

Columbia Heights Public Schools
Minutes of the
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
August 27, 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. Medearis, Ms. Mueller, Ms. Palmer, Ms. Houle, Ms. Pettway, and Superintendent Stenvik

Members absent: None

AGENDA APPROVAL/ADJUSTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE

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

Announcements

Sept. 3 First Day of School

Sept. 10, 4:45 PM Sub-Committee on Policy, Community Room

Sept. 10, 5:00 PM Sub-Committee on Community Engagement, Training Room

Sept. 10, 6:00 PM Regular School Board Meeting

Sept. 17, 5:30 PM Work Session, Community Room

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD – None

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Granlund, seconded by Houle, to approve the action required to implement the items on the consent agenda. **Personnel Report of August 27 BACKGROUND: Licensed – Conditional Angela College:** Equity Coordinator, T&L, new hire effective 8/14/24 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Christian Arel:** Technology/Business Teacher, CHHS, new hire, step 3, lane 10 (MA+60), \$69,001 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). **Sara Mercado:** Social Studies Teacher, CA, new hire, step 5, lane 6 (MA), \$62,810.92 for 186 of 189 days for the 2024-2025 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Ella Sullivan:** PreK 4 Teacher, VV, new hire, step 3, lane 1 (BA), \$48,844 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 Carolina Huerta:** Principal's Secretary, HL, new hire, step 2, for 217.5 of 219.5 days during the 2024-2025 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Jorge Angamarca:** Custodian, CHHS, new hire, step 2, for 231 of 261 days during the 2024-2025 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Lendy Cedeno:** Medium Hour Cook, CHHS, new hire, step 2, for 183 days during the 2024-2025 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Milvia Vasquez:** Food Service Sub, DW, new hire, \$15/hr, effective 8/20/24 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Claudia Contreras:** PreK4 Asst, VV, new hire, step 3, for 176 days during the 2024-2025 school year (the conditional offer of

employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Julie Granning:** Building Monitor, VV, new hire, \$22.88/hr for 184 of 184 days during the 2024-2025 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Susan Kulikowski:** Learning Support Tutor, IC, new hire, \$35/hr for up to 25 hrs per week during the 2024-2025 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Support Blanca Correa:** Change to Building Monitor, HL, 8/hr, 184 days, effective 9/2/24. **James Phillippi:** Change to Manager of Buildings and Grounds, DW, effective 8/26/24. **Jessica Fisher:** Change to PreK 4 Assistant, HL, 7.25/hr, effective 9/2/24. **Bertha Ortega:** Change to PreK 4 Assistant, NP, 7.25/hr, effective 9/2/24. **Lori Stene:** Change to EA, VV, effective 9/2/24. **Denise Olson:** Change to EA, CHHS, effective 9/2/24. **Cindy Solz:** Change to Gen. Ed EA TTT, VV, effective 9/2/24. **Carol White:** Change to Special Ed EA, VV, effective 9/2/24. **Jose Lima:** Change to Medium Hour Cook, CHHS, 5/hr, effective 9/2/24. **Leave Requests Cory Mettling:** Deputy Director of Technology and Security, DW, requests FMLA from 10/17/24 for up to 12 weeks. **Logan Spears:** Teacher, VV, requests FMLA from approx. 11/11/24 for up to 12 weeks. **Rose Szurek:** Medium Hour Cook, CHHS, requests medical leave from 9/3/24 for up to 12 weeks. Resignations/Terminations **Sarah Palacios:** LDM, NP, effective 6/6/24. Reason: Resignation. **Michelle Quinteros:** EA, CHHS, effective 6/6/24. Reason: Resignation. **Rachel Lilly:** Summer EA, CHHS, effective 7/11/24. Reason: Seasonal. **Veronica Paolini:** EL EA, DW, effective 8/14/24. Reason: Resignation. **Jacqueline Hed:** PreK 4 Assistant, VV, effective 6/6/24. Reason: Resignation. **Wendy Hundt:** EA, ECSE, effective 6/6/24. Reason: Resignation. **Heather Kopp:** Teacher, VV, effective 6/7/24. Reason: Resignation. **Jacqueline Bayless:** English Teacher, CHHS, effective 6/7/24. Reason: Resignation. **Revision to 8/14/24: Edward Robison:** Custodian, HL/VV, new hire, 241 of 261 days (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Addition to 8/14/24: Peter MacFarlane:** Engineering Elective Teacher, CA, rehire, step 3, lane 6 (MA), \$58,973 for 186 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). **Montroy Scott:** Special Education Teacher, CHHS, rehire, step 3, lane 1 (BA), \$48,844 for 186 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). **Brightwork Membership. School Board Minutes:** August 14 and 20. Policy First Reading- Legislative 524- INTERNET, TECHNOLOGY, AND CELL PHONE ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Ms. Medearis: Attended back-to-school activities, Scaling Heights event, Work session, pizza class at Community Ed, and CA Open house.

Ms. Granlund: Attended Scaling Heights Bus ride and Columbia Academy Open House and Chair meeting. Held conversations with community members about the district's growth. Held conversations with Members Pettway, Medearis, Chair Mueller, and Superintendent Stenvik

Ms. Pettway: Attended Scaling Heights event lunch. Work Session Nerd Caucus trivia

Ms. Houle: Work Session, Scaling Heights luncheon.

Ms. Palmer: Attend the work session and the executive work session at 916 focused on the Superintendent evaluation.

Ms. Mueller: Tour guide on the bus tour. Conversation with Vice Chair Granlund, and attended the Chair meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

We are reviewing the guidance on the heat index, especially given that Columbia Academy and Valley View do not have air cooling systems. Some districts keep students home when the heat index, which is a combination of temperature and humidity, reaches 105 and the school does not have air conditioning. Minnesota law accounts for inclement weather days- but that is limited to cold and snow, not heat. I will bring this to a school board meeting in the near future. Last week, I attended the BrightWorks Board meeting and met all of the new MDE staff now housed at BrightWorks. Staff are back on campus this week. We have been participating in professional development on language acquisition and the science of reading, among other topics. I have been out to some of the buildings, and teachers are working hard to prepare classrooms to welcome students next week. I want to express my gratitude to the staff who responded to the Power surge and power outage and to the Police and fire departments that supported our schools during the power outage.

Capital Projects Update

Bryan Hennekens, Director of Finance and Operations, provided an informational presentation on the capital projects. The Highland Roof Project is still in progress, and the Warewashing Project at the High School was completed in August 2024. High school stadium lights are installed and working 2025 CA roof, District-wide Mechanical _ Capital Projects Levy, and LFTM, District Brick Tuck Pointing Project – Capital Projects Levy& LFTM, Interiors Deferred Maintenance Projects (Bathrooms, Flooring, Casework) -Capital Projects Levy

Policy First Reading

514-BULLYING PROHIBITION POLICY INCLUDING CYBERBULLYING
610-FIELD TRIPS
620- CREDIT FOR LEARNING
ALSO LOOKING AT GRADE 5 AT Valley view.

Building Capacity

Motion by Palmer, seconded by Granlund, is to close the open enrollment of grade three students at Valley View Elementary for the 2024-2025 school year. The motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Goals 2024-2025

Superintendent Stenvik presented her 2024-2025 goals at the August 20 work session. Her goals align with the MSBA guidelines. Her focus is on literacy. Her second goal is to participate in the Attendance Pilot Project with the state of Minnesota. Motion by Houle, seconded by Palmer to approve the Superintendent goals for the 2024-2025 school year. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD TOPIC

Mueller: If you plan to attend the School Law conference on September 20th, please let Stephanie know ASAP. The second offering is November 8th. Member Granlund, Medearis, and Laura Palmer are interested in participating in the Roadway Safety Project.
Convocation is tomorrow at 9:30. The picnic is at 11:15; wear blue and gold.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed all of the items on the regular agenda, Chair Mueller adjourned the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

Date minutes approved

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