

# **CHESTER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.139**

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

### **Regular Meeting** **November 18, 2025**

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The Board of Education of Chester Community Unit School District No. 139 held a Regular Meeting on November 18, 2025 in the Chester Early Childhood Center. Debi Caraway called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

*Dwight Lochhead, Priscilla Martinez, Tracy Colvis, Robyn Korando, Kasi Jany, Adrianne Kern, Stephanie Jany, Kellie Crawford, and Attorney Eric Scott present during executive session.*

*All Union left at 7:20 p.m.*

Davitz motioned, Ebers seconded to recess executive meeting at 7:32 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Ebers seconded to enter into the regular meeting at 7:40 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

- None

Board Correspondence

- Thank you letter from Sheri Bert

*Kimberly Briggs presented the FY25 Annual Audit*

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

Agenda and items as listed:

- Approve October 15, 2025 Regular and Executive meeting minutes, October 27, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes, and October 29, 2025 Emergency Meeting Minutes, and November 17, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes
- Bills in the amount of \$1,506,631.89 and payroll in the amount of \$701,347.11
- Financial reports

Athletic Director Report

CHS

- The Jackets hosted Maroa -Forsyth in the first round of playoffs on 11/1 . Ended the season 9-2.
- All Conference Team : Ethan Colvis was named Co-MVP of the Illinois Division making both the Offensive and Defensive conference teams as well. Trayton Peters was named Player of the Year of the All-Conference Offensive team.
- Offensive Team selections: Ethan Colvis, TaShawn Palacio, Trayton Peters, Trey McCartney, Alex Blechle, Brayden Juenger, Jakob Stueve, Jackie Bess,
- Defensive Team selections: Ethan Colvis, Brayden Juenger, Karim Landeros, Morgan Miers, Kanon Jany, Trayton Peters, Zane Eggemeyer, TaShawn Palacio, Derrius Shoemate
- IHSFCA 2A All State selection: Ethan Colvis
- IHSFCA 2A All State Honorable Mention selection: TaShawn Palacio
- All Conference Team : Maggie Caby and Camryn Wolff
- Competition season began Oct 27th
- First competition is Sat, Dec 13th @ Belleville East

- Competition season began Oct 27th
- First competition is Sun, Nov 30th @ Pinckneyville
- Katelynn Vallett qualified out of Regionals @ Chester for the Sectional meet @ Wesclin on 11/1 where her season ended.
- Gatorade Night was 11/13- the high school, junior high, and parochial school players were introduced and participated in various games. The Cheer and Dance teams performed, and a short CHS boys scrimmage to conclude the night.
- Home Opener is 11/25 vs Anna
- CIT dates: Jan 12th-17th
- The first game is Monday 11/17 @ Sparta (Tournament )
- Home opener is 11/24 vs Johnston City
- LJMWC dates : Jan 5th-10th

#### CGS

- The B- team won the consolation trophy at the PDR tournament
- Steeleville tournament results- currently happening

#### Other

- Fall Awards nights are being planned.
- SICA sport nominations have been entered and awaiting selections.

#### High School Principal

- Parent/teacher conferences took place on October 21st and 23rd, with 14 parents and guardians participating in this year's survey.
- Chester High School is proud to recognize our Illinois State Scholars: David August, Addison Gottschammer, Trevor Keeton, Erin Liefer, Rylie Myers, and Camryn Wolff. They have scored above the 95th percentile on the ACT/SAT or ranked in the top half of their class, based on a combination of test scores and class rank/GPA
- The class of 75' donated \$400 to the Just for Jackets program
- The class of 74' donated \$1500 to the CHS art club
- Winter sports pictures will be taken on November the 24th
- Mr. Wiegand accompanied a group of students to a career expo held at the Belleville Fairgrounds
- Mrs. Miesner hosted an ASVAB exam where 23 CHS students took part in the exam
- The National Honor Society held a Red Cross blood drive on November 6th
- On October 31st, Mr. Conley, Mrs. Miller, and the Student Council organized a Trick or Treat event
- On November 12th, the National Honor Society held its 2025 Induction Ceremony, organized and led by NHS sponsors Mrs. Ray and Mrs. Hankins
- CHS honored Veterans Day on November 11th, displaying hundreds of small flags on the front lawn, all three flag poles featuring the U.S. flag, and a tribute slideshow playing throughout the facility, including on the giant video board
- Ms. Vahling organized a "Kindness Week" celebration from November 10th to November 14th, which included dress-up days, daily challenges, kindness awards, and shout-outs
- Two students that are currently attending our CCSI all day program have submitted a letter to the CUSD BOE for approval of early graduation

#### Grade School Principal

- Parent teacher conferences were held on October 15th and 17th. There were a total of 435 conferences scheduled
- We hosted our yearly Veterans Day assembly. A breakfast was provided for the veterans, and many veterans attended. Wyatt Ruehling served as our distinguished speaker for the event
- The concert for our fifth grade band will take place, November 20th. Additionally, the junior high band concert is scheduled for December 4th and the Grade School Christmas Concert for grades 1st-4th is scheduled for December 11th
- Trish Jany has been recognized as our Staff Member of the Month of October
- Parent Teacher Conferences will take place October 21st and 23rd
- We celebrated Red Ribbon Week with different dress up days and students were able to take a pledge to be drug and bully free that entered them in a drawing for daily prizes

- Kindness Week took place November 11th - 14th. Students raised \$655.54 with their coin collection battle between classes. This money will be donated to our Kids Closet Food Pantry. Students also brought in non-perishable items that will go in our Kids Closet Food Pantry
- We had our annual staff costume contest. Cindy Lyons won best individual costume and 4th Grade won the best group costume

#### Early Childhood Principal

- Family Fun Night: Hosted at Memorial Hospital of Chester with excellent turnout in October with community helpers- Randolph County Sheriff's Department, Chester Police Department, Chester Fire Department, Memorial Hospital of Chester providers, Randolph County Birth to Three Programs, and Birth to Five Illinois all attended.
- Attended the IPA Conference in Peoria with Mr. Blair, Mr. Blechle, and principals across the state.
- Alex Blechle is our new night time custodian and is doing an amazing job
- Launched the Little Jackets Food Cabinet to support families in need
- Collected non-perishable food items and raised \$60 from staff through our "Give Back to the Community" comfy clothes day, generously sponsored by Gail Kordys
- Jada Berry hosted the first PI Playgroup in the multipurpose room, offering interaction and gross motor experiences for toddlers and babies with Balance Beans

#### Enrollment:

Pre-K: 71 students

EC: 12 students, with 5 new students starting soon

Total: 83 students

#### Curriculum Director

- Our K-12 Winter Benchmark testing will start on December 1st.
- The goal is to have all testing completed before we leave for Christmas/New Year's break.
- On our Friday, Jan. 9th, school improvement date, teachers will review the Winter Benchmark data and use this data for curriculum and student achievement planning.
- On Friday, Nov. 14th, the ECC teachers will have training provided by Melissa Davitz for Teaching Strategies Gold. (This is a rescheduled training from Nov. 7th.)
- On Friday, Nov. 21st, all teachers will have MagicSchool training. (This is a rescheduled training from Nov. 7th.)
  - MagicSchool is an AI-powered platform designed to help teachers and students with educational tasks.
  - For teachers: time-saving tools such as generating activities, rubrics, worksheets and presentations; curriculum support to help "unpack standards" making them easy to understand
  - For students: offers safe, supervised AI tools
- The GoGuardian Beyond the Basics training that was scheduled for Nov. 7th still needs to be rescheduled.
- I will begin working on adding IEP and ELL accommodations for the Spring 2026 State Testing.
- The deadline to submit accommodations is the end of January.

#### 2026 Spring State Assessment Dates:

**ACCESS for ELLs:** Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State for English Language Learners -- Jan 14 - Mar 3 for Grades K-12

**IAR:** Illinois Assessment of Readiness -- week of Mar. 23 - Mar 27 for CGS Grades 3-8

**ISA:** Illinois Science Assessment -- Mar 3 - Apr 30 for Grades 5 & 8

**ACT with Writing:** April 2nd for CHS Grade 11

**PreACT Secure:** April 2nd for CHS Grade 9 and Grade 10

**DLM-AA:** Dynamic Learning Map Alternate Assessment -- Mar 12 - May 7 \*We have one student at CGS and one student at CHS who will take these assessments.

Superintendent

#### Governance:

- ❖ **Joint Annual Conference**  
Mrs. Caraway and I will represent our district on a panel at the Joint Annual Conference pre-session, "Daring Greatly: Leading Courageously Together."
- ❖ **Strategic Plan Dates**  
This month, we held two strategic planning meetings focused on refining the district's vision,

priorities, and action steps. I continue to collaborate closely with Dr. Hruby to prepare facilitation documents for the district.

❖ **Safe Routes to School**

Tim and I attended a public presentation at City Hall regarding the Safe Routes to School grant. We continue to collaborate with the city to support this project.

❖ **Intergovernmental Agreement**

The City of Chester has approved the Intergovernmental Agreement this month.

❖ **Autism Plus Consultation**

We met with the ASD Professional Learning & Universal Support Project that ISBE has provided to assist with the behavior needs of children and youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and related behavior and communication disorders.

❖ **ISBE 2025 Annual Summative Designations**

Chester High School is designated Commendable; Chester Elementary is Targeted for Children with Disabilities.

❖ **Meetings:**

I attended Rotary, Chamber, Perando, CCSI/Okwa, Bushue, SWIASA, and ROE 45 Superintendent Networking this month.

❖ **Cameras:**

Security Alarms proposal for a camera in the HS gym tunnel and the HS Football Field.

Budget/Finance:

❖ Review Tax Levy

❖ Working on 21st Century Grant. The Chamber of Commerce has agreed to be a co-applicant, which will help strengthen our application by showing strong community collaboration and support.

Building and Grounds

❖ Projects:

- **Windows & Tuckpointing:** Punch list items are being addressed.
- **Media Center:** Pending completion of some electrical work.
- **Roof:** Punch list items are in progress.
- **Chester Early Childhood Center (CECC):** Punch list items are being resolved; however, we are still awaiting the delivery of a few remaining items.
- **Football Lights:** Project is complete, and the application has been sent to Ameron for incentives. However, the control box in the press box has been losing connection. An antenna has been ordered to improve connectivity—there will be **no additional cost** for this adjustment.
- **Elevators:** Work is complete; we are currently awaiting the final inspection.
- **Electricity GS:** As you are aware, we experienced an electrical incident at the Grade School. I am continuing to work with our insurance provider and Brown Electric to determine the final steps needed to resolve the issue fully.

Classroom

❖ On our PD day, November will need to be rescheduled due to the e-learning day.

- Magic School
- GoGuardian 6-12 teachers
- Handle with Care
- Strategies Gold

Wolff motioned, Fricke seconded to approve the Certificate for Payment for H&N Construction, Inc. Pay Application #5 for the Chester High School Tuckpointing and Window Replacement in the amount of \$147,035.54. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Davitz seconded to approve the the adder of upgraded controls to offsite capabilities with 10 years of service for \$10,000 with GeoSurfaces for the Chester High School Retrofit Football Stadium Lighting Project. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: Fricke, Coffey. Motion carried.

Conduct 1st reading of Press Policy Issue 120.

Fricke motion, Davitz seconded to approve the purchase of staff gift cards for Christmas. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

First reading/discussion of Tax Levy.

Krieg motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with Southwestern Illinois College for the Running Start Program. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Wolff seconded to approve the Retainer Agreement with Bushue HR for renewal. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Coffey seconded to approve early graduation in December of 2025 for Chace Murphy. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Coffey seconded to approve early graduation in December of 2025 for Aiden Lyons. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the Grade School HSA, Sunshine Cash. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Krieg motioned, Fricke seconded to approve Certificate of Payment for Glandt Roofing LLC's pay application #2 for the High School's roof replacement project in the amount of \$110,342.61. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Coffey seconded to approve "Special Covenant" Amendments (as presented) to Perandoe Special Education District's Constitution to permit and authorize an Intergovernmental Agreement and Build-to-Suit Lease with SWIC for the development and occupancy of a new campus and facility for Perandoe's operations. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Wolff seconded to approve "Special Covenant" Amendments (as presented) to Career Center of Southern Illinois' ("CCSI") Intergovernmental Agreement Between Participating Districts to permit and authorize an Intergovernmental Agreement and Build-to-Suit Lease with SWIC for the development and occupancy of a new campus and facility for CCSI's operations. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Krieg motioned, Davitz seconded to approve the Certificate of Payment for Samron Midwest Contracting's Pay Application #4 for the Professor Sharp Media Center Phase 3 project in the amount of \$85,449.55. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Krieg seconded to approve the Certificate of Payment for Samron Midwest Contracting's Pay Application #7 for the Chester Early Childhood Center Renovations project in the amount of \$190,443.94. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Coffey seconded to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement Between the City of Chester, IL, and the Chester Community Unit School District No.139 relating to the Cohen Complex. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Davitz seconded to approve upgrade to high school volleyball system, which includes: additional holes, sleeves, caps, and additional equipment at \$7408.00. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the FY25 Annual Audit as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Ebers seconded to approve Dwight Lochhead as High School Trap Shooting coach for the 2025-2026 sports season. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Ebers seconded to approve Amanda Stueve as Grade School Girls Assistant Basketball Coach for the 2025-2026 sports season. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Coffey seconded to approve Patrick McKinney as a Trapshooting volunteer for the 2025-2026 sports season. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Coffey seconded to approve Clayton Andrews as 5th and 6th Boys Basketball coach for the 2025-2026 sports season. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the resignation of Kathy Bergmann, High School Paraprofessional effective October 31, 2025. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the resignation of Troy Masterson, Grade School 5th and 6th grade Boys Basketball coach effective immediately. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the resignation of Amanda Shinabargar as Yearbook Sponsor effective the end of the 2025-26 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Davitz seconded to approve the resignation of Mackenzie Deimund Jacketcare worker effective November 4, 2025. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Davitz seconded to approve Alecia Perruquet as Grade School Paraprofessional at \$17.70/hr effective November 11, 2025. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Krieg seconded to approve David Sullivan as Grade School Evening Custodian at \$20.30/hr effective October 29, 2025. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Davitz seconded to approve Heather Wingerter as Grade School Paraprofessional at \$17.70/hr effective December 1, 2025. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Davitz seconded to approve Camryn Wolff as Jacketcare worker pending all employment requirements including background check and EHR. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Ebers, Nays: none. Wolff abstained. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Fricke seconded to approve Callie Davis as Jacketcare worker at \$15.10/hr pending all employment requirements including background check and EHR. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Davitz seconded to approve Hannah Hoskin as Jacketcare worker at \$15.10/hr pending all employment requirements including background check and EHR. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Wolff seconded to approve Ryker Hoffman as Jacketcare worker at \$15.10/hr pending all employment requirements including background check and EHR. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the reassignment of Courtney Hecht, 2nd Grade Teacher to High School Business teacher for the 2026-27 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Coffey seconded to recess the regular meeting at 9:02 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Coffey seconded to enter back into the executive meeting at 9:02 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

*Kristin Petrowske and Timothy Blair came into the executive session at 9:10 p.m.*

Davitz motioned, Wolff seconded to adjourn the executive meeting and go back into the regular meeting at 10:51 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davtiz motioned, Wolff seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:51 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Krieg, Davitz, Wolff, Ebers, Nays: none. Motion carried.

The next REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Education will be held **Thursday December 18, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Chester Early Childhood Center Board Room located at 2319 Old Plank Road, Chester, IL 62233.