

**Columbia Heights Public Schools
Minutes of the
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Community Room
November 26, 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 Granlund called roll.

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

Members absent: None

HYLANDER HIGHLIGHT

Athletic Director Jake Henderson presented and highlighted Victor's achievement. Columbia Heights Girls Soccer Assistant Coach, Victor Alvarez was named Girls Soccer Class AA State Assistant Coach of the Year.

Head Boys soccer coach Hector Leon presented a background and achievements during the regular season and post-season play. Columbia Heights Senior, Jhonderson "Dany" Silva Blanco was selected to the MN State High School Soccer Coaches Association All-State Team.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Medearis, seconded by Pettway, to approve the agenda as presented. All in Favor,
Motion carries unanimously.

Announcements

Nov 27, 28, 29 No School

Nov 28 & 29 District Closed

Dec 10 4:45 Subcommittee on Policy, Superintendent Conference Room

Dec 10, 5:00 Subcommittee on Community Engagement, Community Room

Dec 10, 6:00 PM Regular School Board Meeting, Community Room

Jan 7, 6:00 PM Organizational Meeting

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD – None

CONSENT AGENDA

Julie Houle requested to remove the New/Suspended/Deleted Courses 2025-2026 from the Consent agenda grouping and address it separately.

Motion by Palmer, seconded by Granlund, to approve the action required for implementation of the items on the consent agenda:

Personal Report: BACKGROUND: Support – Conditional Kalante Logan: Assistant Boys Basketball Coach, CHHS, new hire, effective 2024-2025 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). Victoria Montero: Mini Adventure Club Assistant, FC, new hire, \$15.52 (23-24 rate), effective 11/11/24 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). Margarita Donayre: Mini Adventure Club Assistant, FC, new hire, \$15.52 (23-24 rate), effective 11/18/24 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). Rene Argueta: Home School Liaison, VV, new hire, \$25.92/hr (23-24 rate), effective 11/15/24 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). Ruben Alvarado: Check and Connect Specialist HHM, DW, new hire, \$22.70/hr, effective 11/15/24 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). Matt Kourouma: Assistant Boys Basketball Coach, CHHS, rehire, effective 2024-2025 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). Tanya Kral: Assistant Girls Basketball Coach, CHHS, new

hire, effective 2024-2025 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). Support: Victor Alvarez: Custodian, CHHS, current employee, \$19.22/hr, effective 11/12/24. Arnel Johnson: Assistant Girls Basketball Coach, CHHS, new hire, effective 2024-2025. Licensed – Conditional Kely MacPhail: Art Teacher, HL, new hire, step 17, lane 8 (MA+30), \$63,039.13 for 123 of 189 days for the 2024-2025 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). Licensed: Scott Opatz: Change to PE/Health Teacher, CA, Overage Day 1/Qtr. 2, effective 11/6/24. Coach/Advisor/Additional Assignment: Carson Sabinash: ENCORE Teacher, HL, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. Erin Edwardson Stern: Knowledge Bowl Advisor, CHHS, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. Jessica Nelson: Chess Club, CHHS, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. Madeline Matthews: ENCORE Teacher, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. Patrick Schulz: ENCORE Teacher, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. Tiffany Jiang: ENCORE Teacher, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. Teegan Johnson: ENCORE Teacher, VV, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. Caitlin DiSalvi: Building Leadership, CHHS, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. Caitlin DiSalvi: Co-Student Council Advisor, CHHS, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. Caitlin DiSalvi: Jazz 1, CHHS, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. Troy Scott: Assistant Boys Basketball Coach, CHHS, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. Troy Scott: Strength Coach, CHHS, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. Mirian Cazho: Co-Head Dance Coach, CHHS, rehire, effective 2024-2025 school year. Estrella Ortiz: Co-Head Dance Coach, CHHS, rehire, effective 2024-2025 school year. Alison Humpal: Assistant Dance Coach, CHHS, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. Billy Depies: Head Wrestling Coach, CHHS, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. Ernie McNeal: Assistant Wrestling Coach, CHHS, rehire, effective 2024-2025 school year. Leaves: John Kulick: Asst Principal, CHHS, requests FMLA (intermittent) from 9/6/24 for up to 12 weeks. Cat Fitzgerald: Educ Asst, NP, requests medical leave from 10/31/24-11/15/24. Sue Brennan: Educ Asst, HL, requests medical leave from 10/30/24 for up to 6 weeks. Resignations/Terminations: Larry Vera: Custodian, VV, effective 1/17/25. Reason: Retirement. Chris Hoffer: Coach, CA, effective 3/13/24. Reason: Seasonal. Milvia Vasquez: Food Service Sub, DW, effective 11/7/24. Reason: Resignation. , **Policy First Reading Legislative:** Reviewed at the November 12 Subcommittee on Policy Meeting 416- Drug, Alcohol, and Cannabis Testing, 416- Forms, 418- Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School, 419-Tobacco Products, 506- Student Discipline, 515- Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records, 532- Use of Peace Officers and Crisis Teams **Minutes:** from November 12 Meeting and November 19 Work Session. All in Favor, Motion Carries.

New/Suspended/Deleted Courses 2025-2026 Motion Houle seconded by Palmer to accept

New/Suspended/Deleted Courses. Julie inquired about books that are used in the curriculum. The syllabus will present the books in the course and choices with the new English classes. The Class fits the curriculum and standards that are approved by the Minnesota Department of Education. All in Favor. Motion Carries

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Ms. Granlund attended the robotics meet at Columbia Academy; it was the biggest turnout for the event. Chair meeting before this meeting. Held many conversations with many students, staff, and families. Had conversations with Member Medearis.

Ms. Houle attended the work session, reviewed the finances, and met with Superintendent Stenvik. I have never encountered any errors or concerns in my review of the financial report.

Ms. Medearis – Highland Turkey BINGO, a successful event. The event raised a lot of funds for the school. I attended the Pre-delegate assembly preparing for the upcoming assembly. I attended the work session and night of conferences at Columbia academy

Ms. Mueller – Attended the Work Session and Chair meeting for the Work session, Chair meeting before this meeting. Held conversations with Member Houle and Palmer and Superintendent Stenvik.

Ms. Palmer – Attended the Work Session. Held conversations with several board members

Ms. Pettway – Attended Turkey BINGO, BIPOC family advisory meeting at North Park. The Work Session, and Columbia Heights City Council Meeting

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Director Thukral and I met with the Columbia Heights Library Foundation to provide a progress update on their generous grant of \$20,000. Part of the funds were used to provide new books for our summer reading program. The

funds were also used to provide supplemental reading material aligned to our new literacy curriculum in grades 3 through 5. We are very grateful for the support from the library foundation.
A district team participated in the second of four sessions at the U of MN for the Principal Support Series.
Congratulations to the Highland community on the Turkey BINGO event.
A reminder to Board members that there will be no Friday update.
Today I helped to serve lunch at Highland Elementary. We have such a caring food service department- I really appreciate all they do to ensure children are well-fed.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Worlds Best Workforce/CACR/Strategic Plan

Tara Thukral, Dir. of Teaching and Learning, Bondo Nyembwe, Assistant Superintendent, presented information on the World's Best Workforce/CACR/Strategic Plan Summary report as we transition to the new Strategic Plan. The information was provided on the previous year's data.

Columbia Academy Roof Bid

Director Hennekens presented information on the Columbia Academy roof bid proposals. It was determined that three sections of the roof need attention. Fiscal Year 25 and Fiscal Year 26

Policy First Reading

Annual Review Non-Substantive Changes: 722 Public Data Request

ACTION ITEMS

Educational Assistant Contract

Motion by Granlund, seconded by Houle, to approve the Master Agreement between Independent School District 13, Columbia Heights, and the Columbia Heights Education Assistant SEIU Local 284. 2024-2026 Motion carried unanimously.

Student School Board Representatives

Motion by Pettway, seconded by Houle, to approve Applicants Three and Six as Student School Board Representatives and Applicants Four as an alternate for the 2024-2025 school year. Motion Carried unanimously

BOARD TOPICS

Granlund-Remind people of truth and taxation meeting. Thank you to the voters who voted to supporting our students

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed all of the items on the regular agenda, at 7:15p.m. Chair Mueller adjourned the meeting.

Date minutes approved

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