

**Executive Director**  
Julie M. Henderson, Ed. D.

**Board of Directors**  
Charlayne Myers, Board Chair  
Miguel Mendez  
Jeffrey Rainey  
John Slavik  
Christina Ferrell  
Fardowsa Jama  
Nekey Oliver

**Hennepin Schools**  
2123 Clinton Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55404  
Office: (612) 843-5050 | Fax: (612) 871-2406  
[info@hennepinschools.org](mailto:info@hennepinschools.org)  
[www.hennepinschools.org](http://www.hennepinschools.org)



## 2021 Board Candidates Biographies

**February 26, 2021**

***Dear Parents, Staff, and Board Members;***

On March 4 and 5, 2021, the Board members, parents/guardians, and staff of Hennepin Schools will have the opportunity to vote in a non-contested election of the following two candidates.

For Community Board Member:

**Ms. Ruqia Abdi**

Ruqia Abdi was born in Mogadishu, Somalia and came to the US in 2000. She is an author and speaker. Her mission is to transform the lives of parents and youth by educating them to be better. *It takes a village to raise a child.* Ms. Abdi wants to re-create that village by providing cultural training to educators, social workers, and counselors and by engaging Somali parents in culturally relevant parenting workshops.



Ms. Abdi earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Child Development from Walden University in 2016. Since then, she has been working as an advocate for women and children in the Somali community. Ms. Abdi is a published author of the book, **Better Parenting**, and the Somali version, **Ilmakorinta Habboon**.

For Parent Board Member:

**Mr. Alawi Munye**

Mr. Munye is a parent at Hennepin Schools. He is a father of a kindergartener and a second grader currently enrolled at Hennepin Schools. Mr. Munye has been involved as a parent with Hennepin schools for almost three years. He loves the education and the organization of the school and that the school really takes care and helps the kids. A solid education for all students is the number one priority for Mr. Munye.

For any questions or concerns please email at: [hselections2021@hennepinschools.org](mailto:hselections2021@hennepinschools.org) or call: 612-812-1367

Thank you,

**Lulzim (Luli) Axhijaj**, HS Election Commissioner/Consultant