

Columbia Heights Public Schools
Minutes of the
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
September 24, 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. Mueller, Ms. Houle, Ms. Pettway Ms. Medearis, Ms. Palmer.
and Superintendent Stenvik

Members absent:

AGENDA APPROVAL/ADJUSTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Approval of Agenda. Motion by Pettway, seconded by Medearis, to approve Agenda. Motion carried unanimously

B. Announcements

Oct 1, 5 p.m. Subcommittee on Policy, Community Room
Oct 1, 7 p.m. Special Called Meeting, Community Room.
Oct 4, Homecoming Football Game and Fireworks
Oct. 8, 5:00 p.m. Subcommittee on Community Engagement, Training Room
Oct 8, 6:00 p.m. Regular School Board Meeting, Community Room
Oct 10 Flex Learning Day
Oct 11,17,18: No school
Oct 15, 5:30 p.m. School Board Work Session, Community Room
Oct 18 District Closed

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD – None

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Palmer, seconded by Pettway, to approve the action required to implement the items on the consent agenda. Personnel Report of September 24, 2024 **BACKGROUND:Support – Conditional**

LeVon Garrett: Education Assistant, HL, new hire, step 3, for 180 of 183 days, effective 9/5/24 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check).

Emmanuele Gutierrez: Lunch Duty Monitor, VV, new hire, step 1, for 177 of 183 days, effective 9/10/24 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Madeline Gilbertson:** Assistant Volleyball Coach, CHHS, new hire, effective 2024-2025 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Mark Agudo Medina:** Assistant Boys Soccer Coach, CHHS, new hire, effective 2024-2025 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Samaria Gutierrez:** Lunch Duty Monitor, HL, new hire, step 1, for 172 of 183 days, effective 9/17/24 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Diana Morales Molina:** EL Education Assistant, HL, new hire, step 2, for 172 of 183 days, effective 9/5/24 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Coach/Advisor/Additional Assignment Sandra Westmoreland:** Building Leadership, NPSfl, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Keondre Lewis:** Building Leadership, NPSfl, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Ted Ngeh:** Building Leadership, NPSfl, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Ariane Kokes:** Building Leadership, NPSfl, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Trisha Johnson:** Building Leadership, NPSfl, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Jennifer Hauswirth:** Building Leadership, NPSfl,

current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Kim Sobon:** Building Leadership, NPSfl, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Melissa Deloach:** EA 1:1 Adaptive Soccer, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Peg Nelson:** Multi Grade Assignment, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Molly MacDonald:** Building Leadership, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Cara Hunn:** Building Leadership, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Nick Rohne:** Building Leadership, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Hannah Howe:** Building Leadership, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Chloe Bluth:** Building Leadership, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Marie Nelson:** Building Leadership, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Jennie Bradd:** Building Leadership, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Scott Opatz:** Building Leadership, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Alison Humpal:** Building Leadership, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Molly MacDonald:** Co Student Council Advisor, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Sarah Clayton:** Co Student Council Advisor, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Marie Nelson:** Web Leaders, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Todd Boyd:** Jazz Band, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Todd Boyd:** Drumming Advisor, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Shannon Keenan:** Yearbook, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Jennifer Hauswirth:** MRC Tutor, NPSfl, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Maureen Reilly:** MRC Tutor, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Danielle Ketchum:** MRC Tutor, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Cheryl Felling:** MRC Tutor, HL, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Carolyn Teichner:** MRC Tutor, HL, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Darcy Hedeem:** T&L Leadership, CHHS, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Alison Humpal:** T&L Leadership, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Carla Anderson:** T&L Leadership, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Peg Nelson:** T&L Leadership, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Danielle Ketchum:** T&L Leadership, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Jennifer Hauswirth:** T&L Leadership, NPSfl, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Carolyn Teichner:** T&L Leadership, HL, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Peg Nelson:** ENCORE Site Facilitator, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Alaina Larson:** Building Leadership, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Nicole Herje:** Building Leadership, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Beth Lindquist:** Building Leadership, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Carla Anderson:** Building Leadership, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Emma Benson:** Building Leadership, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Patrick Schulz:** Building Leadership, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Tiffany Jiang:** Building Leadership, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Karen Holland Wallace:** Building Leadership, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Allyson Sewich:** Building Leadership, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Kim Sobon:** ENCORE Site Facilitator, NPSfl, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Danielle Ketchum:** ENCORE Site Facilitator, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Devon Minke:** Building Leadership, NPSfl, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Stan Mraz:** Patrol Supervisor, NPSfl, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Troy Sagdalen:** T&L Leadership, CHHS/CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Michelle Radermacher:** ENCORE Site Facilitator, HL, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Nick Rohne:** T&L Leadership, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Lorien Stewart:** T&L Leadership, FC, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Ted Ngeh:** T&L Leadership, NPSfl, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Denise Olson:** EA 1:1 Adaptive Soccer, CHHS, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Laura Potopa:** T&L Leadership, NPSfl, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Amber Young:** T&L Leadership, HL, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Ben Hanson:** Arts Coordinator, DW, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Leaves Peter MacFarlane:** Teacher, CA, requests FMLA from 9/4/24 for up to 12 weeks. **Kristen Dins:** Mini Adv Supv, Comm Ed, requests FMLA from 7/22/24 for up to 4 weeks. **Tim Ahrndt:** Teacher, CHHS, requests FMLA from 8/26/24 for up to 2 weeks. **Matt Birr:** Teacher, VV, requests FMLA from approx 12/9/24 for up to 12 weeks

Resignations/Terminations **Carol White:** EA, VV, effective 9/27/24. Reason: Retirement. **Croix Rosenberg:** Custodian, CHHS, effective 8/20/24. Reason: Resignation. **Shena Terrell:** Custodian, VV, effective 9/16/24. Reason: Termination. **Revision to 9/10/24 Board Report** **Shyjea Perse:** ~~Mini Adv Asst~~/Adv Club Asst, Comm Ed, new hire, \$15.52/hr, effective 9/4/24 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check), **September 17 Minutes, Employee Handbook.** Motion Carried unanimously.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Motioned by Granlund, seconded by Houle: 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, the School Board of Columbia Heights Public Schools, Independent School District No. 13, resolves to accept with appreciation the contributions detailed in the background \$10,000

DETAILED BACKGROUND:

Monetary

- Columbia Heights Athletic Boosters donated \$4,000 to Girls soccer, \$1,000 to Girls Swimming, \$2,000 to Football, and \$2,000 to Highland Elementary for a total of \$9,000 in August
- Columbia Heights VFW donated \$1,000 to support Boys Volleyball.

In-Kind

- Neil Granlund donated 25 spools of cool filament for 3D printing for Tech class usage. Estimated value of \$4,500.
- An anonymous donor donated bins for classrooms and the library at Valley View. Estimated value of \$130
- Mr. and Mrs. Bond facilitated the collection of school supplies for CHPS with the support of community members and local businesses, including Fixx Coffee, the VFW, Subway, and Columbia Market. The school supplies and backpacks were delivered to the Placement Center for distribution.

The total fiscal year 2024-2025 monetary contributions to date: \$17.575

Roll call vote: Granlund.....AYE
 Mueller AYE
 Houle AYE
 Pettway AYE
 Palmer.....AYE
 Medearis.....AYE

Resolution and Motion carried

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Ms. Granlund attended the Work Session, Board Candidate Forum, Pride Festival, Meetings with Mayor Marquez Simula and Ms. Pettway, and phone calls with Ms. Medearis, Ms. Mueller, and Superintendent Stenvik. I also had many conversations with community members, students, staff, and parents.

Ms. Houle attended the work session Discussion with Chair Mueller June and July treasury report pleased to report no unusual findings

Ms. Mueller had dinner with Julie and attended the work session last week. Conversations with Mary Granlund and Superintendent Stenvik

Ms. Pettway Work Session, Peace Day celebration, and color run at NP and the Pride Festival.

Ms. Medearis attended Highland PTO meeting Title 1 Plan and goals, Turkey BINGO November 15, attended safe streets meeting and friends of Kordiak Park meeting, School board work session School law conference hosted by Squires, Waldspurger & Mace, P.A. enjoyed the case law updates may impact policies. CH Pride event, and I met a lot of community members.

Ms. Palmer attended the Work session, Pride Festival, and Open House at the High School.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

On Monday metro area superintendents and finance directors met together to discuss widespread education funding shortfalls. This group will meet periodically to share resources and collaborate on a legislative level to ensure that lawmakers clearly understand the shortfalls in areas such as the cross subsidies and Local Optional Revenue. I also met with Mayor Marquez Simula along with the previous mayor, current city council member of our sister city in Poland, Lomianki. They were able to take a brief tour of a school as part of their visit. We are keeping a close eye on the enrollment at Columbia Heights High School as they are nearing capacity. If the enrollment holds I will likely come to the Board on October 8 seeking to close to open enrollment. Last week I participated in the meeting with Anoka County and the City of Columbia Heights regarding safe streets. I appreciated the County Engineer taking the time to listen to the needs of both City and School officials. Some interesting ideas were generated about Valley View drop off and pick up. We will continue to work on improving the process. I attended the School Board candidate forum on September 11. Thank you to Local #710 for hosting that event. Lastly, a huge thank you to Medtronic's Wishes for Wheels program for donating bikes to Highland and Valley View students. I have had conversations with Chair Mueller, Vice Chair Granlund and missed Member Houle when she came to the district.

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS CITYWIDE SAFETY PLAN

Salman Khan, Assistant City Engineer, and Connor Cox, Senior Transportation Planner, provided information on the citywide safety plan. The goal is to improve safety and reduce accidents on the Roads of Columbia Heights. Prevent deaths and severe injuries on our roads. Community insight is then given into the design and then the safety action plan. Columbia Heights citywide Safety Plan for details and where access information.

AMERICAN INDIAN OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP

This is an information item, and it will return on the Oct 8 Board Meeting seeking approval for the overnight field trip. Heights at Mille Lacs: Akwaa Misi- Zaaga'iganing from October 18-20. The trip will be a continuation of the June trip to Mille Lacs, with deeper engagement and different experiences. Area goals where families feel supported by the Board, Superintendent, and the schools show the commitment to the program.

TEACHER ON CALL RATES

Bryan Hennekens, Director of Finance and Operations, and Lindsey Bennett, Director of Human Resources, presented information on Teacher on-call substitute rates. They will present the rates and seek approval at the next Board Meeting. Teachers on Call is a substitute agency that fills vacancies at our school.

POLICY FIRST READING-

LEGISLATIVE 503- Student Attendance

SUBSTANTIVE 704-Development and maintenance of inventory and fixed assets

ACTION ITEMS:

INSURANCE RENEWAL

Motion by Granlund, seconded by Houle, for the renewal of the Property and Liability Insurance coverage package from Liberty Mutual and Travelers Insurance as presented. Motion carried unanimously

PAY 2024 PRELIMINARY LEVY Director Hennekens presented an update to the board on the preliminary levy. Motion by Medearis, seconded by Pettway, is to approve the 2024, payable 2025 preliminary school levy at the maximum.

Motion carried unanimously

BOARD TOPICS

Mueller: Special Called meeting Oct 1 at 7 pm

Granlund: Hispanic Heritage Month Read Banned Books Week.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed all of the items on the regular agenda, Chair Mueller adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Date minutes approved

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