

Executive Director
Julie M. Henderson, Ed. D.

Board of Directors
Dr. Charlayne Myers, Board Chair
Mr. Miguel Mendez
Mr. John Slavik
Ms. Christina Ferrell
Ms. Ruqia Abdi
Ms. Alma Iglesias

Hennepin Schools
2123 Clinton Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55404
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2022 Board Candidates Biographies

February 25, 2022

Dear Parents, Staff, and Board Members:

On March 3 and 4, 2022, the Board members, parents/guardians, and staff of Hennepin Schools will have the opportunity to vote in an election for the following candidates. Remember there is one community board member; one teacher board member, and two parent board member positions up for election.

For Community Board Member:

Dr. Charlayne Myers

I currently am President of the Hennepin School Board and have held that position for 5 years. In my role, I led the Board's successful purchase of the property at 1001 46th Street East in Minneapolis, the building that will house all grades, pre-kindergarten through eighth grade in the fall of 2022. Under my leadership the Board has established Board goals, developed a balanced budget, and supported the administration and staff in providing a high quality learning



experience for all students and encouraged parent/family communications. I am interested in continuing my Board role with Hennepin Schools as we settle into the new building creating an exciting home for students.

I have worked in public education for more than 30 years, teaching elementary and middle school. I have also been a professor at Hamline University. Quality education for all students is important to me. I want to continue to encourage and support high quality learning for Hennepin School Students. Please vote for me.

For Teacher Board Member:

Mr. John Slavik

Mr. Slavik is currently a physical education and health teacher at Hennepin Schools. His passion is in education and helping students succeed. Mr. Slavik has taught at HES and was part of the HMS expansion efforts in 2018. He has been instrumental in the after school programming at HMS and has managed several school sporting events over the years. Mr. Slavik has served as a Teacher Board Member and Secretary and is eligible to run for his second three year term.

For Parent Board Member:

Ms. Kaltun Abdi

My name is Kaltun Abdi, and I am a graduate of Minneapolis Community and Technical College with Associate degree in Nursing LPN/RNA. I have many years of experiences in private and public sector. I am a candidate for Hennepin Schools Board member for this year, I have decided to support our schools and seek parents, staff and students support and endorsement for 2022

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term. In order to earn that support, I will work very hard on your behalf and wish to take this opportunity to outline some of goals I want accomplish as school board member if elected:

- I want to increase equity among students and improved instructional programming to the Hennepin Schools.
- I want help increase academic proficiency for all students including English and Spanish speaking students.
- I want help to increase teacher diversity through intensive recruitment efforts and by retaining many of our culturally diverse staff.
- I want to help Hennepin Schools develop as welcoming and safe for immigrants and all families, ensuring school values of cultural diversity and linguistic assets are preserved for our communities.
- I will support Hennepin Schools new building, sports and extra curriculum activities projects.
- I will strongly support developing a balanced Hennepin Schools budget.
- I will work hard for an improved, culturally-responsive instructional programming.
- Finally, I want support Special Education program.

With your help and support, I will do my best to be a dedicated school board member, and I will appreciate and support administration's great leadership and teachers' great work in the classrooms. I will encourage progress in our educational offerings allowing even more students to feel welcomed and respected. I wish to work with other board members as well, and will do all I can to continue making our schools better than ever!

For Parent Board Member:

Mr. Aziz Aqib

Mr. Aqib is a parent at Hennepin Schools. He is currently the Director at Minnesota Youth Integration, Minneapolis, MN. He really appreciates the quality of education at Hennepin Schools and is interested to join the Hennepin Board to support the mission and quality of education for all the students.

For any questions or concerns please email at: hselections2022@hennepinschools.org or call: 612-812-1367

Thank you,

Lulzim (Luli) Axhijaj, HS Election Commissioner, Educational Leadership Consultant