

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

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
June 16, 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.

Approval of Agenda

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

Announcements

June 19 District Closed

June 23, 5:30 Work Session, Community Room

June 30, 6:00 School Board Meeting, Community Room

August 18, 5:30 Work Session, Community Room

Communication to the Board-None

Consent Agenda

Motion by Houle, seconded by Fodness Bondhus, to approve the action required to implement the items on the consent agenda. All in favor. Motion passes. Items approved included:

Policy Second Reading: 506 Student Discipline, 508- Extended School Year For Certain Students with Individual Education Plans, **Minutes** – May 26, 2026, **Treasury Report** – April 2026,

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 \$24,436.68 in monetary contributions detailed in the background.

Monetary

- Anonymous donated \$300 to Columbia Heights Public Schools for general support.
- Anonymous donated \$2,275 to North Park for school supplies
- USTA Northern donated \$3,000, Community Tennis Grant, to the Activities Department.
- Hometown Ticketing donated \$5,737.46 from the Fridley Heights Softball Fundraiser.
- Hometown Ticketing donated \$625.09 from the CHHS Tennis Fundraiser.
- Rebyl donated \$1,389.85 to the North Park PE Department.
- Linda Zuidema donated \$500 to Valley View for student use.
- Columbia Heights Athletic Boosters donated 10,300 to the activities department to support Boys and Girls Soccer, the Synchro Team, Boys Tennis, the Football team, and Homecoming fireworks.
- Medtronic Foundation donated \$120 in Target Gift cards to Valley View for school use.
- Artstonia donated \$189.28 to North Park for North Park Art.

Value in Kind

- Carol Behning donated 2-6 packs and 4-12 packs of soda valued at \$29.40 to the CHHS Media Center for helping with the food shelf.
- The Columbia Heights Police Department donated 10 bikes, valued at \$1,250.
- The Fridley and Columbia Heights Rotary club donated 10 bike helmets to students at CHHS and CA, valued at \$250.
- Lisa Von Drasek donated 78 books valued at \$780 to Columbia Academy. Highland, Valley View, and North Park Libraries to provide a literary research collection.

The total fiscal year 2025-2026 monetary contributions to date: \$117,690.98

The motion for the adoption of the preceding resolution was duly seconded by Member Medearis, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Fodness-Bondhus- Aye, Granlund – Aye, Houle-Aye, Medearis- Aye, Palmer-Aye, Pettway-Aye

The following voted against the same: None

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

Mary Granlund, School Board Chair

Date: June 16, 2026

Reports from Members of the Board:

Fodness-Bondhus- attended track and field day at Highland, end-of-year celebration at Highland, New PTO members, Peace breakfast, Graduation,

Granlund attended the JFK Courage Award in Boston as a guest of Superintendent Stenvik. Spoke to Herbers' Civics class, helped at the senior party, attended the peace breakfast, and the graduation ceremony. The district will continue to strive to create a safe graduation experience for all participants. chair meeting held many conversations with multiple board members and community members

Houle – attended Graduation, conversation with community members, met with the Fridley City Council, discussed the overall effects on our finances, and our newest member and scholarship money for our students.

Remembering Columbia Heights Public School has students who reside in Fridley. financial update. Excited to tell them the fund balance policy: saving for future needs. We have grown the fund balance to help with the compensatory funding. Bond Rating: AA1, the best you can have.

Medearis- Participated in the attendance of the year celebration at Highland and the 5th-grade celebration, CA celebration, Track in the field event, Powwow, and watched from home the JFK ceremony. Stopped by the town hall at Columbia Academy. Peace breakfast, congrats to all the 2026 graduates. Ganlund and Palmer with their own graduates. Scope of and presence of the unnecessary alarm to our existing community members, the financial impact on our district, and question one: where our district stands and its effects on our budget

Palmer- 916 Board meeting, and graduation ceremony

Pettway- attended the Powwow, presented in Mr. Herbers' Civics Class, Valley View Fun run, attended the Peace breakfast, and the end-of-the-year celebration at Columbia Academy, graduation, and the chair meeting

Superintendent's Report:

I made it to three schools on the last day of the school year. The staff made the send-off really special for the kids. I appreciate all of the comments about Graduation. It's a fine balance between safety and security and providing a fun and welcoming event. I attended the MASA Spring Board meeting as the Region 9 representative. Among other topics, we discussed at length the question that will be on the ballot across Minnesota regarding a constitutional amendment to increase the Permanent School Fund. This isn't a topic that all voters are well-versed in. MSBA and other education organizations are compiling information for districts to use to educate the community on the topic. Some Board members will recall that we heard a presentation on this topic in March at the Day at the Capitol.

Looking ahead to the Fall, the Admin team is beginning to compile some of the data for the Vision 2030 strategic Plan reporting. Lastly, the auditors are on campus this week, beginning their preliminary work for the fiscal year 26 audit.

Legislative Update

Senator Mary Kunesh and Representative Sandra Feist presented updates on the 2026 legislative session. The Board thanked Sandra Feist for her service, as she is not running for re-election.

Representative Erin Koegel was unable to attend.

Memorandum of Understanding READ Act

Tara Thukral presented an updated READ Act Memorandum of Understanding. Approval will be part of the Consent Agenda on June 30, 2026.

Curriculum Update

Tara Thukral, Dir of Teaching and Learning, and Emily Gartner, presented the board with an update on curriculum. The presentation focused on the process for reviewing the 6-12 Health curriculum. With the recommendation to adopt the middle school and high school curriculum, HealthSmart. HealthSmart meets the National Health Standards. Approval will be sought on June 30, 2026.

District Radon Testing

Bryan Hennekens, Dir of Finance and Operations, presented information on Radon testing and results. According to Minnesota Statute 123.571, school districts that receive health and safety revenue to conduct radon testing must conduct the testing according to this 'Radon Testing Plan'. The Radon test results from Columbia Heights High School and North Park School for Innovation were below the action level, and therefore, no remediation is necessary at this time. This is a non-Governance informational update.

Operating Levy

Bryan Hennekens Dir of Finance and Operations, presented information on the Operating Levy. Throughout the year, the Board received information on the financial status of the District. May 19 and June 16, 2026 The Board was presented with information and results from a community survey regarding a possible operating levy. June 30, 2026, The Board will take action on a decision whether or not to approve an operating levy ballot question and specify the amount.

Workers Compensation Insurance Renewal

Bryan Hennekens, Director of Finance and Operations, presented information on Workers' Compensation Insurance through Marsh McLennan Agency with United Healthcare as the provider. Approval will be sought at the June 30, 2026, meeting.

Policy First Reading

The Policy subcommittee reviewed this policy at the May 12 meeting. The board will be asked to approve Policy 514-Bullying Prohibition Policy, including Cyberbullying, at a future meeting

Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Plan

The Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Plan was presented to the Board on May 26, 2026 Motion by Palmer, seconded by Houle, to approve the Long-term Facilities Maintenance Plan. All in favor. Motion passes.

District 916 - Long Term Facility Maintenance Plan

Member Palmer introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolution approving Northeast Metro 916 Intermediate School District's long-term facility maintenance program budget and authorizing the inclusion of a proportionate share of those projects in the district's application for fiscal year (FY) 2028 long-term facility maintenance revenue.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of School District No. 13, State of Minnesota, as follows:

1. The school board of Northeast Metro 916 Intermediate School District has approved a long-term facility maintenance program budget for its facilities for the 2027-2028 school year (Pay 2027 Levy) in the amount of \$600,500 of which School District No. 13's proportionate share is \$21,507.00 for pay as you go projects. The various components of this program budget are attached hereto and are incorporated herein by reference. Said budget is hereby approved.
2. Minnesota Statutes, Section 123B.595, subdivision 3, provides that if an intermediate school district's long-term facility maintenance budget is approved by the school boards of each of the intermediate school district's member school districts, each member district may include its proportionate share of the costs of the intermediate school district program in its long-term facility maintenance revenue application.
3. The proportionate share of the costs of the intermediate school district's long-term facility maintenance program for each member school district to be included in its application shall be determined by utilizing a blended rate where 25% of the rate is determined by multiplying the total cost of the intermediate school district long-term facility maintenance program times the ratio of the member school district's net tax capacity to the total net tax capacity and 75% of the rate is determined by multiplying the total cost of the intermediate school district long-term facility maintenance program times the ratio of APU by member district to the total APU. The inclusion of this proportionate share in the district's long-term facility maintenance revenue application for fiscal year 2028 is hereby approved, subject to approval by the Commissioner of Education. Upon receipt of the proportionate share of long-term facility maintenance revenue attributable to the intermediate school district program, the district shall promptly pay to the intermediate school district the applicable aid or levy proceeds.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Fodness-Bondhus, upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Fodness-Bondhus-Aye, Granlund-Aye, Houle-Aye, Medearis-Aye, Palmer-Aye, Pettway-Aye And the following voted against: none

WHEREUPON, said resolution was approved and adopted by the school board of School District No. 13. STATE OF MINNESOTA, COUNTY OF ANOKA

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting Clerk of School District No. 1-3, State of Minnesota, hereby certify that I have carefully compared the attached and foregoing extract of minutes of a meeting of Independent School District No. 13 held on the date therein indicated, with the original of said minutes on file in my office, and the same is a full, true and complete transcript insofar as the same relates to the approval of Northeast Metro 916

Intermediate School District's long-term facility maintenance program budget and authorizing
The inclusion of a proportionate share of the School District's long-term facility maintenance
projects in the district's application for long-term facility maintenance revenue.

WITNESS MY HAND officially as such Clerk on June 16, 2026.

Laura Palmer, Clerk, Independent School District No. 13.

Board Liaison to Schools July 1, 2026- June 30, 2027

The Board Liaison assignments for the 2026-2027 School year.

Early Childhood Center-Julie Houle

Highland Elementary -Jenna Fodness-Bondhus

North Park School for Innovation -Michelle Pettway

Valley View Elementary -Mary Granlund

Columbia Academy-Jessica Medearis

CHHS-Laura Palmer

Personal Report:

Motion by Palmer, seconded by Pettway, to approve the Personal Report 6.16.2026, Granlund abstains,
Fodness Bondhus Aye, Houle-Aye Medearis-Aye, Palmer- Aye, Pettway- Aye, Motion passes

Board Topics

Granlund- Hilltop Mayor Terry Wiggin has invited us to attend the Ice cream social on June 23. at 5:30-
7:30.

Medearis- weather permitting all the schools PTO's will be at the Art and Info Fair at Huset Park

Adjournment

Upon completing all agenda items, the meeting adjourned at 8:39 PM.

June 30, 2026

Date minutes approved

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