REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

BOARD OF EDUCATION

COLUMBUS COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Monday, July 28, 2025

The Board of Directors of Columbus Community School District convened its regular monthly board meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 28, 2025, at the Administration Building in Columbus Junction, Iowa.

Present were President Carol Zuniga, Vice-President Todd Heck (via Teams) and directors Andy White and Dan Heindel (via Teams). Stacy Storm was absent.

In addition, Superintendent Dr. Michael Volk and Business Manager and Board Secretary Neil Mills were present.

**Board Meeting**

**Agenda**

Andy White moved to approve the agenda.

Seconded by Todd Heck.

Ayes: four Nays: none. Carried.

**Citizen’s Comments**

There were no citizen’s comments at this meeting.

**Consent Agenda**

Andy White made a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Seconded by Todd Heck.

Ayes: four Nays: none. Carried.

Consent items were:

1. Financial Report

b. Minutes for June 23, 2025, meeting.

c. Bills

d.  Personnel

* Hire – Kayla Beenen – HS Assistant Volleyball Coach
* Hire – Torie Hansen – Assistant Girls Wrestling Coach (pending coaching authorization)
* Hire – Emilee Rooney Detolve – Elementary Strat 1
* Hire – Nicole Headington – 7-12 Art
* Hire – Aron Kehoe – District TAG
* Volunteer – Mike Gronewold – Volunteer JH Football

Andy White moved to approve the fundraisers.

Seconded by Dan Heindel.

Ayes: four Nays: none. Carried.

Fundraisers were:

* Cross County – XC Run-A-Thon – Steve Riley
* Cross Country – Donation Letter Writing Campaign – Steve Riley
* Athletic Dept – Sell Seat Cushions – Michael Aragon
* Athletic Dept – Sell T-shirts – Michael Aragon

**Reports**

Written administrative reports were submitted by Michael Aragon, Randy Phillips, Cassie Stewart, Paul Kissell and Dr. Volk.

Administrative Summary Reports - Information

Michael Aragon - Activity Director

* Summary: Aragon reported a strong start in his new role, highlighting efforts to connect with coaches, sponsors, administrators, and students to ensure a smooth launch to the school year. He has updated the district’s decade-old Activities Handbook and collaborated on successful baseball and softball post-season selections. Preparations for Homecoming are underway with Ms. Vergara, and new volleyball standards have been purchased for the upcoming season. The district’s digital presence has been modernized with engaging social media content, resulting in increased online engagement. Summer activities across multiple sports—including cross country, basketball, volleyball, and football—have been well-attended and reflect strong student participation and enthusiasm.

Liz Goodwin - Director of Teaching

* Summary: No report this month.

Randy Phillips - Operations Director

* Summary: Phillips reported that summer cleaning and construction projects are progressing well, with several projects already completed and others nearing completion in the coming weeks. Key facility upgrades include completed roof restorations, new Roundy Elementary windows, and ongoing fire and burglar alarm installations, which are ahead of schedule. Technology updates are also on track, with new phone and camera systems installed and most student and staff devices received. The district has successfully transitioned internet services under E-Rate and is awaiting final fiber approvals. Transportation inspections and maintenance are nearly complete, with the state inspection scheduled for August 21 and driver training planned for August 18. In Nutrition Services, the district was approved for the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program, and both kitchens have been deep cleaned in preparation for the school year.

Cassie Stewart - Elem Principal

* Summary: Stewart shared that preparations for the 2025-26 school year are progressing well. The elementary team successfully hired a new Special Education teacher and a TAG teacher to support student learning needs. Collaborative planning has taken place with the Special Education Director, and a Disability Suspect meeting was attended to ensure appropriate student interventions. Additionally, Stewart participated in student registration at the Tyson Plant to engage with families and support back-to-school readiness.

Paul Kissell - Secondary Principal

* Summary: Kissell reported a successful transition from Activities Director to 7–12 Principal, noting the smooth handoff to new Activities Director Michael Aragon, who is off to a strong start preparing for the 2025–26 athletic/activities seasons. Kissell is finalizing a new Field Trip and Transportation Request Form to improve efficiency and instructional continuity. Kissell also highlighted collaborative work with the PBIS team, area school districts through the Perkins Cohort, and AEA partners to develop the upcoming year’s professional development plan. Additional planning efforts have focused on DCAP support services, special education alignment, and staffing for the upcoming school year. Kissell expressed appreciation for the administrative team’s support and is focused on building strong systems to support students, staff, and families.

Michael Volk - Superintendent

* Summary: Volk reported that OPN Architects will begin conducting a comprehensive Facility Needs Assessment in August, evaluating both the physical and educational conditions of district buildings to support long-term planning and responsible resource management. Updates to the Activities and Staff Handbooks were highlighted, including a new policy clarifying funding expectations for national event trips and another outlining teacher absence guidelines for professional duties. The elementary and secondary student handbooks are also being finalized with updated language on personal electronic devices. Additional updates included progress on a refreshed district logo, upcoming adoption of new IASB school board policies, and professional development in-service plans for the start of the school year. Staffing vacancies remain for HS English, JH/HS Choir, and Elementary ESL positions.

Board reports were given by Dan Heindel and Carol Zuniga.

**Unfinished Business**

Andy White moved to increase Lori’s (Beenen) extended days from 5 to 10 days for FY26.

Seconded by Dan Heindel.

Ayes: four Nays: none. Carried.

**New Business**

Andy White moved to approve the purchase of nutrition equipment from Bowker Pinnacle Mechanical for $83,360.75.

Seconded by Todd Heck.

Ayes: four Nays: none. Carried.

Todd Heck left the meeting (via Teams) at 6:50.

Andy White moved to approve the 2025-2026 Columbus Staff Handbook.

Seconded by Dan Heindel.

Ayes: three Nays: none. Carried.

Andy White moved to approve a six-month interfund loan from the general fund to the activity fund in the amount of $14,725.00.

Seconded by Dan Heindel.

Ayes: three Nays: none. Carried.

Andy White moved to approve the dual credit classes as listed.

Seconded by Dan Heindel.

Ayes: three Nays: none. Carried.

Dual credit classes approved:

Online

ECN120 Principles of Macroeconomics

HSC113 Medical Terminology

BIO151 Nutrition

MAT156 Statistics

SPC112 Public Speaking

MUS100 Music Appreciation

PSY111 Intro to Psychology

BIO168 Human Anat & Phys I

ENG105 Composition I

CRJ130 Criminal Law

SOC110 Intro to Sociology

CSC110 Intro to Computers

PSY121 Developmental Psychology

HIS231 Contemporary World Affairs

EDU213 Intro to Education

ANT105 Cultural Anthropology

Career Academies

HCM100 Sanitation and Safety

HCM154 Basic Food Prep

HCM180 Food Fundamentals

HCM932 Culinary Internship

CRJ 100 Intro to Criminal Justice

CRJ101 Ethics in Criminal Justice

ACC-142 Financial Accounting

EDU235 Children's Literature

HIS151 US History to 1877

AGS315 Principles of Animal Nutrition

AGC918 Ag Seminar

AGA210 Corn & Soybean Production

AGS352 Genetics

Andy White moved to approve the FY26 Activity Handbook.

Seconded by Dan Heindel.

Ayes: three Nays: none. Carried.

Andy White moved to choose Student Achievement, Early Literacy, Supplemental State Aid, and Sharing and Reorganization as our legislative priorities for IASB for FY26.

Seconded by Dan Heindel.

Ayes: three Nays: none. Carried.

Andy White moved to adjourn.

Seconded by Dan Heindel.

Ayes: three Nays: none. Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.

The next meeting will be on August 25, 2025, at 6:00pm.

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Carol S. Zuniga, School Board President

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Neil A. Mills, School Board Secretary

Approved Bills:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 4-M Plumbing & Heating | Purchase Service | 905.59 |
| Acco Unlimited Corp | Supplies | 3,478.63 |
| Agriland FS, INC. | Fuel Purchases | 1,257.48 |
| Ahlers & Cooney, P.C. | Legal Services | 4,313.00 |
| Air Management | Supplies | 5,724.51 |
| All American Pest Control | Pest Control Services | 660.00 |
| Alliant Energy | Utilities | 19,931.15 |
| Anderson Erickson Dairy | Milk Purchases | 910.75 |
| Apple Computer, Inc. | Technology | 57,303.50 |
| Arbiter Sports, LLC | Renewal | 1,259.25 |
| ASPi Solutions, Inc. | Renewal | 126.00 |
| Beck Engineering, Inc. | Purchase Service | 2,576.00 |
| Blick, Dick | Supplies | 331.19 |
| BMO Harris Bank N.A. | Supplies/Travel | 5,062.85 |
| BSN Sports | Supplies | 2,362.35 |
| Cambium Assessment | Assessment Fees | 6,065.50 |
| Carlson, Jim | Official | 131.96 |
| Carolina Biological Supply | Supplies | 66.42 |
| Carquest of Muscatine | Supplies | 330.36 |
| CDW Government Inc | Technology | 570.85 |
| Cedar Rapids CSD | Open Enrollment | 5,689.34 |
| Central Iowa Distributing | Supplies | 1,602.00 |
| Character Strong | Curriculum | 8,247.00 |
| ClaimAid | Medicaid Fees | 3,838.88 |
| Clayton Ridge Community School District | Open Enrollment | 11,856.22 |
| College Community School District | Open Enrollment | 739.16 |
| Columbus Community School District | Reimbursement | 34,436.21 |
| Columbus Gazette | Publications | 473.56 |
| Columbus Jct. Auto Supply | Supplies | 103.46 |
| D&N Fence Company | Purchase Service | 49,903.00 |
| Demco | Supplies | 199.80 |
| DHS Cashier 1st FL. | Medicaid- State Portion | 37,174.18 |
| Dusty Nelson Masonry | Purchase Service | 300.00 |
| Eastern Iowa Tire- Burlington | Tire Purchases | 275.80 |
| Economart | Supplies | 587.53 |
| Eldon Stutsman, INC. | Supplies | 167.18 |
| Electronic Engineering | Technology | 30,626.59 |
| FBG Service Corporation | Janitorial Services | 26,621.00 |
| Fisher Metals & Recycling | Purchase Service | 1,446.50 |
| Floral Gallery | Supplies | 240.00 |
| Follett Library Resources | Supplies | 16.32 |
| Follett Software Company | Renewal | 2,838.08 |
| Grainger | Supplies | 1,690.40 |
| Hall, Kim | Official | 130.40 |
| Hawkeye Fire & Safety | Purchase Service | 196.00 |
| ICAOA | Official Fees | 250.00 |
| Independence Community School District | Open Enrollment | 4,348.00 |
| Iowa High School Music Assoc | Membership Dues | 25.00 |
| Iowa River Sanitation | Garbage Services | 645.00 |
| IP Pathways | Technology | 1,400.00 |
| iPROMOTEu | Supplies | 581.01 |
| Jamison, Samantha | Official | 125.00 |
| Johnson Controls | Purchase Service | 874.84 |
| Krafka Lawn & Landscape | Purchase Service | 97,749.00 |
| Kuder | Renewal | 2,575.00 |
| L & M School District | 28E- Transportation Repairs | 1,459.80 |
| L.J. Roth | Purchase Service | 7,500.00 |
| Lone Tree CSD | Open Enrollment | 50,439.12 |
| Louisa County Sheriff | 28E- SRO | 20,144.18 |
| Luther College | Cross Country Travel | 2,584.00 |
| Marco | Copier Leases | 2,265.03 |
| Mclaughlin, Adam | Official | 150.92 |
| Medicom | Telephone Services | 752.79 |
| MH Equipment | Purchase Service | 2,017.91 |
| Mississippi Bend AEA 9 | Purchase Service/Supplies | 35,464.44 |
| MV Learning LLC | Renewal | 1,996.00 |
| Mystery Science Inc. | Renewal | 1,999.00 |
| Poch, Bill | Official | 137.96 |
| ProLine Striping Inc. | Purchase Service | 10,148.00 |
| Quill Corp | Supplies | 150.16 |
| R.M. Boggs Co. | Purchase Service | 989.96 |
| Refreshment Services Pepsi | Pool Concession Supplies | 464.48 |
| Riverside Technologies Inc | Technology | 160,010.27 |
| S.A.I. | Membership Dues | 615.00 |
| Scholastic, Inc | Supplies | 178.64 |
| School Bus Sales | Repairs/Supplies | 1,078.56 |
| School Date Books | Supplies | 1,226.42 |
| School Specialty Supply | Classroom Furniture | 690.54 |
| Schwab Electric | Purchase Service | 733.41 |
| ScoreVision | Renewal | 5,500.00 |
| Shemanski, David | Official | 144.98 |
| Sinclair Tractor | Supplies | 97.28 |
| Summit Companies | Purchase Service | 1,780.00 |
| Symmetry Energy Solutions, LLC | Utilities | 137.18 |
| Time Management Systems, Inc. | Renewal | 2,660.00 |
| Tobii Dynavox | Renewal | 1,611.90 |
| Typing.com LLC | Renewal | 329.70 |
| Vetter Culligan Water | Supplies | 68.38 |
| West Music Company | Supplies//Repairs | 226.49 |
| Windstream | HS Fax Line | 99.39 |
| Yerington, Kaden | Official | 133.81 |
|  |  | 757,324.50 |
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