

The ^{CCPS} BOARD REPORT

February 25, 2025

→ Board gives \$5,000 to Project Grad

CCPS will contribute \$5,000 to GRC for this year's Project Graduation event, which provides a safe environment for graduates and gives them a final opportunity to be at GRC as a whole class. The Board has contributed financially to Project Graduation for several years.

→ Facilities Plan finalized

The Board approved the [District Facility Plan Public Hearing Report](#), officially finalizing the plan. Held Feb 14, the public hearing gave community members a chance to ask questions about the plan, which was approved by the Board at the January meeting. No members of the public attended the hearing.

→ MOU for use of field tabled

The Board tabled an agenda item regarding the use of the Justice Football Field by Clark County Youth Athletics. Since CCPS is beginning a 5th/6th grade football program to expand opportunities for students, the Memorandum of Understanding includes a non-compete clause allowing the group to offer competition only for players through 4th grade. Board member Ben Dorsey and Chair Ashley Ritchie were not present for the discussion, and vice chair Dora Hall suggested the Board not take a vote until all members are present. The MOA will appear on the March agenda. Some community members spoke during meeting's Public Comments, asking the Board to reconsider the "no compete" clause so they can continue to offer their 5th and 6th grade program.

"I don't feel comfortable making a motion to approve it or not approve it without having all five board members present," said Vice Chair Dora Hall. "It feels like a very important decision that's going to affect the community and affect kids, and of course, we're here for the kids, number one."

→ NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, MARCH 25

NOTABLE & QUOTABLE

We celebrate greatness around our district every single day, and I really look forward to the next three months of continuing to move our kids to a world-class level, both as students and as people.

-Superintendent Dustin Howard

Mayor Reed, Sen. Elkins attend Board meeting



Mayor JoEllen Reed addresses attendees at the Feb. 25 Board of Education meeting. Both Mayor Reed and Sen. Greg Elkins appeared at the meeting to recognize students for their excellence. See our Recognitions at the end of this newsletter for details.

2024-25 School year Lunch Numbers

Baker	6992
Conkwright	4743
GRC	11,050
Justice	4424
Phoenix	204
Preschool	3106
RDC	6733
Shearer	4507
Strode	4965
Grand Total:	46,724



DATA EXTRACTED: January 1, 2025 to January 31, 2025



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Dora Hall, Vice Chair (District 2)

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Carl Kiser (District 1)

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

→ Other Board actions...

- The Board acknowledged the Wellness Policy Nutrition and Physical Activity Report. The report includes a staff survey showing notable increases in the areas of policy and environment related to student and staff health and wellness. It also shows a significant increase in the number of benefits for staff promoting their overall mental and physical well being.
- The Board approved funding to send the district's Amazing Shake finalists to the global competition in Atlanta. A popular event in Clark County since 2018, the Amazing Shake for 5th-8th graders concluded this week, with the global competition set later in March.
- The Board approved a change in the school assignment application so families no longer have to resubmit the paperwork for a school change assignment.
- The 2025-26 tentative SBDM staffing allocations were approved. Staffing allocations are based on projected enrollment. The difference over last year, noted Finance Director Aleisha Ellis, is that the district hired behavioral support teachers and instructional assistants in each school. SBDMs will approve the final allocations soon.
- The Board approved the Financial Report, authorized payment of salaries and bills, and approved numerous routine and consent agenda items. [View Agenda.](#)

→ Superintendent's Report...

Preschool Opening

“The big news of the week is that we have opened our world-class, state-of-the-art preschool, and I’m beyond ecstatic for our district to have this fantastic facility,” Mr. Howard said, adding that it was a special experience to see the children and parents walk into the school for the first time Monday. Mr. Howard offered a “huge shoutout” to Director of Early Learning Jill Blanton and staff, the district maintenance crew and Food Services staffs, and all others who worked so hard to get to this point. “It feels great that our children are the first in Kentucky to say they have a \$25 million preschool,” he said.

Amazing Shake

“It’s one of my favorite weeks we have during the school year. It showcases the skill sets of 5th-8th graders, and ties specifically into our Portrait of a Clark County Learner. It measures students on being Empowered Leaders, Effective Communicators, Reflective Innovators, Resilient Learners, Engaged Citizens, and Committed Collaborators. I want to shoutout our high school students who helped run the opening session, and also our community volunteers. People from all over our great community – from business owners to public servants - worked hand-in-hand at the different stations to make this possible for our students.” [View flyer.](#)


Chamber of Commerce Breakfast

CCPS is hosting the monthly Chamber Breakfast with about 100 people set to attend. They will share a great breakfast prepared by CCPS Food Services, and have the chance to connect and fellowship with fellow members.




→ School Instructional Spotlight...

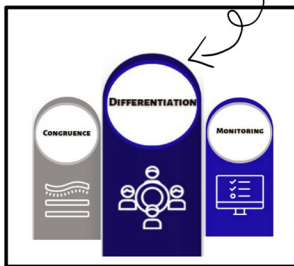
SCHOOL
INSTRUCTIONAL SPOTLIGHT



STRODE STATION
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL



BIG ROCKS



DIFFERENTIATION:
Implement effective instructional strategies that cater to the individual learning needs of ALL students.

DIFFERENTIATION AT STRODE

- Using data to tailor instruction to the individual student needs
- Grouping students with similar abilities within a specific content area for a portion of the day
 - Increasing the focus of foundational reading standards in grades K-2
- Maximizing staff support to ensure station teaching is effective





A teacher from each grade addressed the Board Tuesday, from left, Ashley Thomas, 4th; Jennifer Kelley, K; Caitlyn Miller, 3rd; Assistant Principal Jordan Fulks; Principal Anitria Coston; Misty Wilson, 1st; Adriana Estrada, 2nd; and Laura Wilson, Related Arts.

Strode Station Elementary

BIG ROCK: DIFFERENTIATION

Principal Anitria Coston:

“We set out with the purpose of being really intentional this year, and we’re going to continue that intentionality throughout the year and next year, too, so that we can further grow our students.”

Assistant Principal Jordan Fulks:

“We thought – what better way to explain differentiation than to bring in the experts themselves – so we have brought in teachers from every grade level to really explain what we’re doing.”

All teachers emphasized grouping students according to skill in smaller groups with intentional, focused instruction. “We’re seeing confidence building in our students, more independence, and more participation during class,” said kindergarten teacher Jennifer Kelley. “We’re really enjoying it, and I think the kids are really enjoying it.”





Board Recognitions

Your Greatness Shows...

The Maintenance Team members who work tirelessly to clear our parking lots after inclement weather were honored Tuesday by Superintendent Howard and the Board with the “True Grit” award. Congratulations to Tim Bowlby, Jason Carmichael, Bailey Craig, Adam Dunaway, Shannon Gregory, Vonley Haney, Bradly Hardy, Shawn Igo, Joseph McCleave, Tony Ricketts, Aaron Vice, Michael Walker, and Billy Damron. Congratulations!



Baker students Walker Puckett and Colton Wilson were honored by Senator Greg Elkins, Superintendent Howard, and the Board for their diligence in raising \$2,700 to purchase a bench placed at the new Veterans Memorial downtown. The boys also honored SRO Brian Caudill and the Rev. Henry Baker with memorial bricks. Congratulations, Colton and Walker!



Superintendent Howard and the Board honored Kent Coogle with the “Bridge Builder Award” for his efforts in bringing people together and building connections in

the community. Mr. Coogle worked with our schools on the creation of student artwork from preschool through high school for the MLK celebration, and coordinated its display in the community and at Clark Regional Medical Center. Congratulations!

Makayla Lopez, a GRC senior, was honored by Superintendent Howard and the Board with the Difference Maker Award. Makayla took the initiative to contact Mayor JoEllen Reed



last year about the possibility of making Winchester and Clark County a Safe Haven Baby Box community. The program provides a safe and anonymous way for mothers to surrender their newborns in emergencies. Mayor Reed was present at the meeting to personally commend Makayla on behalf of the City of Winchester. Central Bank donated \$20,000 to bring the project to fruition. Congratulations, Makayla!





Board Recognitions

Your Greatness Shows...



The GRC Dance Team was honored by Superintendent Howard and the Board for their unprecedented success this season. In their first-ever appearance in the KHSAA Region Dance Competition, the Dance Cards finished first runner-up in hip hop and qualified for state, then went on to finish in the Top 15 overall at the state competition.

Congratulations to our Dance Team: Madalynn Berryman, Shaylynn Berryman, Ali Hart, Haylee Wills, Madison Gullett, Gracie Borders, Sophia Blose, Aubreigh Williams, Emma Galloway, Stevie McCollum, Layla Snell, Coach Haley Snell, and Assistant Coach Ryleigh Blythe.

Several Clark County band students were honored by Superintendent Howard and the Board for being accepted into the KMEA regional honor bands for their grade level, and two others were recognized for being accepted into the KMEA All-State Band.

Congratulations to the following Honors Band students who competed against students from Clark, Fayette, Scott, Harrison, Bourbon, and Franklin counties to be considered the best musicians on their instruments:

Middle school students: Kassidy Moore, Daniel Kelley, Landon Zavitz, Maximo Shemwell, Marielle Maldonado, Caroline Pratt, Sebastian Allgood, Anderson Kidd, Bentley Lykins, Cameron Boyd, Max Stiglbauer, Ben Bartholomew

9th Grade students: Sophie Schmiege, Ashlyn McDaniel, Ryan Witt, Misael Morales

High School students: Olivia Root, Keaton Grissam, Angel Fischer, Ty Crawford, Landon Harney, Gavin Layne, Aaliyah Dye, Ryder Abner

Congratulations to the following students on being accepted into the KMEA All-State Band. These two competed against students throughout the entire state of Kentucky and are considered among the top musicians in the state: Olivia Root and Tristen Ervin.



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