

CHESTER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.139

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting May 15, 2025

The Board of Education of Chester Community Unit School District No. 139 held a Regular Meeting on May 15, 2025, in the High School Juergens Gym. President Debi Caraway called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Attorney Caleb Mundorf with Guin Mundorf, LLC comes into the executive session via phone at 6:04 p.m.

Attorney Caleb Mundorf leaves the executive session via phone at 6:22 p.m.

Krieg motioned, Wolff seconded to adjourn the executive meeting at 7:20 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Krieg motioned, Wolff seconded to enter into the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

- Terry Hardy - Thanking Board of Education and Administration
- Bruce Williamson - Solar Farm
- Tammy Brockhouse - Concerns with Mrs. Briggs
- Stephanie Sabo - Petition

Board Correspondence

- Thank you card from Marsha Bartley and Melanie Carter

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

- Agenda and items as listed:
- April 10, 2025 Regular and Executive meeting minutes, April 23, 2025 Special meeting minutes, and April 28, 2025 Reorganizational meeting minutes
- Bills in the amount of \$1,771,084.83 and payroll in the amount of \$616,327.37
- Financial reports

Athletic Director Report

CHS

- Senior night for Baseball is May 5th
- Baseball Regionals start May 19th at Sparta vs. Sparta
- Senior night for Softball is May 5th
- Softball Regionals start May 19th
- Senior night for Track and Field is May 13th
- Girls Track and Field Conference is May 7th at Roxana
- Girls Track and Field Sectionals is May 15th at Chester
- Girls Track and Field State prelims is May 22nd
- Boys Track and Field Conference is May 13th at Chester
- Boys Track and Field Sectionals is May 22nd at Chester
- Boys Track and Field State prelims is May 29th

CGS

- Boys Track team won the County meet
- Six boys in Track qualified for State on May 10th those include Lorenzo Brooks-7th grade 100 m dash, Roman Ditch-High jump and 800 m run, Preston Liefer-Long jump, Kingston Turner-Shot put, Isaiah Lyons-Pole Vault, Edgardo Lazu-Colon-Pole vault
- Two in Golf qualified for State those include Jack Luthy and Ashlynn Young, Boys State Golf meet is May 12th and Girls State Golf meet is May 13th

Other

- Volleyball camp is July 7th-10th
- Boys Basketball camp is July 18th-20th
- Eventlink will be utilized instead of Schedule Star next season
- Honors Night Sport Awards include A.Gamer-Elaina Lutman, Jeff Brown Memorial Track award-Lannin Caron and Gianna Eggemeyer, Scott Egge Memorial Scholar/Athlete award-Jack Heffernan, Cayden Brunkhorst, and Elaina Lutman, Mike McLean Memorial Football award-Zain Al-Jassim, Dick Roth Sportsmanship-Alex Williamson and Rylie Conley, Fritz Roth-Kolton Jany, Roseanna Sharp Cheerleading-Peyton Cole

Maintenance

- Put mulch in at the Grade School
- Trees have been cut down at the High School
- Toured the Pre K Early Childhood Center
- Changed rooftop filters
- Mowed Football field
- Hauled recycling

Curriculum

- Working on product renewals and textbook renewals for the 2025-26 school year
- The majority of our K-12 end of the year benchmark testing has been completed by May 9th
- All 2025 Spring state testing is now complete

Spring State Assessments:

- ACCESS for ELLs: Accessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State for English Language Learners - for Grades K-12
- IAR: Illinois Assessment of Readiness - for Grades 3-8
- ISA: Illinois Science Assessment - for Grades 5,8,11
- PSAT: Preliminary Scholastic Assessment (Aptitude) Test - for Grades 9 and 10
- SAT: Scholastic Assessment (Aptitude) Test - for Grade 11
- DLM-AA: Dynamic Learning Map Alternate Assessment

High School Principal

- On April 10th - Mrs. Barton took a group of students to the SISHSA Banquet @ SIUC
- On April 12th - Prom
- SIUC paid a visit and picked us as one of their SIUC Takeover Tour locations
- April 25th - Earth Day Celebration, students and staff focused on multiple areas: Cohen Complex, CGS, Front of CHS and clearing a path for future escape routes for evacuation. CHS students and staff went to St.Marys and St.Johns to include them in the Earth Day celebration
- April 29th - National Honors Society hosted a blood drive in Juergens Gym
- April 30th - Mr. Blechle accompanied Kolton Jany at the IPA Student leadership breakfast
- May 5th through 9th - Staff Appreciation week
- May 6th - CHS Spring concert
- May 7th - Senior Celebration Cookout
- May 8th - Senior Signing day
- May 8th - CHS Honors night
- May 12th and 13th - Senior Final Exams were completed and grades have been finalized
- May 18th - CHS Graduation 3 pm in Colbert Gym
- May 22nd - CGS Graduation 6 pm in Colbert Gym
- May 27th through 29th - Underclass final exams
- May 29th - Last day of school

Grade School Principal

- Graduation on Thursday, May 22nd at 6 pm in Colbert Gym
- Spring concert on May 1st featuring performances by the 5th, 6th, and Jr.High bands
- Celebrate Fitness day on Thursday, April 24th the gym was filled with inflatables, and outdoor activities were set up on the pavement in front of the school. PTS raised over \$10,000 this year for student activities
- Teacher Appreciation week from May 6th through 10th
- Honored Mrs. Keller and Mrs. Conway for Administrative Assistants Day
- Kindergarten graduations were held the week during May 12th
- Pre-K graduation was held May 8th

Special Education

- The Special Education 3rd-8th students completed the Spring Aimsweb+ benchmark assessments, which allows the teachers to track student progress and growth throughout the year
- The 4th quarter IEP progress reports will be going home to families when the report cards go home at the end of the school year. This will allow the families to be aware of their child's progress towards their IEP goals
- Our 3 students with hearing impairments recently participated in the yearly Deaf and Hard of Hearing Picnic, sponsored by Perandoe
- The building principals will soon be attending a professional development opportunity put on by the Center for Intensive Behavioral Supports, which targets the rules and regulations around the use of Restraints and Time Out procedures and will benefit students during crisis behavior situations

Superintendent

Governance

- Participated in the SLA (Spanish Language Arts) Standards Implementation training with the University of Chicago. This training was provided free of charge and is essential as we continue to support our growing ELL (English Language Learner) population
- Attended the Elevate Leadership session in Springfield this week, continuing my professional development and leadership growth
- Attended this week's Rotary meeting where our special guest were members of our Interact Rotary Club from Chester High school
- Met with our solar company and legal counsel to review and request updates to existing agreements and project details

Budget/Finance

- Amending the budget
- Completed application for Summer Food Program
- Amending grants for the end of the year

Building and Grounds

- Representatives from the State of Illinois visited to evaluate our current infrastructure as we prepare to transition our internet services to the state consortium once our contract with Clearwave expires
- Early Childhood Center continues to progress, several change orders this month
- Summer projects:
 - High School roof replacement
 - Tuckingpointing and windows
 - Phase 3 Media center

Sports

- Items for track equipment have been ordered for replacement from storm damage

Classroom

- Staff Appreciation last week

Krieg motioned, Wolff seconded to approve Project #23121 - Change order 3 with Samron Midwest Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$993.37 to add closers to 45 min fire-rated doors at the Early Childhood Center. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Coffey seconded to approve Project #23121 - Change order 4 with Samron Midwest Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$4,251.64 for the removal of electrified panic hardware and installation of standard hardware at the Early Childhood Center. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Coffey motioned, Wolff seconded to approve Project #23121 - Change order 5 with Samron Midwest Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$2,496.65 to install additional water valves as directed by the plumbing inspector at the Early Childhood Center. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Krieg motioned, Ebers seconded to approve Project #23121 - Change order 6 with Samron Midwest Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$4,985.82 to add 2 additional floor drains for the oven and ice maker at the Early Childhood Center. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Coffey seconded to approve Project #23121 - Change order 7 with Samron Midwest Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$3,280.00 to replace bad soil with lean concrete at the Early Childhood Center. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Krieg motioned, Ebers seconded to approve Project #23121 - Change order 8 with Samron Midwest Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$1,459.45 to modify B7 and C2 Columns due to changes in elevation at the Early Childhood Center. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Coffey seconded to approve Project #23121 - Change order 9 with Samron Midwest Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$1,713.78 to revise 4 smoke detectors to combo smoke/CO detectors at the Early Childhood Center. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Krieg seconded to approve Project #23121 - Change order 10 with Samron Midwest Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$2,240.63 for modification of dutch door hinge at the Early Childhood Center. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Coffey motioned, Wolff seconded to approve Project #23121 - Change order 11 with Samron Midwest Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$1,410.45 to provide replacement exhaust fans at the Early Childhood Center. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Ebers seconded to approve the facility request form for ComWell to utilize the Grade School's playground, cafeteria, restrooms, and gym for the Thrive Tribe - Social Emotional Learning Group on Monday's June 2nd-23rd from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Coffey motioned, Krieg seconded to approve the facility request form from Chester Stingers to utilize the High School Football practice field for Football camp on June 14, 2025 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am in case of inclement weather date to be moved to June 21, 2025. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Coffey motioned, Wolff seconded to approve the facility request form from Chester Stingers to utilize the High School Football field, concession stand, bleachers, old score clock, and field markers for Youth Football games from September 7, 2025 to November 16, 2025 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Ebers motioned, Coffey seconded to approve board meeting dates for the 2025-26 school year. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Krieg seconded to conduct 1st reading of Press Plus Policy 118. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Illinois College Spanish Language Arts (SLA) Standards Implementation Team and Chester CUSD 139 for the implementation of Spanish Language Arts (SLA) Standards. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Krieg motioned, Coffey seconded to approve Leila Craig as an Elementary Teacher for the 2025-2026 school year, pending successful completion of all employment requirements, including a criminal background check and EHR. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Ebers motioned, Coffey seconded to approve Darrian Nix as an Elementary Teacher for the 2025-2026 school year, pending successful completion of all employment requirements, including a criminal background check and EHR. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Coffey seconded to approve Ashlee Hirte as an Elementary Teacher for the 2025-2026 school year, pending successful completion of all employment requirements, including a criminal background check and EHR. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Krieg motioned, Ebers seconded to approve the reassignment of Grade School teacher Susan Furuholmen from 5th grade teacher to 4th grade teacher effective the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Wolff seconded to approve the reassignment of High School teacher Adrienne Kern from Special Education teacher to FACS teacher effective the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Ebers motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the reassignment of Grade School teacher Priscilla Martinez from 3rd grade teacher to ELL teacher effective the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Krieg seconded to approve Trayton Peters as a part-time High school Summer custodian at \$15.10/hr pending successful completion of all employment requirements, including a criminal background check and EHR. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Ebers motioned, Coffey seconded to approve Jonathon "Alden" Davitz as a part-time Grade school Summer custodian at \$15.10/hr pending successful completion of all employment requirements, including a criminal background check and EHR. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Davitz abstained. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Coffey seconded to approve Cayden Cavaness as a High school Summer custodian at \$15.10/hr pending successful completion of all employment requirements, including a criminal background check and EHR. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Krieg seconded to approve Logan McDonald as a Grade school Summer custodian at \$15.10/hr pending successful completion of all employment requirements, including a criminal background check and EHR. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Ebers motioned, Coffey seconded to approve Kross Jany as a Grade school Summer custodian at \$15.10/hr pending successful completion of all employment requirements, including a criminal background check and EHR. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Davitz seconded to approve TaShawn Palacio as a Grade school Summer custodian at \$15.10/hr pending successful completion of all employment requirements, including a criminal background check and EHR. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Ebers seconded to approve Caleb Coffey as a High school Summer custodian at \$15.10/hr pending successful completion of all employment requirements, including a criminal background check and EHR. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Ebers, Nays: none. Coffey abstained. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Ebers seconded to approve Alex Blechle as a High school Summer custodian at \$15.10/hr pending successful completion of all employment requirements, including a criminal background check and EHR. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Coffey motioned, Krieg seconded to approve Brandie Stefani as an Early Childhood Cook and Summer Cook at \$17.10/hr pending successful completion of all employment requirements, including a criminal background check and EHR. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Coffey motioned, Eber seconded to approve Paige Gendron as High School Cheerleading coach. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Coffey motioned, Davitz seconded to approve the resignation of Peyton Parker, Jacket Care worker effective April 17, 2025. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Krieg motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the resignation of Tammy Brockhouse, Grade School Head Cook effective April 30, 2025. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Ebers seconded to approve the resignation of Alice Decker, Grade School Translator effective the end of the 2024-25 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Coffey motioned, Ebers seconded to approve the resignation of Margaret Schnoeker, Grade School Teacher effective the end of the 2024-25 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the FMLA request for Erin Eggemeyer, Special Education Teacher effective March 25, 2025 until the end of the 2024-25 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Coffey seconded to approve to terminate the employment of Shawnell Madison, a Grade School Administrative Assistant for just cause effective immediately and Authorize a Notice of Termination to be sent to Shawnell Madison. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Davitz, Wolff, Krieg, Coffey, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Ebers seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:26 p.m. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

The next REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Education will be held Tuesday, **June 17, 2025 at 7:00 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.