2023-2024 monetary contributions to date: \$58,480.35

The motion for the adoption of the preceding resolution was duly made by Houle and seconded by Granlund, and upon 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. Granlund attended the city's Snow Blast event and a joint meeting with the Columbia Heights City Council Work Session and volunteered at Columbia Academy. AMSD Legislative Preview was recorded and made available for the public to view on their website. Held conversations with board members and Superintendent Stenvik.

Ms. Pettway Attended the district-wide band concert, volunteered at the Snow Blast event at Huset, the joint meeting with the City Council Work Session and North Park 1st and 2nd-grade concert and creativity night, and an AMSD legislative preview Zoom meeting.

Ms. Medearis Attended the district-wide band concert with a child performing in the 6th-grade band; it was a fantastic experience. Attended the joint meeting with the City Council. Attended the Policy Sub-Committee. Watched a recording of the legislative preview. I acknowledge and share gratitude to the community members for sharing their stories and information during this meeting.

Ms. Houle spoke on the Treasures' report. Her campaign promise was to make sure of the district's financial responsibility. Meets monthly to review the reports and witnesses' integrity in the numbers and integrity of the staff. The school district passed the Audit.

Ms. Palmer appreciated having the stories told to the Board. It was insightful to hear from people in the Community. Great concern and focus on the most good for the most people. Attended the Joint Meeting with the Columbia Heights City Council. The joint meeting was great to see the district's connections with the city collaborations.

Ms. Mueller Attended the joint meeting with the Columbia Heights City Council Work Session and Tri-Metro All-Conference Music Festival, Band Choir, and orchestra students. Conversations with Board Members and Superintendent Stenvik.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Stenvik, I am supporting Valley View by applying for a Full-Service Community School grant through the MN Department of Education. Over the last few years, Principal Kuhlman has been gearing up towards becoming a community school with wrap-around support for students and families, such as dental care, wellness checks, and supplying meals, among other services for families. A full-service community school emphasizes a component of collaborative decision-making with families, staff, and students. If selected, Valley View would receive funds for three years to cover the cost of coordinating the community school activities, supplies, and transportation as needed. One section of the grant application inquires about governance; therefore, I will be providing more detailed information to the Board regarding the scope of the grant along with a possible resolution of support for the grant later this month. Another Resolution coming to the Board later this month is a collaboration with the City of Columbia Heights and the Police Department for the BeSmart that raises awareness on gun safety and gun storage. The city is hosting a BeSmart for Kids event at the library on March 23rd. Informational flyers will be distributed for that event. Yesterday, Director Bennett and I met with Teacher's Union President Nelson and discussed a personnel matter and topics for upcoming Labor Management Meetings. The AMSD Legislative preview was very informative, and I look forward to hearing from our local Legislators this evening. Since our last Board meeting, I have communicated with each of the Board members. Thank you for your time.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Representative Erin Koegel, Representative Sandra Feist, and Senator Mary Kunesch- Chair of the Education Finance in the State Senate. Presented the accomplishments of the previous legislative session and their goals in the upcoming session that impact Columbia Heights Public Schools and the Columbia Heights Community.

AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION PARENT COMMITTEE CONCURRENCE

Yolanda Dorr-Slowey presented the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee Resolution to the Board in accordance with Minnesota Statute 124D.78. This is an information Item.

SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH

The Board was recognized during this School Board Recognition Month. This is an information item only.

BUILDING CAPACITY

Motion by Granlund seconded by Medearis to close Columbia Academy to open enrollment for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year due to student enrollment beyond capacity. All in Favor. Motion Carries.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Pettway, seconded by Palmer, to Move to a closed session at 8:27 to discuss Superintendent Stenvik's annual review.

RETURN TO OPEN MEETING

The Board returned to an open meeting at 8:51

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed all of the items on the regular agenda, at 8:53 p.m., Chair Mueller adjourned the meeting.

Date minutes approved

Michelle Pettway, Board of Education.
Independent School District 13