

# CHESTER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.139

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

### Regular Meeting April 10, 2025

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The Board of Education of Chester Community Unit School District No. 139 held a Regular Meeting on April 10, 2025, in the High School Juergens Gym. President Debi Caraway called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Malley motioned, Davitz seconded to enter into the special meeting at 6:01 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

*Attorney Eugene Hanses with Guin Mundorf, LLC is present during the executive meeting.*

*Assistant Principal Kristin Petrowske came into the executive session at 6:56 p.m.*

*Assistant Principal Kristin Petrowske left the executive session at 6:59 p.m.*

*Principal Timothy Blair came into the executive session at 7:00 p.m.*

*Principal Timothy Blair left the executive session at 7:03 p.m.*

*Principal Jeremy Blechle came into the executive session at 7:15 p.m.*

*Principal Jeremy Blechle left the executive session at 7:38 p.m.*

Krieg motioned, Malley seconded to adjourn the executive meeting at 7:40 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Davitz seconded to enter into the regular meeting at 7:44 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

#### Pledge of Allegiance

#### Public Comment

- None

#### Board Correspondence

- Thank you card from the family of Paul Andrew Estel

Davitz motioned, Fricke seconded to approve the consent agenda and items as listed. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Fricke, Malley, Davitz, Krieg, Wolff, Nays: none. Motion carried.

- Agenda and items as listed:
- March 19, 2025 Regular and Executive board meeting minutes and April 3, 2025 Special meeting minutes
- Bills in the amount of \$273,157.38 and payroll in the amount of \$622,850.97
- Financial reports

#### Athletic Director Report

##### CHS

- Tryouts for dance was April 1st-4th
- Tryouts for cheer was March 26th-28th
- New head Varsity baseball coach is Jarrod Peters
- 28 boys are signed up to play JV and Varsity baseball
- Home opener for baseball was March 18th vs. Marissa
- 13 girls are signed up to play Varsity softball
- Home opener for softball was March 17th vs. DuQuoin
- 28 girls and 18 boys are signed up for Varsity track
- First track meet was March 25th at Red Bud
- Chester is hosting Bi-County, Boys Conference and Girls Sectionals for track this year

### CGS

- New track coach is Jenna Uchtman
- Chester is hosting the track county meet on April 24th
- New golf coach is Clayton Andrews
- 15 boys and girls are signed up for golf
- First golf match is at Scuttle Inn vs. Steeleville on April 10th

### Other

- Winter Sports Awards night was March 31st
- Basketball All-Conference meeting was March 12th: All Conference Team - Kolton Jany and Lexie Mott
- Chester was the host site for Scholar Bowl Regionals on March 10th

### Maintenance

- We are beginning the process of implementing an internal system for reporting maintenance issues to our custodial and maintenance staff. This system will allow us to keep better track of progress with completion of work orders, assigning of work, along with inspections, and other features all in one place.
- The elevator upgrades are in their final stages
- Chemical dispensers for the dishwasher and 3 bin sinks were installed at both schools. These will dispense a predetermined amount, allowing proper ratio dilution.
- Worked on the boy's locker room door to enable a locking function as well as a functioning closer
- Looking to install some additional heat detectors in areas where storage rooms were created in the media center, and a strobe notated by the fire marshal at the grade school. Also removed some older fire extinguishing equipment and a suppression system left over in the old kitchen area at the grade school was properly disarmed and disposed of.

### Curriculum

- Grades 3rd through 8th have been IAR testing this week (March 31 - April 4)
- Grade 9th through 11th took the PreACT/ACT test on April 4th
- 8th grade has completed the IL Science Assessment (ISA)
- 5th grade will take the ISA April 10th, 14th, and 15th
- Our end of the year district benchmark testing will be taking place during the first couple of weeks in May
- Grades K through 6th have selected the McGraw Hill wonders reading curriculum program
- Grades 7th through 8th are still in the review process

### High School Principal

- P/T conferences were held on March 10th and 12th
- Hosted our 3rd Annual Freshman Preview night
- March 6th Seniors attended the annual Senior Tea event and Back Yard BBQ
- Honors Night will be on May 7th at 6:30 pm in Colbert Gym. This year it will include all Scholarships, Academic C's, Annual Perpetual Athletic awards and Department awards.
- Signing day will be on May 7th during school at the end of the day
- Upcoming Events
  - 4/1 - Scholarships are due
  - 4/4 - PreACT and ACT test
  - 4/7-4/11 - Prom week activities
  - 4/9 - State police and Accident Reconstruction Assembly
  - 4/10 - School board meeting
  - 4/11 - Memorial Hospital Fun/Run even CHS alternate location
  - 4/12 - Prom
  - 4/14 - Distinguished Yellow Jacket Award Ceremony
  - 4/18-4/21 - Easter break
  - 4/25 - Earth Day celebration
  - 4/29 - Blood Drive
  - 4/29 - IPA Leadership breakfast
  - 5/5 - Staff Appreciation week
  - 5/7 - Awards night
  - 5/12-5/13 - Senior exams
  - 5/16 - Graduation practice
  - 5/18 - Graduation at 3 pm in Colbert Gym

- 5/27-5/29 - Underclass exams
- 5/29 - Make-up exam day
- 6/2 - Underclass make-up exam date with Admin approval for excused absence on exam day

#### Grade School Principal

- The book fair took place from March 3rd to March 7th
- A fun and motivating event occurred when Mr. Blair worked from the school's roof during the day. This event coincided with Students and staff reading over 38,000 minutes throughout the week.
- On March 5th, students and staff participated in a mock earthquake and severe weather drill to ensure preparedness for emergencies
- Parent Teacher conferences took place on March 10th and 12th, we are thankful for the volunteer translators from Hoyleton who assisted in making these conferences more accessible for our families
- Chester Grade School will send 14 students to the 2025 Young Authors Conference, which will be hosted at Red Bud Elementary School on March 25th
- IAR testing occurred during the week of the 31st
- The Junior High Dance is scheduled for April 4th
- The band performed three songs for a panel of three judges who rated an overall "Excellent" rating

#### Special Education

- The Special Education 3rd-8th grade students completed the IAR assessment. The Special Education students at the High School level completed the pre-ACT or ACT assessment. The students had access to their embedded accommodations for the assessments, which provided them with the support they needed
- The 3rd quarter IEP progress reports went home to families when the report cards went home. This allows the families to be aware of their child's progress towards their IEP goals
- All staff received training on positive behavior management techniques and classroom tips from Katrina Renzaglia, a Board Certified Behavior Analyst

#### Superintendent

##### Governance

- App Implementation: Continued implementation of the SIPC app for district maintenance requests
- School Nutrition Programs Administrative Review March 21st and 24th
- Administrative Procedures Manual: Review the first draft provided by IASB
- Attended the Preschool for All and Preschool for All Expansion Administrators Conference with Mrs. Davitz and Mrs. Marshall
- Solar Connect Proposal: Received a proposal from Solar Connect regarding the installation of solar panels on district property. They estimate a potential revenue of approximately \$102,000 per year over a 25-year period
- Pre-K Program review
- Working with QNS on projections of inventory and technology needed
- SecurePASS: We did demos a week ago. The principals are requesting further monitoring with this app for the highways with 6-12 only

##### Budget/Finance

- SF 249 (Notice of Federal Interest): We are required to complete and submit the SF 249 form annually for the next 15 years due to the receipt of ESSER funding
- Title III: Currently working on documentation and compliance for Title III funding

##### Building and Grounds

- Bid opening: Conducted big opening for the Chester High School tuckpointing and window replacement project
- Big opening: Completed bid opening for Phase 3 of the Professor Sharp Media Center project. The bids received exceeded the allocated \$200,000 budget (\$100,000 from the Sharp donation and \$100,000 district contribution) We will review and determine the next steps accordingly

##### Sports

- Storm damage to track equipment: We are working on replacement costs

##### Classroom

- Parent Teacher conferences: We provided meals both nights for staff
- Professional Development: Hosted training this week titled "*Implementing and Supporting Positive Interventions and Supports*" (PBIS Tier 2) presented by Dr. Katrina Renzaglia

Fricke motioned, Coffey seconded to adopt a resolution to place the 2024-2025 Amended Budget of Chester School District on file as of May 16, 2025, and schedule a hearing to present said budget on June 17, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. to be directly followed by the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Malley seconded to adopt the 2025-26 school calendar as presented. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Davitz seconded to approve the June 19, 2025, board meeting date to be moved to June 17, 2025. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Krieg motioned, Malley seconded to approve furniture pricing with Stiles Office Solutions, Inc for the Chester Early Childhood Center in the amount of \$52,531.21. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the quote with Rapids for Chester Early Childhood Center kitchen equipment in the amount of \$86,226.62. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the estimate from Samron for roof decking for the Chester Early Childhood Center in the amount of \$2,850.00. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the estimate from Germann Brick for the Chester Early Childhood Center in the amount of \$1,342.87. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Krieg seconded to approve the asbestos abatement with Owens Abatement, LLC for the Chester Early Childhood Center in the amount of \$38,500.00. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Davitz seconded to approve Baysinger's base bid with H&N Construction, Inc. for the Tuckpointing and Window Replacement in the amount of \$969,000.00. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Davitz seconded to approve Baysinger's base bid with Samron Midwest Contracting, Inc. for the Professor Sharp Media Center Phase 3 in the amount of \$338,600.00. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

Krieg motioned, Fricke seconded to approve Baysinger's base bid with Glandt Roofing, for the Chester High Schools Roof Replacement Project in the amount of \$380,208.00. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Malley seconded to approve the use of facility request for St.Mary's Catholic School to utilize the High School's track and facilities for a practice meet for Regionals on April 11, 2025, from 3 pm to 6:30 pm and for the Class "S" Track and Field Regionals on April 26, 2025 from 9 am to 3 pm. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Wolff seconded to approve the quote from QNS for technology updates for the 2025-26 school year at \$116,572.92. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Malley seconded to approve the Diane Gonzalez Memorial Scholarship. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Malley seconded to approve tenure for High School teacher, Jacqueline Clendenin. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Davitz seconded to approve tenure for High School teacher, Marsha Bartley. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Coffey seconded to approve tenure for High School teacher, Rana Hodge. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Malley seconded to approve tenure for High School teacher, Bryce Bainter. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Krieg motioned, Davitz seconded to approve tenure for High School teacher, Cheri Diercks. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Malley seconded to approve tenure for High School teacher, Brittany Mueller. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Davitz seconded to approve tenure for Grade School teacher, Susan Furuholmen. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Malley seconded to approve tenure for Grade School teacher, Margaret Schnoecker. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Malley seconded to approve to employ Josie Penira as Grade School Paraprofessional at \$17.10/hr effective April 7, 2025. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Fricke seconded to accept Jessica Rock as High School Girls track volunteer coach for the 2024-25 spring season. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Fricke seconded to approve the resignation of Ashley Govero as Jacketcare worker effective January 25, 2025. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the resignation of Aden McFarland as summer custodian effective March 24, 2025. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the resignation of Aidan Blechle as summer custodian effective March 24, 2025. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Wolff seconded to approve the resignation of Erin Eggemeyer, Grade School Special Education teacher effective the end of the 2024-25 school year. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the resignation of Arnel Ebio, High School Special Education teacher effective the end of the 2024-25 school year. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the resignation of Alex Abino, Grade School Special Education teacher effective the end of the 2024-25 school year. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Fricke seconded to approve to employ Robin Barton as High School Assistant Principal with a 5-year contract from 2025-30. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Nays: Coffey Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Fricke seconded to approve to employ Timothy Blair as Grade School Principal with a 2-year contract from 2025-27. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Coffey seconded to approve to employ Shirley Stegmann as Curriculum Director with a 2-year contract from 2025-27. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Davitz seconded to approve to employ Kristin Petrowske as Grade School Assistant Principal with a 2-year contract from 2025-27. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Malley, Fricke, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Davitz seconded to adjourn the special meeting at 8:35 p.m. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

The next REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Education will be held Thursday, **May 15, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.** (**Executive Session at 6:00 p.m.**) in the Chester Community High School Juergens Gym located at 1901 Swanwick Street, Chester, IL 62233.