

Columbia Heights Public Schools

**Minutes of the
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
April 22, 2025**

Chair Granlund 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. Houle, Ms. Palmer, Ms. Granlund, Ms. Medearis, Ms. Pettway, Ms. Smith, and Superintendent Stenvik

Members absent: none

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

Announcements

May 8: Scholarship Night

May 13, 4:45 Subcommittee on Policy, Superintendent's Conference Room

May 13, 6:00 School Board Meeting, Community Room

May 20, 5:30 Work Session, Community Room

May 26: No School, District Closed

May 27, 6:00 School Board Meeting, Community Room

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD –None

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Palmer, seconded by Houle, to approve the action required to implement the items on the consent agenda. **Personal Report: April 22, 2025, Licensed – Conditional Jessica Nelson:** Special Education Teacher, CHHS, rehire, step 3, lane 2 (BA+15), \$50,458 (24-25 salary schedule) for 186 days for the 2025-2026 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to obtaining the appropriate license). **Ella Sullivan:** PreK 4 Teacher, VV, rehire, step 3, lane 1 (BA), \$48,844 (24-25 salary schedule) for 186 days for the 2025-2026 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to obtaining the appropriate license). **Lindsay Wooten:** Special Education Teacher, CHHS, rehire, step 3, lane 2 (BA+15), \$50,458 (24-25 salary schedule) for 186 days for the 2025-2026 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to obtaining the appropriate license). **Cheimaa Yamache:** Special Education Teacher, HL, rehire, step 1, lane 6 (MA), \$54,816 (24-25 salary schedule) for 186 days for the 2025-2026 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to obtaining the appropriate license). **Marzena Mohler:** Special Education Teacher, ECSE, rehire, step 4, lane 5 (BA+60), \$58,973 (24-25 salary schedule) for 186 days for the 2025-2026 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to obtaining the appropriate license). **Tracy Xiong:** Social Worker, HL, new hire, step 5, lane 6 (MA), \$63,824 (24-25 salary schedule) for 189 days for the 2025-2026 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Anna Kuznik:** School Psychologist, DW, new hire, step 6, lane 11 (PHD), \$77,072 (24-25 salary schedule) for 189 days for the 2025-2026 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to obtaining the appropriate license and successful completion of a criminal background check). **Tammy Kuglin:** Summer ENCORE Teacher, CHHS/HL, rehire, effective summer 2025 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Licensed: Caitlin Disalvi:** Change to: Band/Music Teacher, CHHS, Overage Day 1/Semester 2, effective 1/29/25. **Leslee Sherk:** Change to: Principal, CA, effective 7/1/25. **Support – Conditional Robert Graham:** Custodian, HL, new hire,

\$26.23/hr, effective 4/1/25 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Vince Henry:** Custodian, CHHS, new hire, \$21.23/hr, effective 4/1/25 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Zaina Alamy:** Summer Adventure Club Supervisor, FC, new hire, effective summer 2025 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Naatti Ahmed:** Summer Adventure Club Asst, FC, new hire, effective summer 2025 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Angela Lopez Reyes:** Assistant Boys 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). **Marissa Foy:** Assistant Synchronized Swimming Coach, CHHS, new hire, effective 2024-2025 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Duc Nguyen:** Assistant Boys 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). **Laura Gerds-Saathoff:** Summer Programming OT, new hire, effective summer 2025 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Wendy DeWell:** AP Test Proctor, CHHS/DO, new hire, effective May 2025 (the conditional offer of employment is subject to successful completion of a criminal background check). **Support Cheryl Bolitho:** Change to Educ Asst (Setting III), 6 hrs/day, CA, effective 4/8/25. **Theresa Swendra:** Change to Adv Club Supv, 8 hrs/day, Comm Ed, effective 6/12/25-8/22/25. **Evelyn Farez:** Change to Adv Club Asst, 5.25 hrs/day, Comm Ed, effective 6/12/25-8/22/25. **Laura McWhite:** Change to Adv Club Asst, 3.0 hrs/day, Comm Ed, effective 6/12/25-8/22/25. **Linda Willhite:** Change to Adv Club Asst, 6.0 hrs/day, Comm Ed, effective 6/12/25-8/22/25. **Tony Davis:** Change to Adv Club Supv, 5.5 hrs/day, Comm Ed, effective 6/12/25-8/22/25. **Tony Davis:** Change to Educ Asst (Setting III), 6.5 hrs/day, NPSfI, effective 4/8/25. **Jorge Angamarca:** Change to Night Custodian, VV, effective 4/7/25. **Coach/Advisor/Additional Assignment Jen Heveron:** Summer EA, CHHS/HL, current employee, effective summer 2025. **Amanda Rosemeyer:** Summer ECSE Teacher, FC, current employee, effective summer 2025. **Lucas Melsha:** Summer EA, CHHS/HL, current employee, effective summer 2025. **Jen Heveron:** Head Flag Football Coach, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Sue Brennan:** Summer EA, CHHS/HL, current employee, effective summer 2025. **Lucas Toutge:** Head Boys Tennis Coach, CHHS, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Alex Mack:** Co-Head Track Coach, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Ariel Orcutt:** Change to Track Coach, CA, current employee, effective 2024-2025 school year. **Deb Vera:** Summer Kitchen Manager, CHHS/HL, current employee, effective summer 2025. **Lynn Lindberg:** Summer Long Hour Cook, CHHS/HL, current employee, effective summer 2025. **Henry Kline:** Summer ENCORE Teacher, HL, rehire/current employee, effective summer 2025. **Katrina Mitchell:** Summer ENCORE Teacher, HL, current employee, effective summer 2025. **Jennifer Rodrigues Martinez:** Summer ENCORE EL Teacher, HL, current employee, effective summer 2025. **Zainab Fatah:** Summer EA, CHHS/HL, current employee, effective summer 2025. **Daniela Cervantes:** Summer EA, CHHS/HL, current employee, effective summer 2025. **Vilma Salas Faican:** Summer Medium Hour Cook, CHHS/HL, current employee, effective summer 2025. **Leaves Ezra Herscovici,** Teacher, CA, requests medical leave from approximately. 3/24/25 for up to 12 weeks. **Rachel Weber,** Teacher, CA, requests medical leave for approximately. 3/3/25-6/12/25. **Cheimaa Yamache:** Teacher, HL, requests FMLA from 4/7/25 for up to 4 weeks. **Andre Nelson:** Teacher, CA, requests FMLA from 5/25/25 for up to 4 weeks. **Resignations/Terminations Blair Eckstrom:** Swim/Diving Coach (Boys and Girls), CHHS, effective 3/15/25. Reason: Resignation. **Rosa Amaya Marquez:** Educ Asst, HL, effective 5/1/25. Reason: End of Employment. **Melissa Roko:** Parent Educator, FC, effective 6/12/25. Reason: Resignation. **Revision to 3/25/25: Barb Charboneau:** LDM, NPSfI, effective 6/11/25. Reason: Retirement. *Withdrew retirement.*

Treasury Report February 2025
Minutes March 25, 2025, April 15, 2025,
Policies Second Reading

410- Family and Medical Leave

511- School Fundraising

713- Student Activity Accounting

720 Vending Machines

808- Water Safety. Motion carried unanimously.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Member Pettway introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT 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, the School Board of Columbia Heights Public Schools, Independent School District No. 13, resolves to accept with appreciation the \$31,483 monetary contributions detailed in the background.

DETAILED BACKGROUND:

Monetary

- Minnesota Vikings Football LLC donated \$12,000 to the Columbia Heights School District for Girls Flag Football.
- Ann & Scott Larson donated \$1,200 to the Columbia Heights Scholarship Fund for the Lahti Family.
- Cheryl Riggs donated \$1,000 to the Columbia Heights Scholarship Fund for the Class of 1976.
- Jean & Robert Richards and E & G Huble each donated \$25 to the Retired Staff Scholarship.
- Gerald Ryding donated \$600 to the Retired Staff Scholarship.
- Roger & Karen Sadlowsky, Wayne & Linda Kutzke, Steven & Paula Hall, Michelle Marie Edwardson, Elise Boquist, Janice Olsen, and Elane Narbo each donated \$100 to the Retired Staff Scholarship.
- Diane Roffler donated \$100 to the Retired Staff Scholarship in memory of Carolyn Custer.
- Randy and Kathy Kelly donated \$1,000 to the Retired Staff Scholarship.
- Philip Lundin & Susan Breun donated \$100 to the Retired Staff Scholarship in memory of Lynn Lundin.
- Leo & Catherine McAvoy and Carma Doege each donated \$250 to the Retired Staff Scholarship.
- Paul and Constance Hansen donated \$75 to the Retired Staff Scholarship.
- Ann Hennessey donated \$300 to the Retired Staff Scholarship in Memory of Betty Justin.
- Howard & Nance Hornibrook and Janet Larson each donated \$200 to the Retired Staff Scholarship.
- Andrea Cowell, Nicole & Marzen, Carolyn Bang, and Glenda Glore each donated \$50 to the Retired Staff Scholarship.
- Frances Eue donated \$250 to the Retired Staff Scholarship in memory of Bob Eue.
- Lindsey Lang, Kathy Welle, and Monarch Bus Service each donated \$2,000 to the Columbia Heights Scholarship Fund.
- Barbara Gavin donated \$1,000 to the Columbia Heights Scholarship Fund.
- Kathleen Doherty Kane and Harlan & Doris Downing each donated \$500 to the Retired Staff Scholarship.
- William & June Kuether Designated Fund donated \$5,000 to the Columbia Heights Scholarship Fund
- Jean & Robert Richards donated \$150 to the Columbia Heights Scholarship Fund.
- Scott & Laura Martinson donated \$875 to the Columbia Heights Scholarship Fund.
- Megan Adamski donated \$15 to the Columbia Heights Scholarship Fund.
- Carolyn Palyan donated \$505 to CHHS for Teachers and Staff.
- PDS Health and Collin Anderson each donated \$150 to help sponsor the Valley View Fun Run.
- Anonymous donation of \$438 to North Park for school supplies.
- The Blackbaud Giving Fund donated \$50 to Valley View for school use.
- The Valley View PTO donated \$200 to the Valley View Fun Run.

- Pam Sigurdson donated \$300 to the Retired Staff Scholarship Fund.
- Stephanie Nowak donated \$75 to the Retired Staff Scholarship Fund.

The total fiscal year 2024-2025 monetary contributions to date: \$102,341.

The motion for the adoption of the preceding resolution was duly seconded by Member Houle, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

Granlund –Aye, Houle-Aye, Medearis-Aye, Palmer-Aye, Pettway-Aye, Smith-Aye

The following voted against the same:

Thereupon, the said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Ms. Pettway attended the AMSD Board of Directors Meeting. Fine Arts night at North Park, BIPOC family advisory meeting, and the Work Session.

Ms. Medearis toured 916 school, Karner Blue, Work Session, Boys Volleyball game. Policy Subcommittee.

Ms. Granlund attended the PTO meeting at CA, the work session, the chair meeting, and the boys' volleyball game. Held many calls with Superintendent Stenvik

Ms. Smith attended the AMSD Directors Meeting, the Special Ed Law Conference, toured 916 Metro Heights, and the Work Session.

Ms. Houle attended the Work session, the Policy Subcommittee, and the Boys Volleyball inaugural season celebration.

Ms. Palmer attended the Work Session, Chair Meeting, and high school conferences.

Superintendent Report

Held several Administrative meetings and did much planning for the end of the school year. We have a lot of exciting events coming up this spring.

I have visited all of the schools, and it is amazing to see the growth and progress of our students. I think all of the 5th graders grew a couple of inches during spring break.

Director Hennekens and I presented to the Fridley/Columbia Heights Rotary Club.

Boys Volleyball event, thank you to the community.

Termination of Probationary Teacher Contracts Resolution- Resolution 2

Pursuant to MINN. Stat. §122A.40, Subd 5, the Board was asked to adopt the following resolution to terminate and non-renew the employment contracts of those probationary teachers listed therein. This is the second of two resolutions presented to the School Board for approval this school year.

Motion by Palmer, seconded by Smith, to adopt the following resolution to terminate and non-renew the employment contracts of probationary teachers listed therein.

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Independent School District 13

Columbia Heights, Minnesota

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Member Palmer introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE TERMINATION AND NONRENEWAL OF THE TEACHING CONTRACTS OF PROBATIONARY TEACHERS

WHEREAS, the following persons are probationary teachers in Independent School District No. 13:

(See list below)

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 13, that pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 122A.40, Subdivision 5, the teaching contracts of those persons listed on page two of this resolution, probationary teachers in Independent School District No. 13, are hereby terminated and not renewed at the close of the current 2024-2025 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that written notice be sent to said teachers regarding termination and non-renewal of their contract as provided by law, and that said notice shall be in substantially the following form:

NOTICE OF TERMINATION
AND NON-RENEWAL

Dear _____:

You are hereby notified that at a regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 13 held on April 22, 2025, a resolution was adopted to terminate your contract effective at the end of the current school year and not to renew your contract for the 2025-2026 school year. The said action of the Board is taken pursuant to M.S. 122A.40, Subd. 5.

PROBATIONARY TEACHERS

Sierra Beilby

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Board member Smith and, upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:
Granlund-Aye, Houle-Aye, Medearis-Aye, Palmer-Aye, Pettway-Aye, Smith-Aye

And the following voted against the same: None

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Revised 2024-2025 Budget

The School Board was presented with information on the district's 2024-2025 Revised Budget. This was reviewed in detail at the April 15th School Board Work Session.

Motion by Houle, seconded by Pettway, to approve the Revised Budget for the 2024-2025 school year.

BOARD TOPICS –

Granlund-Valley View Carnival, April 25; Teacher of the Year Jennifer Cahill, district-wide celebration, Tuesday, the 29th, at 4 PM in the Community Room.

Palmer- Expressions Art Show on May 21 & 22 at Silverwood

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed all the items on the regular agenda, Chair Granlund adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

May 13, 2025

Date minutes approved

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