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

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

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

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

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

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, and Virtual Viewers

**ACTION/ITEMS**

RECOGNITION:

CCPS "ALL IN" Student and Employees of the Month:

A) *McKenna Fisher* – Student of the Month, Hopkinsville Middle School

B) *Emily Russell* - Elementary Teacher of the Month, Crofton Elementary School

C) *Robert Lee* - Secondary Teacher of the Month, Virtual Learning Academy

**D)** ***Demetrias Green*** **- Classified Employee of the Month, Bus Driver**

**E)** ***Dana Gary*** **- Administrator of the Month, Pembroke Elementary School**

**A Special Thank You To**
***Tom Bell, State Farm Insurance*****,**
**For Being Our "ALL IN" Sponsor For December 2020.**

**F)** ***Linda Keller*** **– Service to the Christian County Board of Education**

**G)** ***Sue Hayes*** **– Service to the Christian County Board of Education**

**INVOCATION** — **The Invocation was given by Ms. Hayes, with the prayer by Mr. Bell, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**PLEDGE**

**CALL TO ORDER** — **Ms. Keller called the meeting to order at 6:26 P.M.**

**#97 APPROVAL OF AGENDA** — **Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Hayes, to approve the Agenda with the following addition and correction:**

**Addition of the following:**

***New #6 – Discussion/Approval Vaccine Mandate and Recession of 10 Day COVID Leave Resolution as long as the COVID Vaccine is Reasonably Available***

***New #7 – Discussion/Approval 2020-2021 Calendar Revision; Melanie Barrett, Director of Pupil Personnel***

**Correction to New #10:**

***Discussion/Approval of School Security Funds Request in the Amount of $70,656 in Order to Fund the Security Vestibules at Millbrooke Elementary, Indian Hills Elementary, Bluegrass Learning Academy and Gateway.***

**(a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)**

**Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Hayes, Mr. Bell, Mr. Moore, Ms. Keller**
**Voting No: NONE**

**COMMUNICATIONS/ VISITORS AND OPEN FORUM**

None

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**DELTA HEALTH CARE SERVICES GRANT**

Penny Knight, Principal, Gateway Academy, was present to discuss a new pathway that will be available at Gateway in August 2021 (a copy of which is attached to the minutes).

Gateway Academy to Innovation and Technology has been selected to participate in a USDA Delta Health Care Services grant in partnership with Madisonville Community College, Hopkinsville Community College and West Area Health Education Center. The grant will allow CCPS to expand the Health Science Program at Gateway Academy by adding an EMT pathway that will filter into the 1st Paramedic Pathway through Madisonville Community College starting in August 2021.

**SAFE SCHOOLS WEEK PLEDGE**

Chris Bentzel, Superintendent, was present and excited to announce that Christian County Public Schools had 4,142 participates in the Healthy Habits Safety Pledge with Kentucky Center of Safe Schools, which made the district number one in state participation.

**TEACHER RECRUITMENT**

Beverly Fort, Teacher Recruiter, was present to give the board an update of Teacher Recruitment in Christian County. Mrs. Fort stated Christian County is working on three phases of recruitment:

Phase One: Keep the Teachers We Have
Phase Two: Recruit Teachers to CCPS
Phase Three: Grow Our Own Teachers

Mrs. Fort discussed in depth each phase. She also revealed the new teacher recruitment video that will be used at recruitment fairs, etc.

**FINANCE UPDATE**

Chris Bentzel, Superintendent and Jessica Darnell, Director of Finance were present to provide the Board with a finance update (a copy of which is attached to the minutes.)

Mrs. Darnell stated at every regular board meeting the Board will be updated with a copy of the current month's Treasurer's Report. The intent of the update is to keep the Board informed with the financial status of Christian County Public Schools and to also update them if any new state or federal guidance has been received. The Treasurer's Report shows all balances, receipts, and expenditures of each fund of the District. Mrs. Darnell discussed each fund in depth and answered all questions from the Board.

**NEXT GENERATION SUPERINTENDENT EFFECTIVENESS STANDARDS: STANDARD 4**

Chris Bentzel, Superintendent, was present to give the Board an update on his progress of Standard 4 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 4 – Human Resource Leadership.

**SCHOOL REOPENING UPDATE**

**Chris Bentzel, Superintendent and Laura Morris, Assistant Superintendent of Administration were present to give the Board an update on the School Reopening Plan.**

**Mrs. Laura Morris began the presentation by stating to date total enrollment is 8,294 students of which 2,039 are enrolled in Virtual Learning Academy. Mrs. Morris reviewed the numbers of students that will be returning from Virtual Learning Academy back to in-person instruction at the beginning of the second semester (a total of 117 students). She also reviewed the latest COVID dashboard information available on the district website, which is updated every day at 2:00 p.m. During the last three weeks has been using the NTI model of instruction due to the Governor's mandate. Targeted students have been brought to school two hours per week for help. There are 36 Wi-Fi hotspots in the county and families are accessing them. Originally, virtual learning academy students had one Chromebook per household but as more have been delivered to the district, families have access to multiple Chromebook as students living in the household. There have been a total of 2,342 SSWAT visits in the last two weeks. During those visits, students were provided the support they needed to be successful during NTI. All employees have been working onsite, in their assigned buildings for the past three weeks. The district has participated in three types of learning this year: Virtual Learning Academy, Hybrid Instruction (middle and high schools), and five days per week in-person instruction for elementary students. Tonight the district is introducing a new form of instruction, called Stay Advisory Plan (SAP). Advisory Hybrid will be used in secondary schools only and will allow students to remain in their advisory class and receive in-person instruction five days per week. The thought process behind this form of instruction is less movement in the school buildings and less exposure as students will remain in the same class throughout the day. Mrs. Morris stated that Kentucky does have a vaccine rollout plan. Educators are in**

the third wave of this plan after frontline health care workers and long term care facilities. Currently we are working in each facility within the district to allow our employees to sign up for the vaccine. The vaccine will not be mandated by the district, but strongly recommended. Employees must sign up now in order for the district to give our numbers to the health department. If an employee doesn't sign up by tomorrow, they will have to wait to get their vaccine with the general public. Earlier this week, Governor Beshear gave his recommendation and mandates regarding public education following the expiration of his current mandate on January 4, 2021. There are five key points to his new recommendation/mandate: return to classes on January 11, 2021 and follow the state incidence rate map (recommendation); districts must provide virtual learning that is equitable to all students with all course options in place (mandate); accommodations for employees who have underlining health risks (mandate); and districts must follow healthy at schools document (mandate). District athletic programs will follow all KHSAA sport mandates.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Mr. Moore** stated the PBIS Committee met today over Google Meets. With students not in school, it's hard to implement PBIS right now. When students were in school, discipline was very low and that was great.

**Mr. Clark** spoke to Senator Westerfield who mentioned the first of January, out of the majority Senate, there will be some legislation giving local school boards the authority to determine if students should be in-person or not. He also spoke with State Representative Walker Thomas who stated that State Representative Ed Massey is filing a pension reform bill that documents no changes will be made to current or retired educators, but a hybrid system for future hires.

**Mr. Bell** stated the Racial Equity Committee met on December 10th via Zoom to update the Racial Equity Plan. That plan will be presented to the Board on February 4, 2021 for approval. Some of the topics in the new plan will be school culture, climate, diversity, curriculum, instruction, staffing, classroom diversity, parental involvement and central office commitment to the Racial Equity Plan. The plan will also include that all staff members complete Implicit Biased Training prior to July 1, 2021. Pastor Edward Palmer is on the Racial Equity Committee and is a candidate to be considered to complete the training with staff. The next meeting of the Racial Equity Committee is January 27, 2021.

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| #98 | DISCUSSION/ APPROVAL SCHOOL RE-ENTRY PLAN | Motion by Ms. Hayes, second by Mr. Clark, to Approve for Students to Return to in-person Instruction five days per week K-12th grade with Secondary Students Remaining in the Advisory Class for the First Eight Days.<br><br>Voting Yes: Ms. Hayes, Mr. Clark, Mr. Moore, Ms. Keller<br><br>Voting No: Mr. Bell |
| #99 | DISCUSSION/ APPROVAL VACCINE MANDATE AND RECESSION OF 10 DAY COVID LEAVE RESOLUTION AS LONG AS THE COVID VACCINE IS REASONABLY AVAILABLE | Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Hayes, to Approve the Vaccine Mandate and the Recession of the 10 Day COVID Leave Resolution as Long as the Vaccine is Reasonably Available on March 1, 2021.<br><br>Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Hayes, Mr. Moore, Ms. Keller<br><br>Voting No: Mr. Bell |

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| #100 | DISCUSSION/ APPROVAL 2020-2021 CALENDAR REVISION | Motion by Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Clark, to approve the 2020-2021 Calendar Revision with a return date of January 6 or January 11, 2021 with Superintendent Discretion (at this time, return date of January 6, 2021)<br><br>Voting Yes: Mr. Moore, Mr. Clark, Mr. Bell, Ms. Hayes, Ms. Keller<br><br>Voting No: NONE |
| #101 | DISCUSSION/ APPROVAL OF A RETROACTIVE 1% RAISE TO THE 2020-2021 SALARY SCHEDULE | After discussion by Chris Bentzel, Superintendent and Jessica Darnell, Director of Finance, motion by Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Bell, to approve the 1% Raise to the 2020-2021 Salary Schedule (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)<br><br>Voting Yes: Mr. Moore, Mr. Bell, Mr. Clark, Ms. Hayes, Ms. Keller<br><br>Voting No: NONE |
| #102 | DISCUSSION/ APPROVAL TO AWARD BIDS FOR MOWING CONTRACTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2021 | Motion by Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Clark, to approve the Bids for Mowing, except for Breathitt Campus as there was a Discrepancy in the Bid and will need to be Re-Bid out (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)<br><br>Voting Yes: Mr. Moore, Mr. Clark, Mr. Bell, Ms. Hayes, Ms. Keller<br><br>Voting No: NONE |

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| #103 | DISCUSSION/ APPROVAL PAY APPLICATION AND CERTIFICATE FOR PAYMENT NUMBER TWO (2) IN THE AMOUNT OF $168,848.75 FOR CHRISTIAN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL ROOF REPAIRS | Motion by Mr. Bell, second by Mr. Clark, to Approve Application and Certificate for Payment Number Two (2) in the Amount of $168,848.75 for Christian County High School Roof Repairs (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)<br><br>Voting Yes: Mr. Bell, Mr. Clark, Mr. Moore, Ms. Hayes, Ms. Keller<br><br>Voting No: NONE |
| #104 | DISCUSSION/ APPROVAL OF SCHOOL SECURITY FUNDS REQUEST IN THE AMOUNT OF $70,656.00.00 IN ORDER TO FUND THE SECURITY VESTIBULES AT MILLBROOKE ELEMENTARY, INDIAN HILLS ELEMENTARY AND GATEWAY | Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Mr. Moore, to approve the School Security Funds Request in the Amount of $70,656.00 in Order to Fund the Security Vestibules at Millbrooke Elementary, Indian Hills Elementary, and and Gateway (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference)<br><br>Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Mr. Moore, Mr. Bell, Ms. Hayes, Ms. Keller<br><br>Voting No: NONE |

**#105 DISCUSSION/ APPROVAL BG-5 FOR MILLBROOKE ELEMENTARY SECURE ENTRY PROJECT**

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Mr. Bell, to approve the BG-5 for Millbrooke Elementary Secure Entry Project (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

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

Voting No: NONE

**#106 DISCUSSION/ APPROVAL BG-5 FOR INDIAN HILLS ELEMENTARY SECURE ENTRY PROJECT**

Motion by Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Clark, to approve the BG-5 for Indian Hills Elementary Secure Entry Project (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

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

Voting No: NONE

**#107 DISCUSSION/ APPROVAL BG-5 FOR GATEWAY SECURE ENTRY PROJECT**

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Mr. Moore, to approve the BG-5 for Gateway Secure Entry Project (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

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

Voting No: NONE

**#108 DISCUSSION/ APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS/ WORKSHOPS FOR THE 2021 CALENDAR YEAR**

**Motion by Mr. Bell, second by Mr. Clark, to approve the School Board Meetings/Workshops for the 2021 Calendar Year (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)**

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

**Voting No: NONE**

**#109 CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion by Mr. Moore, second by Ms. Hayes, to 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 November 19, 2020 and Special Board Meeting/Workshop held December 3, 2020**

**C) Approval School Related Fund Raiser Requests**

**D) Approval of Nutrition and Physical Activity Report Card 2020-2021; Standards and Indicators; Improvement Plan**

**E) Approval for Shortened School Day Request for Student**

**F) Approval for 2020-2021 District and Schools Continuous Improvement Plan (CDIP and CSIPs)**

**G) Approval 2021-2022 School Year Calendar – 2nd Reading**

**H) Acknowledgment Receipt of Month Three (3) Attendance**

**I) Acknowledgement Receipt of Personnel Matters/Reports**

**J) Approval Superintendent Contracted Day Calendar**

K) Establish Next Special Board Meeting/Workshop for January 7, 2021 and Regular Meeting for January 21, 2021, 6:00 P.M. in the Board Room at the Central Office

L) Other

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

Voting No: NONE

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

**MR. BELL**

Mr. Bell attended Levi Peterson's book signing on Sunday. The book titled "The Transformation of a High School Dropout" chronicles his life from being a high school dropout to the first African American administrator in Christian County Public Schools. He stated Linda and Sue will be missed and asked them to continue to pray for the Board. Mr. Bell explained that he voted against the 10 day COVID leave recession because he does not feel the vaccine is the end all to this virus. He believes the next several months will be rough and there are employees who could benefit from those days if they were to contract the virus. There is hesitancy in taking the vaccine and that should be accounted for.

**MS. HAYES**

Ms. Hayes stated she was very proud of Mr. Moore for his service to the board. Having him on the board has definite benefits – she hasn't had to ask a question in two years! Ms. Hayes stated that there is a population of people who believe that a vaccine gives you the virus – it is a dead virus and not a live virus used in vaccines. As a health professional, she encourages people to receive the COVID vaccine. Ms. Hayes is excited to have sit on the Board that hired Mr. Bentzel. She is thankful he is Superintendent and she wishes she could stick around to be involved in his successes.

**MR. MOORE**
Mr. Moore thanked all employees. This is not an easy time. Mr. Moore stated it has been a joy to work with Ms. Hayes and Ms. Keller. He was not prepared for what he signed up for, all their guidance over the last couple of years has been much appreciated.

**MR. CLARK**
Mr. Clark thank administrators for their hard work and dedication – they do a wonderful job at presenting information so that the board can make informed decisions. He is not good at goodbyes and being a board member is a selfless job. He thanked Ms. Keller and Ms. Hayes for their service to the Board.

**MS. KELLER**
Ms. Keller congratulated students who were selected for All State Band. Also, congratulations to KYA members representing Christian County from all the local schools. Congratulations to Jessica Addison for being appointed to the Kentucky Women in Education Leadership Cohort. Ms. Keller has been involved on the re-branding committee and stated a new mission and vision are coming soon to CCPS. Thank you to all employees for their hard work – this year has been like no other and everyone has worked so hard to help students. Ms. Keller is confident that Mr. Bentzel and his team will lead this district to great things.

**MR. BENTZEL**
Mr. Bentzel thanked the Board for their hard work in 2020 – it has been a year no one will forget. Congratulations to HHS football for making it to the final four in 4A state playoffs – great season! Mr. Bentzel thanked all staff for their dedication over the NTI weeks. Staff have worked harder than ever

before and he appreciates it. He also thanked parents for their partnership during NTI, he understands this process has been hard on everyone. When we do return to school in January, every school has one to three staff that have been trained to work as bus drivers if there is a shortage. We are excited to have our students back in the building. Congratulations to Mike Walker and Tiffany Mumford Brame – he looks forward to working with them. He thanked the Board for hiring and guiding him over the last several months. He wishes nothing but the best for Ms. Keller and Ms. Hayes. Happy Holidays to our staff, students, and stakeholders.

**#110 ADJOURN** Motion by Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Clark, to Adjourn (8:47 P.M.)

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

Voting No: NONE

**APPROVED CHAIRPERSON** _____

**APPROVED SECRETARY** _____