# The BOARD REPORT

**June 10. 2025** 

### 🔁 Sen. Elkins updates board on new laws



The June meeting began with a legislative update provided by Senator Greg Elkins, which set the stage for discussion and votes on some of the policies required by legislative action during the spring session.

### Traceable communications policy

In compliance with KRS 160.145, all Kentucky school districts will establish designated traceable communications systems for school personnel. Senate Bill 181 was enacted during the 2025 regular session to enhance student safety and ensure communications between school personnel and students are transparent and appropriately monitored.

The Board approved a list of systems as the exclusive means for school employees and volunteers to communicate electronically with students: CCPS Email, Campus Messenger, Google Core Services, ParentSquare, and TalkingPoints.

Additional notes regarding the new policy:

- Policy must be in place before June 27, and staff/coaches will be trained before the school year begins.
- Parents/guardians may grant written consent for a school employee or volunteer to communicate electronically with their child outside the designated traceable system.

### PIE gets donation for work in schools

The Board voted to grant Partners in Education a \$10,000 donation, matching last year's gift. PIE Executive Director Greg Yates reviewed the PIE's great work in our schools and its tremendous growth over the past several years, including a 40% increase in volunteer hours. Mr. Yates estimates this correlates to a nearly \$40,000 return on investment.

## NEXT REGULAR MEETING: TUESDAY, JULY 29

## & QUOTABLE

From serving our country to safeguarding our schools, from the streets of Winchester to the hallways of Clark County Schools, Keith Mullikin's career is a masterclass in commitment. Please join us in celebrating Chief Mullikin for his extraordinary contributions and unwavering dedication.

-Chief Mullikin's retirement recognition

### **Keith Mullikin honored** for years of service



Retiring CCPS Police Chief Keith Mullikin was honored with the Distinguished Service and Community Impact Award for his years of service to the district and community.

After retiring from the WPD in 2021, Chief Mullikin joined CCPS and was instrumental in growing our officer team from three to 11. Mullikin led the charge in the 2023 formation of the CCPS Police Department, which he has since served as chief. Congratulations on your well-deserved retirement, Chief Mullikin!



Clark County Board of Education - The Board Report - June 10, 2025

Ashley Ritchie-Rowland, Chair (District 5) Paula Thomas (District 3) Dora Hall, Vice Chair (District 2)

Ben Dorsey (District 4) Carl Kiser (District 1)

**CCPS** Supt. Dustin Howard CAO/Asst. Supt. Kelly Fithen **COO Brandon Watkins** Full Admin Team

### ln other action, the Board...

- Approved first reading of the Kentucky School Boards Association (KSBA) policy and procedure updates, after agreeing to remove one paragraph regarding the new maternity leave bill to allow the district to fully assess its financial impact.
- Approved numerous change orders for the Clark
   County Preschool project with construction manager
   John Hagan Codell informing the Board the project
   is close to being finalized.
- Approved the renovation and naming of the Baker
   Intermediate gym floor as the Rev. Henry E. Baker
   Sr. Court. The new design includes the Bulldog logo,
   volleyball lines, activity squares, and the Rev. Baker's actual signature on the court.
- Approved the 25-26 CCPS Transportation Procedures Manual, amending the cell phone restriction to note that it is "explicitly prohibited per FMCSA." Board Member Carl Kiser requested an analysis on increasing MDR (motor driver record) checks from yearly to quarterly. CCPS will investigate feasibility.
- Approved the 25-26 Athletic Handbook that includes expectations for parents, students, and coaches with signed acknowledgments required.
   The handbook includes drug testing and social media policies.
- Approved updated school handbooks with the exception of GRC. Due to a transition in leadership, GRC's handbook will be presented at the next meeting.

- Approved an updated school nutrition pay schedule of \$0.85/hour for food service staff. The adjustment is supported by a revised budget review.
- Approved the updated fee schedule for community use of school facilities during the 2025-2026 school year, with the only change being removal of the 4-hour time limit.
- Approved student fee schedules for 2025-26.
- Approved the updated CCPS Job Description Catalog (condensed from 441 pages to 81).
- Adopted a new Professional Code of Ethics for classified staff (previously only required for certified).
- Approved a natural gas supply agreement with Stand Energy Corporation as a third party supplier, a move that will result in savings for the district.
- Granted approval for board member participation in the KSBA 2025 Summer Leadership Institute, scheduled for July 11–12 in Lexington.
- Approved the Financial Report, authorized payment of salaries and bills, and approved numerous routine and consent agenda items. <u>View Agenda</u>.

Ben Dorsey (District 4)

Carl Kiser (District 1)



## The CCPS BOARD REPORT

Page 3

## Superintendent's Report

#### **Dustin Howard:**

Summer is here and we're as busy as ever. Literacy Liftoff is off and running. A big Shoutout to our staff who are teaching phonics and reading three days a week for six weeks. A gigantic shout out to Mrs. Fithen and her staff for their hard work in making this happen. Our goal is to eliminate gaps before they happen, specifically with reading, and this program has been highly successful toward that goal.

This week is our first-ever Theatre Camp. A big Shoutout to our Baker staff and also to the Extension Office for partnering with us to provide these great opportunities for students.

The Book Bus is back, stopping at several locations in the community three days a week. Students can get on the bus and choose the books they want by age. It is phenomenal.

Huge shout out to the entirety of the team, including the Winchester PD and everyone else who is helping, on our Summer Feeding Program distribution. We used to do summer feeding at different locations during the day but our families would have to get there each and every day. Now it's more of a mass distribution for a week's worth of food. This is Week 2 and we have made some tweaks and changes. Not every district is doing it this way, but we decided to go ahead and jump on board early because it's good for kids and families, and that's why we're here.

We're providing summer care to almost 140 participants this year. We have lots of activities planned and our staff is doing a fantastic job. It's part of our early learning vision of providing opportunities for kids. That's what we're all about.

Creative Cardinal Day Camp will be held at Justice at the end of June with around 35 students registered. We're running this camp ourselves and campers will get to participate in numerous enrichment activities in the arts, music, voice, and dance.

It's already been a productive summer with so many "Growing Greatness" activities happening for our students, families, and staff. It's a great time to be a Cardinal.

# Meeting SNAPSHOTS



PIE Executive Director Greg Yates, left, was joined at the meeting by Board members Cora Heffner, Coos Ockers, and Ken Hogan.

Since 2006, Partners in Education has worked to build partnerships between CCPS and the community to enrich our students' school experience through tutoring, mentorships, and enrichment programs.



Chief Keith Mullkin receives a well-deserved ovation after being surprised by the Board with the Distinguished Service and Community Impact Award. Mr. Mullikin is retiring after 24 years with CCPS.



Clark County Board of Education - The Board Report - June 10, 2025

## The CCPS BOARD REPORT

Page 4

#### **Board Recognitions**

## Your Greatness Shows ...

Superintendent Howard and the Board honored the GRC Girls and Boys Tennis Teams for their Region championships and state qualifying play. Along with the team honors, the following singles and doubles athletes were recognized: 4-time Region Double Champions: Cassi Lowe and Madelyn Settles; Singles Semi-Finalist and Individual State Qualifier: Sydney Ely; Doubles Quarterfinalist: Caroline Brookshire and Maddie Redmon; Region Doubles Champions and Individual State Qualifier: Hayden Cockrell and Gratz McCraith; Singles Runner-Up and Individual State Qualifier: Gabe Palmer; Singles Semi-Finalist and Individual State Qualifier: Jackson Kincaid; Region Doubles Quarterfinalist: Paxton Harper and Daniel Kubican. Congratulations to all!







The Winchester Elks Lodge #2816 was presented the Community Cornerstone Award for their ongoing support of our students and schools. This award recognizes an individual, organization, or group that serves as a fundamental and enduring pillar within the community. Through countless volunteer hours, generous donations, and dedicated leadership, the Elks Lodge consistently serves the diverse needs of our residents. We thank them for their partnership and dedication. Representing the lodge are Larry Hall and Christiana Johnson.

Superintendent
Howard and the
Board honored
Griffin Moore
for earning the
highest ribbon in
the 4-H speech
competition,
along with
winning the
school, county,
and area
competitions. He
now moves on to



the communication contest in July in the 10-year-old category. Congratulations, Griffin!



Clark County Board of Education - The Board Report - June 10, 2025

## The CCPS BOARD REPORT

Page 5



#### **Board Recognitions**

## Your Greatness Shows ...

Superintendent Howard and the Board honored the GRC track and field athletes for their amazing showing at the state track meet, including the following accomplishments:

State Champions: Teigh Yeast won state in long jump and triple jump. She placed second in the 400-meter run and also qualified for state in the 200-meter run. Bailey Howard won the state pole vault championship. She also qualified in triple jump. Other state qualifiers included Erin Southwood, pole vault; Bryan Falls, shot put; Camahni John and Jackson Rogers, 400 meters & 4x400 relay; Ben Wilson and DeAndre McWilliams, 4x400 relay; Mayson Letcher, Hayden Arnold and Landon Harney, unified 2x50 relay and unified 2x200 relay; Mayson Letcher and Landon Parido, Hayden Arnold and Travis Renner, unified long jump; and - Travis Renner, Hayden Arnold, Landon Parido, Mayson Letcher, unified 4x100 relay. Congratulations to all!





Superintendent Howard and the Board honored RDC 7th grader Piper Wills for being selected to participate in the prestigious Kentucky Senate Page Program with Senator Greg Elkins, who was also in attendance at the meeting. Congratulations, Piper, on this outstanding honor.





Senator Elkins recognized Mr. Howard for his Superintendent of the Year designation and presented him with an official Kentucky Senate citation.

Mr. Howard is pictured here with Board members after receiving the citation, which noted his "outstanding talent and instructional leadership as well as exemplary communication professionalism and community involvement."

Congratulations, Mr. Howard!



Clark County Board of Education - The Board Report - June 10, 2025