

**CHRISTIAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
HOPKINSVILLE, KENTUCKY**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2020
6:00 P.M.**

VIRTUAL REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The Christian County Board of Education met virtually on Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. for a Regular Board Meeting - Live Streamed and Viewable at: www.christian.kyschools.us.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Linda Keller, Chairperson

Mr. Tom Bell, Vice-Chair

Ms. Susan Hayes

Mr. Lindsey Clark

Mr. Jeff Moore

Mr. Chris Bentzel, Superintendent and Board Secretary

Also present: Mr. Jack Lackey, Jr., School Board Attorney; Administrators;
Virtual Viewers

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

ACTION/ITEMS

RECOGNITION:

CCPS “ALL IN” Student and Employees of the Month:

- A) *Samaria Sims* – Student of the Month, Gateway Academy
- B) *Melissa Adams* - Elementary Teacher of the Month,
Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School
- C) *Grant Jones* - Secondary Teacher of the Month,
Hopkinsville High School

- D) *Barbara Meriwether* - Classified Employee of the Month,
Pembroke Elementary School
- E) *Arnelle Wesley* - Administrator of the Month, Principal, Virtual
Learning Academy

A Special thank you to Christian County Chamber of Commerce and Education Development for being our “ALL IN” Sponsor for September 2020.

**INVOCATION
PLEDGE
CALL TO ORDER**

The Invocation was given by Mr. Clark, with the prayer by Mr. Moore, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Keller called the meeting to order at 6:20 P.M.

**#55 APPROVAL
OF AGENDA**

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Hayes, to approve the Agenda as presented (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Hayes, Mr. Moore,
Mr. Bell, Ms. Keller

Voting No: NONE

**COMMUNICATIONS/
VISITORS AND
OPEN FORUM**

None

PRESENTATIONS:

BACK TO SCHOOL AND REOPENING PLAN UPDATE
Chris Bentzel, Superintendent; Laura Morris, Assistant Superintendent of Administration and Zach Hibbs, District Assessment Coordinator, were present to give the Board an update on the Back to School and Reopening Plan.

Ms. Morris started the presentation by stating CCPS currently has 8,500 total students enrolled with 2,897 currently in Virtual Learning Academy. Teachers and staff are reaching out to families to address any concerns and questions of students enrolled in VLA. All schools with in person instruction are following safe at school guidelines. District Administrators have been in the schools on numerous occasions and students are doing an amazing job wearing their masks and adhering to all the new guidelines. School leadership teams have done an amazing job getting our schools back in session. Weekly meetings are continuing with the Christian County Health Department and our partnership with them is strong. On Monday, Governor Beshear updated districts on new reporting requirements for COVID19 numbers per district. Christian County will be prepared to adhere to that new reporting requirement effective September 28.

Mr. Hibbs gave the board an update on local and state COVID-19 data. Mr. Hibbs stated he is also tracking data from counties who have opened to in-person and/or hybrid instruction over the last couple of weeks. Mr. Hibbs also gave the board a snapshot of active COVID-19 and/or persons who are quarantined that effect CCPS students and/or staff. CCPS currently has 24 active cases of COVID-19 and 188 persons quarantined.

Mr. Bentzel explained in detail a situation at HHS, CCHS and Indian Hills that caused several student quarantines. He feels they have mitigated each situation. Due to the CCHS and HHS situations, the decision was made to postpone the CCHS vs. HHS football game that was scheduled for tomorrow night. Mr. Bentzel stated that CCPS is ready to go to a non-traditional learning program at any time they may have to close schools due to an outbreak. He also stated if for any reason a school is closed to in-person instruction for a given amount of time, the district will also cancel all extracurricular activities for that school during that period. Mr. Bentzel stated the District also sent a letter out today to student athletes that states if a

student is under quarantine or a close contact to a positive case and they do not report it to the district – they will be removed from extracurricular activities for the remainder of the year.

NEXT GENERATION SUPERINTENDENT EFFECTIVENESS STANDARDS: STANDARD 1

Chris Bentzel, Superintendent, was present to give the Board an update on his progress of Standard 1 on the Next Generation Superintendent Effectiveness Standards.

As a first year Superintendent, he must meet requirements of a Capstone presentation to the Board of Education in May. In that Capstone he must be evaluated on all seven leadership standards of the Next Generation Superintendent Effectiveness Standards. Every month Mr. Bentzel will highlight a different standard and go over evidence that he has been collecting. He reviewed Standard 1 – Strategic Leadership.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Hayes – School nurses are working hard every day. Mrs. Kidd is working very hard as District Health Director.

Mr. Clark – no new information from State Representatives. The district held their first Local Planning Committee Meeting on Monday. The meeting was informational and we have good representation on the committee. Mr. Clark will keep the Board updated as more meetings occur.

Mr. Moore – PBIS committee has not met yet, but will in October.

Mr. Bell – He is on a new community committee that is working on equity and diversity. The committee is just beginning its meetings and Mr. Bell will keep the Board updated on its work.

**#56 DISCUSSION/
APPROVAL
TO SET THE
FY2020-21
REAL
PROPERTY
TAX RATE;
FY2020-21
PERSONAL
PROPERTY
TAX RATE;
FY2020-21
MOTOR
VEHICLE
TAX RATE;
2020-21
PERMISSIVE
UTILITY TAX;
AND, EXEMPT
TAX ON AIRCRAFT
AND WATERCRAFT**

Following a presentation by Jessica Darnell, Director of Finance, motion by Mr. Bell, second by Mr. Moore, to approve no changes in the tax rate and set the FY2020-2021 Real Property Tax Rate at 42.8%; the FY2020-2021 Personal Tax Rate at 42.8%; FY2020-2021 Motor Vehicle Tax Rate at 56.6%; FY2020-2021 Permissive Utility Tax at 3%; and Exempt Tax Aircraft and Watercraft (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Bell, Mr. Moore, Mr. Clark,
Ms. Hayes, Ms. Keller

Voting No: NONE

**#57 DISCUSSION/
APPROVAL
WORKING
BUDGET
FOR
2020-2021
SCHOOL
YEAR**

Following a Power Point presentation by Chris Bentzel, Superintendent and Jessica Darnell, Director of Finance, motion by Ms. Hayes, second by Mr. Moore, to approve the Working Budget for 2020-2021 School Year (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference).

Voting Yes: Ms. Hayes, Mr. Moore, Mr. Bell,
Mr. Clark, Ms. Keller

Voting No: NONE

- #58 DISCUSSION/ APPROVAL** **Motion by Mr. Bell, second by Mr. Clark, to approve Pay Application Three (3) in the Amount of \$74,416.50 for PAY APPLICATION South Christian Roof Project (a copy of which is THREE (3) IN THE attached and the terms of which are incorporated by AMOUNT OF reference.)**
\$74,416.50 **Voting Yes: Mr. Bell, Mr. Clark, Mr. Moore, Ms. Hayes, Ms. Keller**
FOR SOUTH
CHRISTIAN
ROOF PROJECT **Voting No: NONE**
- #59 DISCUSSION/ APPROVAL** **Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Hayes, to approve the Change Order One (1) in the Decreased Amount of \$9,400.00 for South Christian Reroof Project (a copy of which is ORDER attached and the terms of which are incorporated by ONE (1) reference.)**
IN THE
DECREASED **Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Hayes, Mr. Bell, Mr. Moore, Ms. Keller**
AMOUNT OF
\$9,400.00
FOR SOUTH **Voting No: NONE**
CHRISTIAN
REROOF
PROJECT
- #60 CONSENT** **Motion by Mr. Bell, second by Ms. Hayes, to AGENDA approve the following Consent Agenda:**

 (All exhibits are attached to the minutes)
- A) Financial Matters:**
- 1. Approval of Monthly Financial Reports and Authorize Payment of Bills**
 - 2. Other**
- B) Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting held August 20, 2020 and Special Board Meeting/Workshop on September 3, 2020**

- C) Approval School Related Fund Raiser Requests
- D) Approval Non-Resident Student Contracts for Trigg County Public Schools for 2021-2022
- E) Approval Non-Resident Student Contracts for Hopkins County Public Schools for 2021-2022
- F) Approval Non-Resident Student Contracts for 2021-2022 for Caldwell, Dawson Springs, Todd, Muhlenberg, Logan, Russellville Independent and other Neighboring Districts, if Applicable
- G) Discussion/Approval Non-Resident Tuition for Out of State Employee's Children for 2021-2020
- H) Approval 2019-2020 Donations to Activity Funds
- I) Acknowledgement Receipt of Personnel Matters/Reports
- J) Establish Next Regular Meeting for October 15, 2020, 6:00 P.M. in the Board Room at the Central Office
- K) Other

Voting Yes: Mr. Bell, Ms. Hayes, Mr. Moore,
Mr. Clark, Ms. Keller

Voting No: NONE

**INDIVIDUAL BOARD
MEMBER AND
SUPERINTENDENT
COMMENTS
AND CONCERNS**

MR. BELL

Mr. Bell stated he was excited about the "ALL IN" awards. He feels it is not just a slogan, but he can feel the momentum within the district. Staff are stepping up and making this new normal work. He thanked the Chamber of Commerce for being the "ALL IN" sponsor this month. Mr. Bell is happy that the board meetings are now streamed online – it gives transparency to the community. He is looking forward to the rescheduled HHS vs. CCHS football game on October 30.

MS. HAYES

Ms. Hayes has enjoyed being back in the board room and seeing all the faces of CCPS, all of our employees are the hardest working people she knows. Everyone is continuing to work out impossible problems and come through on the other side. Due to factors beyond her control, she did not run for re-election but wishes she could sit on the board at least one more year to see this through and get on the other side of it.

MR. MOORE

Mr. Moore thanked everyone for keeping student's safe and mitigating the issue at HHS, CCHS and Indian Hills. He feels we are prepared if an outbreak occurs and we need to return to non-traditional instruction. He thanked Mr. Bentzel for the updates the Board members receive on a daily basis. It has truly been a joint effort to return students to the classroom and keep them safe. It's very important that we stay focused and stay on track.

MR. CLARK

Mr. Clark appreciates all educators for their efforts in these trying times. We are being thrown curve balls, but we continue to hit them out of the park. Mr. Clark understands they we may have to adjust the plan as needed, but it is a great plan that we will continue and move forward with.

MS. KELLER

Ms. Keller thanked everyone for their hard and never ending work. Teachers are sometimes having double the work. Just remember that students are benefiting from everything we are doing and that is why we are here. She thanked the students for stepping up and complying with all the new regulations. Ms. Keller is excited as well about the "ALL IN" awards. One of the recipients of the award tonight, Melissa Adams, is the daughter of Martha Petty, who was Ms. Keller's teacher. Ms. Petty is now deceased but was a great educator and made lifelong connections with her students and it is clear that her

daughter Melissa is doing the same. She thanked Mr. Bentzel for his constant communication over the last couple of weeks and his complete transparency. We will keep moving forward, one day at a time and deal with situations as they arise.

MR. BENTZEL

Mr. Bentzel thanked parents for their patience during this time. He understands parents are missing a lot – walking their students in school, taking pictures, etc. Mr. Bentzel thanked community members for all their support over the last several weeks. The Chamber of Commerce just completed their Back to School Staff Meals to every school site, including Virtual Learning Academy staff members. Mr. Bentzel thanked the Chamber for also being the first sponsor of the “ALL IN” recognitions and providing gift cards to the recipients. He also thanked the Health Department for their partnership. They have been instrumental in getting the students back into the classroom. He thanked Megan Kidd – she is working tirelessly on situations as they occur. Mr. Bentzel stated most importantly – the students have been phenomenal and they are the most important aspect of why we are doing what we are doing.

#61 ADJOURN

Motion by Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Clark, to Adjourn
(7:24 P.M.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Moore, Mr. Clark, Mr. Bell,
Ms. Hayes, Ms. Keller

Voting No: NONE

APPROVED CHAIRPERSON _____

APPROVED SECRETARY _____