

**CHRISTIAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
HOPKINSVILLE, KENTUCKY
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MAY 15, 2025
6:00 P.M.**

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The Christian County Board of Education met on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 6:00 P.M. for a Regular Board Meeting.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Tom Bell, Chair

Mr. Lindsey Clark, Vice-Chair

Ms. Rebecca Pepper

Ms. Erin Westerfield

Ms. Mollie Goode, Student Board Member

Mr. Chris Bentzel, Superintendent and Board Secretary

Also present: Mr. Jack Lackey, Jr., School Board Attorney, Administrators, and Guests

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ms. Ambrea Watkins

Ms. Aniyah Lewis, Student Board Member

ACTION/ITEMS

RECOGNITIONS:

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

- A) *Ally Pyle* – Student of the Month, Sinking Fork Elementary
- B) *Michael Milam* - Elementary Certified Employee of the Month, Pembroke Elementary
- C) *Karin Reed* - Secondary Certified Employee of the Month, Christian County High
- D) *Braydee Brown* - Classified Employee of the Month, Indian Hills Elementary
- E) *Jessica Addison* - Administrator of the Month, Assistant Superintendent

A special thank you to *Atmos Energy*
for being our “ALL IN” sponsor for May 2025

- F) 2025-2026 KHSAA Student Advisory Representatives:

Kaidence Atwell – CCHS
Tyson Cavinder – HHS
Chiani Leak – HHS

CCPS MISSION, INVOCATION, PLEDGE, AND CALL TO ORDER

Student Board Member Mollie Goode opened the meeting by reading the CCPS Mission Statement. Mr. Bell and Ms. Goode then led the invocation and prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, which was recited by Ally Pyle, a student at Sinking Fork Elementary. Mr. Bell called the meeting to order at 6:26 P.M.

#216 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Pepper, 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. Pepper, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

PRESENTATIONS:

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATORS PRESENTATION

Sandra Hancock, Student Transition Coordinator, was present to introduce Taylor Duke and Chrissy Copulos, Community Engagement Coordinators, to provide a Community Engagement Coordinators Update (a copy of which is attached to the minutes.)

SPRING RECRUITMENT UPDATE

Bev Fort, Teacher Recruiter, was present to provide the Board with a spring recruitment update (a copy of which is attached to the minutes.)

SAFETY UPDATE

Clayton Sumner, Director of School Safety and Security, was present to provide the Board with a Safety Update (a copy of which is attached to the minutes.)

FINANCE UPDATE

Jessica Darnell, Director of Finance, was present to provide the Board with a finance update (a copy of which is attached to the minutes.)

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, reviewed any new state or federal guidance, and answered all questions from the Board.

SUPERINTENDENT MONTHLY UPDATE

Chris Bentzel, Superintendent, was present to update the Board with a Project Graduation Update (a copy of which is attached to the minutes). Mr. Bentzel also introduced Priscilla Kirby and Whitney Aldridge, Co-Coordination of Project Graduation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Clark provided a Legislative Update.

Ms. Westerfield provided a PBIS Committee Update.

Ms. Goode provided a HHS Student Advisory Update.

COMMUNICATIONS, VISITORS, AND OPEN FORUM

Cameron Williams re: Personnel Matter at Gateway Academy
Hopkinsville, KY

Rheanna Walker re: Personnel Matter at Gateway Academy
Herndon, KY 42236

#217 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL TO AWARD BID FOR 2025-2026 STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Westerfield, to Approve to Award the Bid to Roberts Insurance and Investments through K&K Insurance, underwritten by Zurich American Insurance Company, Plan 4 for 2025-2026 Student Accident Insurance (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Westerfield, Ms. Pepper, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#218 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL TO PURCHASE NETWORK EQUIPMENT FOR THE NEW CHRISTIAN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Pepper, to approve the Purchase of Network Equipment for the New Christian County High School (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Pepper, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#219 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL DIRECTOR OF ELEMENTARY INSTRUCTION JOB DESCRIPTION

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Westerfield, to approve the Director of Elementary Instruction Job Description (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Westerfield, Ms. Pepper, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#220 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP JOB DESCRIPTION

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Pepper, to approve the Director of Instructional Leadership Job Description (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Pepper, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#221 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL DIRECTOR OF ACADEMIES JOB DESCRIPTION

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Westerfield, to approve the Director of Academies Job Description (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Westerfield, Ms. Pepper, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#222 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING MANAGER JOB DESCRIPTION

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Pepper, to approve the Accounting Manager Job Description (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Pepper, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#223 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL DIRECTOR OF FINE ARTS JOB DESCRIPTION

Motion by Ms. Pepper, second by Ms. Westerfield, to approve the Director of Fine Arts Job Description (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Ms. Pepper, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Clark, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#224 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL PASS PROGRAM SUPERVISOR JOB DESCRIPTION

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Pepper, to approve the PASS Program Supervisor Job Description (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Pepper, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#225 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL PAYMENT APPLICATION NUMBER TWENTY ONE (21) TO ALLIANCE CORPORATION AND INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTORS FOR THE NEW CHRISTIAN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Westerfield, to approve the Payment Application Number Twenty One (21) to Alliance Corporation and Individual Contractors for the New Christian County High School Project (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Westerfield, Ms. Pepper, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#226 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL INVOICE TO HAFER ARCHITECTS FOR THE NEW CHRISTIAN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Westerfield, to Approve the Invoice to Hafer Architects for the New Christian County High School Project (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Westerfield, Ms. Pepper, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#227 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL AUDIT CONTRACT AND COST ADJUSTMENT FOR THE FY24-25 AUDIT

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Westerfield, to Approve the Audit Contract and Cost Adjustment for the FY24-25 Audit (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Westerfield, Ms. Pepper, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#228 MOTION TO ENTER INTO RECESS

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Pepper, to enter into recess for ten minutes (8:06 P.M.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Pepper, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#229 MOTION TO ENTER BACK INTO SESSION

Motion by Ms. Pepper, second by Ms. Westerfield, to enter back into session (8:14 P.M.)

Voting Yes: Ms. Pepper, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Clark, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#230 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL 2025-2026 SALARY SCHEDULES

Mr. Bell called for a motion to approve the 2025-2026 Salary Schedules to include a 1% salary increase for all employees. No motion

#231 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL 2025-2026 SALARY SCHEDULES

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Pepper, to Approve the 2025-2026 Salary Schedules as presented (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Pepper, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#232 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

Motion by Ms. Pepper, second by Mr. Clark, to Approve the Tentative Budget for 2025-2026 School Year (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Ms. Pepper, Mr. Clark, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#233 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL 2025 CHRISTIAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITY PLAN

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Westerfield, to Approve the 2025 Christian County School District Facility Plan (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Westerfield, Ms. Pepper, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#234 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL TO NAME JACK LACKEY, JR. AS THE HEARING OFFICER FOR THE LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING TO BE SCHEDULED

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Pepper, to Approve to Name Jack Lackey, Jr. as the Hearing Officer for the Local Planning Committee Public Hearing to be scheduled.

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Pepper, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#235 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL 2025-2026 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN CHRISTIAN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND THE CITY OF HOPKINSVILLE

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Pepper, to Approve the 2025-2026 Law Enforcement Agreement between Christian County Public Schools and the City of Hopkinsville (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Pepper, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#236 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL TO AWARD BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF TEN (10) VEHICLES FOR THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Westerfield, to Approve to Award Bid to Pennyrile Ford for the Purchase of Ten (10) Vehicles for the Christian County Public Schools Police Department (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Westerfield, Ms. Pepper, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#237 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL SUMMATIVE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Westerfield, to Approve the Summative of the Superintendent's Evaluation for the 2024-2025 School Year (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Westerfield, Ms. Pepper, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#238 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL OF THE EXTENSION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT BY ONE ADDITIONAL YEAR PER SECTION IX OF THE SUPERINTENDENT'S EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT AND KRS 160.350(4) SO THAT THE SUPERINTENDENT'S TERM IS EXTENDED TO JUNE 30, 2029

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Pepper, to Approve of the Extension of the Superintendent's Contract by One Additional Year per Section IX of the Superintendent's Employment Agreement and KRS 160.350(4) so that the Superintendent's Term is extended to June 30, 2029 (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Pepper, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

#239 CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Westerfield, to approve to the following Consent Agenda:

A) Financial Matters:

1. Approval of Monthly Financial Reports and Authorize Payment of Bills
2. Other

B) Approval of Minutes of Special Board Meeting held April 17, 2025; Special Board Meeting held April 24, 2025; and Regular Board Meeting/Workshop held on May 1, 2025

C) Approval School Related Trip Requests

D) Approval School Related Fund Raiser Requests

- E) Approval Shortened School Week Request
- F) Approval Shortened School Day Request
- G) Approval Shortened School Day Request
- H) Approval to Pay for Background and CAN Checks for all Full-Time Certified and Classified Employees and Coaches for FY25-26
- I) Approval Invoice from Savvas Learning Company LLC for English Language Arts Curriculum for Grades 6-12
- J) Approval School Based Therapy/Counseling Services Agreement between Mountain Comprehensive Care Center and Christian County Public Schools
- K) Approval ParentSquare 2025-2026 Annual Renewal
- L) Approval HMH Education Company Annual Renewal
- M) Approval Nonexclusive License Agreement between Christian County Board of Education and WHOP Broadcasting, Inc.
- N) Approval Kentucky Agricultural Development Funds Letter
- O) Approval of Christian County Public Schools 2024-2025 Phase Four: Professional Development Plan for Districts for School Year 2025-2026
- P) Approval Ordinance/Resolution Relating to Participation in the Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund
- Q) Acknowledgment Receipt of Month Eight (8) Attendance
- R) Acknowledgement Receipt of Personnel Matters/Reports
- S) Approval Superintendent Contracted Day Calendar
- T) Establish Next Regular Board Meeting/Workshop for June 5, 2025 and Regular Board Meeting for June 19, 2025, 6:00 P.M. in the Board Room at the Central Office
- U) Other

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Westerfield, Ms. Pepper, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBER AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Bell, Mr. Clark, Ms. Westerfield, Ms. Pepper, Ms. Goode, and Mr. Bentzel all provided individual comments and/or concerns.

#240 ADJOURN

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Pepper, to adjourn (8:46 P.M.)

Voting Yes: Mr. Clark, Ms. Pepper, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Bell

Voting No: NONE

APPROVED CHAIRPERSON _____

APPROVED SECRETARY _____