



Hennepin Schools

1001 E. 46th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55407
OFFICE: (612) 843-5050 FAX: (612) 871-2406
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www.hennepinschools.org

Board of Directors

Charlayne Myers, Board Chair
Miguel Mendez
Christina Lacina
John Slavik
Alma Iglesias
Kaltun Abdi
Aziz Aqib

2023 Board Candidates Biographies

February 10, 2023

Dear Parents, Staff, and Board Members;

On February 15, 16 and 17, 2023, the Board members, parents / guardians, and staff of Hennepin Schools will have the opportunity to vote in an election of the following candidates. There are three (3) seats open and four candidates. The teacher board member seat is contested. The other two are not.

For Community Board Member:

Mr. Khalid Omar

I am interested in becoming a board member because of my passion for education and the well-being of students. My background in education, combined with my undergraduate degree in social work, has equipped me with a unique perspective on the challenges faced by educational institutions and the importance of providing students with quality education. As a community organizer, I understand the unique challenges families face and believe I can bring a valuable perspective to the board.

For Teacher Board Member:

Ms. Christina Lacina



My name is Christina Lacina, and I am running for the teacher school board member position. I have been a third grade teacher at Hennepin since 2019. In addition to my teaching position, I am currently serving as a teacher member, and treasurer of Hennepin Schools school board. After the purchase of our beautiful new building, I had the opportunity to serve on the New Building Task Force where I was able to help support the process of remodeling and moving to the new building. I would like to continue to support the mission of Hennepin Schools by continuing to advocate for students, families, and staff.



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For Teacher Board Member:

Mr. Mahdi Nur



I live in the midway of St. Paul and have been extensively involved in community engagement, activism, advocacy, and educational initiatives. I have been a Minneapolis Legal Aid board member for four years, Lighthouse school board member for three years, and board chair of the Muslim American Society for nine years. In these sixteen years of leadership experience, I played many leadership roles and contributed to the vision and goals for the future success of these organizations. I have been a social work mental health practitioner for the last twenty years by helping many parents and their children to change their lives. My education level is a Master's degree in journalism and social work, and I love social work for helping and changing lives. I am currently a school social worker at Hennepin Schools. I am the father of ten children, five daughters, and five sons, three are married and six are in school, one is a business owner and three graduated as professional nurses and teachers. I am running for the board to have an active role in the process and contribute to the vision and goals for the future function of the Hennepin Schools. I can represent different communities; ensure that others have a voice in making educational and administrative decisions, and support students, teachers, administration, and staff to preserve and improve the quality of Hennepin school's education and achievement gap.

For Parent Board Member:

Ms. Alma Iglesias

Alma Iglesias was born in Tuxpan, Veracruz and has lived in the United States (Texas, Idaho, and Minnesota) for many years. She is a mother and a homemaker who completed some college level courses in her home country. Ms. Iglesias wants to be on the Hennepin Schools board to be involved in her children's schools. As well, she wants to be a voice and a vote for other parents, and she wants to continue to learn. Ms. Iglesias has two children at Hennepin Schools. Ms. Iglesias has worked in various businesses both back home and here in the States, including private banking and factory work. She served on the Sleepy Eye Head Start Board from 2008 to 2009. Ms. Iglesias will be running for the seat she currently holds as a parent board member.