

CHESTER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.139 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting May 21, 2026

The Board of Education of Chester Community Unit School District No. 139 held a Regular Meeting on May 21, 2026 in the Chester Early Childhood Center. Debi Caraway called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Davitz motioned, Ebers seconded to enter into the executive meeting at 6:00 p.m for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

*Attorney Caleb Mundorf joined the executive session at 6:15 p.m. over the phone.
Caleb Mundorf left the executive session at 6:20 p.m.*

Davitz motioned, Ebers seconded to adjourn the executive meeting at 7:00 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Coffey seconded to enter into the regular session at 7:03 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

- None

Board Correspondence

- None

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

Agenda and items as listed:

- Approve April 16, 2026 Regular and Executive board meeting minutes
- Bills in the amount of \$803,510.97 and payroll in the amount of \$676,845.19
- Financial reports

Athletic Director Report

CHS

Dance

- Annah Helvey Ahring is signing with Columbia College to continue her dance career.
- Hayden Cartwright signed with SIU Carbondale to continue her dance career.
- Megan Zimmer signed with Millikin to continue her dance career.

Track

- The girls placed 3rd in the Conference meet.
- All Conference (1st Place)
 - Joella Eggemeyer 100 m dash
 - Katelynn Vallett 3200 and 1600 m dash
 - 4x200 m relay- Jaimy Duran, Lillian Diskey, Joella Eggemeyer , Lauren Cowell
- The boys won their Conference meet, first time Conference Champs since 2013
- All Conference (1st Place)
 - 4x100 - Gabe Coffman, Donnie Sabo, Danny Worley, TaShawn Palacio
 - 800m run and 400 m dash - Gabe Coffman
 - 4x200- Anthony Armenta, Ryker Hoffman, Jon Hayer, Donnie Sabo
 - 200 m dash- Donnie Sabo
 - Long Jump- Danny Worley
 - Triple Jump- Derrius Shoemate

- The girls that advanced to the State meet; junior Joelle Eggemeyer in the 100 and 200 m dash, junior Lauren Cowell in Pole Vault, and freshman Katelynn Vallett in the 3200 m run
- Boys Regionals is home May 20

Baseball

- First Round of Regionals are May 28 at DuQuoin vs Pinckneyville

Softball

- First Round of Regionals are May 20 at DuQuoin vs DuQuoin
- Lexi Mott recorded her 400th strikeout of her career

CGS Athletics

Cheer

- TryOuts: May 11th-13th

Track

- State Results
 - High Jump 5th- Roman Ditch
 - 800 m run 11th- Roman Ditch
 - 7th , 7th grade 100 m dash- Mason Howie
 - 8th 4x200 relay- Mason Howie, Roman Ditch, Hunter Brunkhorst, Lorenzo Brooks
 - 11th 4x400 relay- Mason Howie , Kolin Martinez, Dylan Lazu, Roman Ditch

Golf

- Miley Bert qualified and participated at State 5/12 @ Marion

Other

- CHS Athletics was asked to participate in providing volunteers to work the 5K Race Across the River to commemorate the opening of the new Don Welge Memorial Bridge. The athletics program will receive a third of the proceeds split between CHS, Perryville High School and St. Vincent's High School. The run is to take place July 11th, 2026 at 7:00 am.

High School Principal

- April 28 The National Honor Society hosted a successful blood drive in Jurgens Gym
- April 29 Mrs. Barton accompanied Addison Gottchammer to the IPA Student Leadership Breakfast
- May 6 Seniors participated in Signing Day
- May 7 and 8 Senior final exams were completed, and grades were officially finalized for the Class of 2026
- May 13 CHS proudly awarded over \$500,000 in scholarships, while the Class of 2026 received nearly \$1.8 million in total financial assistance
- May 14 Graduation ceremonies were held at 6:00 PM in Colbert Gym for grade school graduates
- May 17 Graduation for the Class of 2026 was held at 3:00 PM in Colbert Gym
- May 23 Southern Illinois University Carbondale visited Chester High School as part of their SIUC Takeover Tour

Grade School Principal

- Graduation was held on Thursday, May 14th at 6:00 PM in the Colbert Gymnasium
- The Spring Concert took place on Thursday, April 12th featuring performances by the 5th grade, 6th grade, and Junior High bands
- Celebrate Fitness Day was held on Thursday, April 23rd. PTS raised over \$6,000 this year for student activities

Early Childhood Principal

- May 7 Pre-K Graduation at CHS at 6:30 PM
- Mrs. Davitz and I have submitted our new grant applications through EUNA. Both have been accepted for continuation for FY27
- April 29 Field trip to CGS with future Kindergarten students was a success and we were able to watch the Seniors do their walk through

Superintendent

Governance:

- ❖ **Summer Meal Program:** We will run from June 2 through August 4, with the same format as last summer. We have 668 kids signed up right now.
- ❖ **Meetings:** Perando, admin meetings
- ❖ **SUMMER SCHOOL:** Preparing for summer school
 - All activities this summer will be at the Grade School due to the construction at the high school.

Budget/Finance:

- ❖ Amending grants.
- ❖ Amending budget

Building and Grounds

- ❖ Projects:
 - **Windows & Tuckpointing:** Phase 2 of the windows and tuckpointing project is now being initiated.
 - **Media Center:** Work is nearing completion. Still trying to match the flooring in the boys' locker room under the Media Center.
 - **Roof:** COMPLETE.
 - **Chester Early Childhood Center (CECC):** COMPLETE
 - **Elevators:** COMPLETE and APPROVED. All elevators are open.
 - **HVAC:** Kickoff meeting with GRP set for April 23. They did some evening work the last two weeks. Start construction on Monday, May 18.
 - **Playground:** Playground equipment to be delivered June 15.

General:

- ❖ On May 15, the last day of school, we provided lunch for all staff and recognized employees during our longevity awards celebration.

Ebers motioned, Davitz seconded to conduct second reading and approve the Board Press Policy 121 updates. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Krieg seconded to approve to renew the IHSA Membership for the 2026-27 SY. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the facility request form for SI Elite Development to utilize the Grade School gym for sports training on Monday and Thursday for May, June, and July. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Ebers seconded to approve the Certificate for Payment for Glandt Roofing LLC's Pay Application #3 for the Chester High School Roof Replacement project in the amount of \$7,945.80. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Board appointed the Parent Advisory Committee & Behavioral Intervention Committee as follows: Robyn Korando, GS Teacher, Kasi Jany, GS Teacher, Paula Ray, HS Teacher, Beth Brown, HS Teacher, Danielle Conway, GS Office, Jennifer Cartwright, AD, Stephanie Sabo, HS Parent, Erica McKinney, GS Parent, Mr. & Mrs. Matt Holdman, GS Parent, Jeremy Blechle, HS Principal, Kristin Petrowske, GS Assistant Principal, Tim Blair, GS Principal, Robin Barton, HS Assistant Principal, Rachel Marshall, ECC Principal, Cassie Vahling, HS Social Worker, Shirley Stegmann, Curriculum Director, Kasey Crook, GS Social Worker, Charles Fricke, Board Member, James Krieg, Board Member, Debi Caraway, Board Member (alternate)

The Board conducted the first reading of the Grade School/ECC and High School Handbook.

Davitz motioned, Ebers seconded to approve the facility request form for Gold Star Mission to stay overnight in Juergen's gym on September 21, 2026 from 3 p.m. to 6 a.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Davitz seconded to approve Jocelynn Rains as Grade School Head Cook and Summer Meal Program help at \$19.70/hr beginning June 1, 2026 pending successful completion of all employment requirements, including

EHR and background check. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Krieg seconded to approve Peyton Dickson as Grade School Custodian at \$20.30/hr beginning May 18, 2026. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Ebers motioned, Davitz seconded to approve Kristin Uhrhan as Grade School Paraprofessional at \$18.50/hr beginning August 11, 2026 pending successful completion of all employment requirements including EHR and background check. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Ebers motioned, Davitz seconded to approve Jenna Bert as High School Volunteer Cheerleading coach. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Fricke seconded to approve Shannon Wolff as High School Assistant Volleyball coach. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Wolff abstained. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Ebers seconded to approve Destiny Kiner as High School Girls Head Basketball coach pending successful completion of all employment requirements including EHR and background check. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Ebers seconded to approve Patrick McKinney as High School Assistant Trapshooting coach. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Wolff seconded to approve Erin Conley as Summer Custodian beginning May 18, 2026, at \$20.30/hr. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Fricke seconded to approve Kellie Jausel as Grade School Paraprofessional at \$18.50/hr beginning August 11, 2026, pending successful completion of all employment requirements including EHR and background check. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Ebers seconded to approve Autumn Ogle as Grade School Paraprofessional at \$18.50/hr beginning August 11, 2026 pending successful completion of all employment requirements including EHR and background check. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Krieg motioned, Coffey seconded to approve Shelly Farris as Grade School Yearbook Sponsor effective the beginning of the 2025-26 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Wolff seconded to approve Mercedes Hahs as High School Paraprofessional at \$18.50/hr beginning August 11, 2026, pending successful completion of all employment requirements including EHR and background check. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Wolff seconded to approve Camrynn Howie as High School Girls Assistant Basketball coach. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Ebers seconded to approve the FMLA request for Tina Clark, High School cafeteria personnel, intermittently from March 11, 2026, until July 30, 2026. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Krieg seconded to approve the resignation of Jeff Mott High School Girls Basketball Head Coach, effective immediately. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Krieg seconded to approve the resignation of Mallory Leathers, Early Childhood Center Paraprofessional, effective the end of the 2025-26 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Ebers motioned, Wolff seconded to approve the resignation of Jon August, part-time High School Cafeteria personnel, effective the end of the 2025-26 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the resignation of Isabelle Marshall, Grade School Paraprofessional, effective May 6, 2026. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Coffey motioned, Wolff seconded to approve the resignation of Cassy Helmers, High School Assistant Cheerleading coach, effective end of the 2025-26 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Krieg motioned, Ebers seconded to approve the resignation of Alisha Eggemeyer, Grade School Paraprofessional, effective end of the 2025-26 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the resignation of Sarah Surman, 5th and 6th grade Girls Basketball coach, effective May 15, 2026. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Davitz seconded to approve the resignation of Robin Barton, High School Girls Golf coach, effective May 17, 2026. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Ebers seconded to approve Allison Hannan as 3rd-grade Elementary Teacher, effective August 11, 2026, pending successful completion of all employment requirements, including EHR and background check. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Ebers seconded to approve Cassandra Hays as High School ESL Teacher, effective August 11, 2026, pending successful completion of all employment requirements, including EHR and background check. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Davitz seconded to approve to reassign Alisa Herrell from 2nd-grade teacher to Grade School Math Specialist, effective the beginning of the 2026-27 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Wolff seconded to approve to reassign Ella Bernaix from 1st-grade teacher to 2nd-grade teacher, effective the beginning of the 2026-27 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Ebers seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:46 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Coffey, Fricke, Caraway, Wolff, Davitz, Ebers, Krieg, Nays: none. Motion carried.

The next REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Education will be held **Thursday June 18, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Chester Early Childhood Center Board Room located at 2319 Old Plank Road, Chester, IL 62233.