



COLUMBIA HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Independent School District 13
Columbia Heights, Minnesota
Community Room

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

May 12, 2026

Chair Granlund called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

The Clerk called the roll.

Members present: Ms. Granlund, Ms. Houle, Ms. Medearis, Ms. Palmer, Ms. Pettway, Ms. Fodness-Bondhus, Superintendent Stenvik

Members absent: None

Mission Statement and Core Values

The Mission Statement, "Creating worlds of opportunity for each and every learner 'All Belong, All Succeed'", and Core Values: Community, Excellence, Collaboration, Integrity, Respect, Courage, Innovation, were reviewed.

Hylander Highlight

Daphne Kleinschmit placed 3rd at the Minnesota State High School League's Class AA State Speech Tournament in the Drama Category. Coaches Nick Hollerman and Rachel Mann spoke to the State Achievement.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Medearis, seconded by Pettway, to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor.
Motion passes.

Announcements

May 19, 5:30 Work Session, Community Room

May 26, 6:00 School Board Meeting, Community Room

June 16, 4:45 Subcommittee on Policy, Superintendent's Conference Room

June 16, 5:00 Subcommittee on Community Engagement, Community Room

June 16, 6:00 School Board Meeting, Community Room

Communication to the Board-None

Consent Agenda

Motion by Fodness-Bundus, seconded by Houle, to approve the action required to implement the items on the consent agenda. All in favor. Motion passes. Items approved included: Minutes - April 28, 2026, Policy First Reading - Substantive: 602- Organization of School Calendar and School Days and 621- Literacy and the READ Act

Personnel Report

Motion by Palmer, seconded by Granlund, to approve the Personnel Report 5.12.2026. Five in favor, Medearis abstained. Motion passes. **BACKGROUND: Licensed - Conditional Taylor Meyer:** Special Education Teacher, CA, rehire, step 5, lane 5 (BA+60), for 186 days for the 2026-2027 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to obtaining the appropriate license). **Cheimaa Yamache:** Special Education Teacher, HL, rehire, step 2, lane 6 (MA), for 186 days for the 2026-2027 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to obtaining the appropriate license). **Kalante Logan:** Special Education Teacher, CA, rehire, step 4, lane 1 (BA), for 186 days for the 2026-2027 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to obtaining the appropriate license). **Ella Sullivan:** PreK 4 Teacher, VV, rehire, step 5, lane 1 (BA), for 186 days for the 2026-2027 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to obtaining the appropriate license). **Abderrahamane Soum:** Engineering Teacher, CA, rehire, step 10, lane 7 (MA+15), for 186 days for the 2026-2027 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to obtaining the appropriate license). **Marilyn Saavedra Borges:** School Psychologist, District Wide, new hire, step 1, lane 4 (BA+45), for 189 days for the 2026-2027 school year (the conditional offer of employment is subject to obtaining the appropriate license and successful completion of a criminal background check). **Support Sandra Urgiles Loja:** Change to Education Assistant, FC/HL, 6.0 hours per day, effective 4/13/26. **Enma Celleri:** Change to Education Assistant, FC/HL, 6.5 hours per day, effective 4/13/26. **Coach/Advisor/Additional Assignment Lauren Mitchell:** Summer Programming ECFE Parent Educator/EC Screening/Home Visits, CE, current employee, effective summer 2026. **Olivia Timmons:** Summer Programming ECFE Teacher, CE, current employee, effective summer 2026. **Sandra Garzon:** Summer Programming Interpreter, CE, current employee, effective summer 2026. **Vilma Salas Faican:** Summer Medium Hour Cook, HL, current employee, effective summer 2026. **Chris Polley:** One Act Play Director, CHHS, current employee, effective 2026-2027 school year. **Tammy Kuglin:** Summer ENCORE Classroom Teacher, CHHS/HL, rehire, effective summer 2026. **Daniela Cervantes:** Summer ENCORE EL Classroom Teacher, CHHS/HL, current employee, effective summer 2026. **Stephanie Lindholm:** Summer ENCORE Classroom Teacher (Sub), CHHS/HL, current employee, effective summer 2026. **Zainab Fatah:** Summer Programming EA, CHHS/HL, current employee, effective summer 2026. **Sara Mercado:** Summer Seminar Teacher, CHHS, current employee, effective summer 2026. **Hannah Scheibe:** Summer Seminar Teacher, CHHS, current employee, effective summer 2026. **Amanda Rosemeyer:** ESY ECSE Teacher, FC, current employee, effective summer 2026. **Michelle Wermerskirchen:** Summer Programming EA, FC, current employee, effective summer 2026. **Margaret Pieters:** Summer ENCORE Classroom Teacher (6-8), CHHS/HL, current employee, effective summer 2026. **Abby Caballero:** Summer ENCORE Classroom Teacher, CHHS/HL, current employee,

effective summer 2026. **Tiffany Jiang:** Summer ENCORE Classroom Teacher, CHHS/HL, current employee, effective summer 2026. **Tanya Moore:** Summer Programming EA, CHHS/HL, current employee, effective summer 2026.

Resignations/Terminations **Aaron Goff:** Basketball Coach, CA, effective 4/24/26, Reason: Seasonal. **Sandy Shreve:** ECSE Teacher, ECSE, effective 6/11/26, Reason: Retirement. **Diana Morales Molina:** Educ Asst, HL, effective 5/11/26, Reason: Termination. **Naatii Ahmed:** Summer Adventure Club Asst, Comm Ed, effective 8/22/25, Reason: Seasonal

Reports from Members of the Board:

Fodness-Bondhus organized and attended the letter-writing event; 100 letters were written and sent out. Scholarship night at the high school. Final PTO meeting at Highland. May 27 end-of-year bash.

Granlund attended both days of the Junior Achievement, all three performances of the spring play, and the scholarship ceremony, an Amnesty International meeting, met with Jenna as her board mentor, Chair meeting, and subcommittee on Policy

Houle attended letter-writing. Subcommittee on community engagement and legislative action

Medearis-Thanking the legislative action committee for putting together the letter-writing event. Attended the high school play, volunteered at the Finance Park, and Biz Town event. Attended the Gratitude event at Valley View, PTO meetings at Highland and CA, Family Center Family event. Scholarship ceremony at the high school, the 6th-grade open house at CA. and the Subcommittee on Policy

Palmer attended the 916 Board Meeting and the Subcommittee of Policy

Pettway attended the Gratitude event, the High school play, the letter-writing event, and the subcommittee on community engagement and legislative action committee meeting.

Superintendent's Report:

Thank you to the School Board Legislative Action Committee for the letter-writing event. Staff from every school participated along with students, parents, and community members.

Attended the Scholarship event and have started touring our district schools with Member Fodness-Bondhus

Policy First Reading:

Motion made by Granlund, seconded by Palmer, to approve the policy for first reading. The Motion by Granlund, seconded by Palmer, to withdraw the motion to approve the Policy, for first reading. All in favor

The following Policies were reviewed at the April 28, 2026, Policy Subcommittee Meeting. These policies will be made available for staff and community input on the district webpage and brought before the Board for second-reading approval at a future Board meeting. **3-Year Cycle** Requires two readings: 517 Student Recruiting, 533- Wellness, 605-Alternative Educational Services, 611- Homeschooling

Federal ESSA Grants:

Tara Thukral, Director of Teaching and Learning, and Emily Gartner, Teaching and Learning Coordinator, presented preliminary funding for the Federal ESSA Grants for the 2026-2027 school year at the April 28 meeting. Motion by Pettway, seconded by Medearis, to approve the Federal ESSA Grants preliminary funding for the 2026-2027 school year. All in favor. Motion passes.

Board Topics

Palmer suggested that board members participate in the tours of 916 buildings and 916 programs at Century College.

Medearis has toured many of the 916 buildings, and it has been informative.

Closed Session

Motion by Fodness-Bondhus, seconded by Houle, to move to closed session, in accordance with MINN.STAT.13D.03, for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations. All in favor, Motion passes.

Return to Open Session

The Board returned to open session at 6:51

Adjournment

Motion by Houle, seconded by Fodness-Bondhus, to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 PM. All in favor. Motion passes.

May 26, 2026

Date minutes approved

Laura Palmer, Clerk, Board of Education
Independent School District 13