

**CHRISTIAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
HOPKINSVILLE, KENTUCKY
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2026
6:00 P.M. CT**

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The Christian County Board of Education met on Thursday, September 17, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. CT for a Regular Board Meeting.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Lindsey Clark, Chair

Ms. Erin Westerfield, Vice-Chair

Ms. Ambrea Watkins

Mr. Chris Bentzel, Superintendent and Board Secretary

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ms. Rebecca Pepper

ACTION/ITEMS

RECOGNITIONS:

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

- A) *Gracelyn Clark* – Student of the Month, Christian County Middle School
- B) *Emily Wright* - Elementary Certified Employee of the Month, Indian Hills
- C) *Natalie Cross* - Secondary Certified Employee of the Month, Hopkinsville Middle School
- D) *ShaTera Babb* - Classified Employee of the Month, Alternative Programs
- E) *Stephanie Blanton* - Administrator of the Month, Christian County Middle School

A special thank you to *Tom Bell, State Farm Insurance*,
for being our “ALL IN” sponsor for September 2026

CCPS MISSION, INVOCATION, PLEDGE, AND CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Clark opened the meeting by reading the CCPS Mission Statement. Ms. Westerfield and Ms. Watkins then led the invocation and prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, which was recited by Gracelyn Clark, student at Christian County Middle. Mr. Clark called the meeting to order at 6:20 P.M.

#57 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Voting Yes: Ms. Watkins, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Clark

Voting No: NONE

PRESENTATIONS:

FINANCE UPDATE

Jessica Darnell, Director of Finance, was present to provide the Board with a finance update, New CCHS project budget update, and Open Records Request Quarterly 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.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Westerfield provided a PBIS Committee Update.

COMMUNICATIONS, VISITORS, AND OPEN FORUM

None

#58 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL PAYMENT APPLICATION NUMBER THIRTY SEVEN (37) TO ALLIANCE CORPORATION AND INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTORS FOR THE NEW CHRISTIAN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT

Motion by Ms. Westerfield, second by Ms. Watkins, to approve the Payment Application Number Thirty Seven (37) 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: Ms. Westerfield, Ms. Watkins, Mr. Clark

Voting No: NONE

#59 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL INVOICES TO HAER ARCHITECTS FOR THE NEW CHRISTIAN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT

Motion by Ms. Watkins, second by Ms. Westerfield, to approve the Invoices to Haer 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: Ms. Watkins, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Clark

Voting No: NONE

#60 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL BG-4 NEW CHRISTIAN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT – STEWART RICHEY CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Motion by Ms. Watkins, second by Ms. Westerfield, to approve the BG-4 New Christian County High School Project – Stewart Richey Construction, Inc. (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Ms. Watkins, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Clark

Voting No: NONE

#61 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL WORKING BUDGET FOR 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Motion by Ms. Westerfield, second by Ms. Watkins, to approve the Working Budget for 2026-2027 School Year (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Ms. Westerfield, Ms. Watkins, Mr. Clark

Voting No: NONE

#62 DISCUSSION/APPROVAL SELECTION OF BOARD MEMBER TO SERVE ON THE 2027-2028 SCHOOL CALENDAR COMMITTEE

Motion by Ms. Westerfield, second by Mr. Clark, to Approve the Selection of Ambrea Watkins as the Board Member Representative to Serve on the 2027-2028 School Calendar Committee (a copy of which is attached and the terms of which are incorporated by reference.)

Voting Yes: Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Clark, Ms. Watkins

Voting No: NONE

#63 CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Ms. Watkins, 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 Regular Board Meeting held August 20, 2026; and Regular Board Meeting/Workshop held on September 3, 2026
- C) Approval School Related Trip Requests
- D) Approval School Related Fund Raiser Requests
- E) Approval 2025-2026 Donations to Activity Funds
- F) Approval Updated 26-27 Gifted and Talented Educational Services and Procedures Handbook

- G) Approval Product and Service Agreement between Christian County Public Schools and Cumberland Hall Hospital
- H) Approval Updated Traceable Communication Systems between District Employees and Volunteers to Communicate with Students
- I) Approval Shortened School Day Request
- J) Approval Shortened School Day Request
- K) Approval Shortened School Day Request
- L) Approval Shortened School Day Request
- M) Approval Shortened School Day Request
- N) Approval Shortened School Day Request
- O) Approval Shortened School Day Request
- P) Approval Shortened School Day Request
- Q) Approval Superintendent Contracted Day Calendar
- R) Acknowledgement Receipt of Personnel Matters/Reports
- S) Establish Next Regular Board Meeting for October 15, 2026, 6:00 P.M. CT in the Board Room at the Central Office
- T) Other

Voting Yes: Ms. Watkins, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Clark

Voting No: NONE

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBER AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Clark, Ms. Watkins, and Mr. Bentzel provided individual comments and/or concerns.

#64 ADJOURN

Motion by Ms. Watkins, second by Ms. Westerfield, to adjourn (6:49 P.M.)

Voting Yes: Ms. Watkins, Ms. Westerfield, Mr. Clark

Voting No: NONE

APPROVED CHAIRPERSON _____

APPROVED SECRETARY _____