



Creating an educational culture of continuous growth through shared partnerships and responsibilities.



### ESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



A special welcome to New Board Members Susan Hayes and Geoffrey Bailey. Both have already attended a KSBA "Boot Camp" for newly elected Board Members. Also congratulations to reelected Board Member, Linda Keller. Mr. Bell and Mr. Clark were not up for re-election this term and we're very fortunate to have them on the Board. I look forward to working with all Board Members and appreciate their willingness to serve and thank them in advance for the opportunities to advance our schools.

As you know, we celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in January. This is a wonderful time to reflect on our talents and our professional and personal journey.....what we individually contribute to society. You have the talent and the power to make a life-long difference in the lives of children. James Baldwin said, "Our children......we will profit by or pay for whatever they become."

Social philosopher John Dewey said: "What the wisest and most compassionate parent wants for his own child is what we should all want for all our children." Ask yourself this question as we begin a New Year.....Am I doing what needs to be done so a child's life chances are improved? I believe you are and I applaud the work that is going on in classrooms across the district. (cont'd on top right).

( .. cont'd) In closing I would like to share a message Commissioner Pruitt posted in reference to role models.

Role models play a big part in students' lives, sometimes even if they never meet face to face. 2016 Summer Olympics, Simone Manuel became the 1<sup>st</sup> African American to win gold in an individual Olympic swimming event. Students of color watching the games saw that if she did it, it was possible for them too.

How does that help close the achievement gap? It helps because so many of our students cannot see their way to success. As educators we must believe each and every child can realize success. We have to own it!

Have a Happy New Year filled with love, laughter and learning! In 2017 continue to celebrate our successes, sustain our momentum and create our future.

#### Respectfully,

Superintendent Mary Ann Gemmill

## Student Spotlight of the Month

Kathleen Vanvactor is a senior at Hopkinsville High School. She is very involved in the JROTC program and has held positions as a private and as a Major. In addition, she has served as the Color Guard Commander. She has presented flags at numerous ball games, parades and community events. She was recognized at last month's school board meeting.



#### Community-Wide MLK, Jr. March & School Challenge to Be Held January 16



There is no school on Monday, January 16 in observance of the MLK, Jr. holiday

The MLK, Jr. March and School Challenge Event will begin at 10:00 a.m. at the Boys and Girls Club located at 1600 South Walnut Street. Students and staff are encouraged to wear their school colors and bring along their school's banner. The school with the most students/staff to attend will win the traveling "Spirit" Award. Transportation is not provided by CCPS. Lunch will be provided to those who participate.



## Christian County Observes School Board Recognition Month

January is School Board Recognition Month and it is no secret that members are tasked with many responsibilities.

Please take time this month to thank the School Board for representing Christian County. They truly care about the success and future of our students.

We welcome new board members Geoffrey Bailey and Sue Hayes and re-elected board member Linda Keller. A proclamation will be read at the January School Board Meeting declaring this month as School Board Recognition Month.



Christian County Board of Education

L-R: Geoffrey Bailey, Sue Hayes, Linda Keller, Lindsey Clark, and Tom Bell

#### HHS Band Marches in the Citrus Bowl & Walt Disney Parade

Following a successful season of performances, The Hopkinsville High School Band of Tigers was invited to march in the Citrus Bowl and Walt Disney parade this past December. Thank you to students, staff and the band booster club for making this possible. The band represented Christian County well. Nice job! For more pictures, check out the HHS Band of Tigers Facebook page.



Christian County High School COLONEL COMMITMENT to GRADUATION Friday, January 27th, 2017 8:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M CCHS GYM



College/Career Fair for CCHS Juniors and Seniors

## Gateway Academy to Host 2nd Annual **VEX Robotics Tournament**

30 teams across Kentucky and Illinois will participate in the upcoming VEX Robotics Tournament scheduled for Saturday, January 21 at Gateway Academy.

Robotic teams will compete in qualification matches and then make alliances for the tournament (best of 3). Each match lasts 2 minutes. Winning teams qualify for the state tournament.

Doors open at 7:30 a.m. and the first match will begin at 9:00 a.m. The event is sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Authority.

The public is invited to attend this exciting event. If you would like to be a judge or volunteer at this event, please contact Kelly Autry at (270) 887-7030.





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# PROJECT GRADUATION 2017 Planning Dates

Parents of local seniors are encouraged to attend and participate in Project Graduation planning.

Each meeting will be held inside the Christian County High School Library at 6:00 p.m.

> January 24 February 7 March 7 April 11 April 24 May 9 **May 16**

**Co-Project Graduation Coordinators** 

Mindy Hargrove (270) 881-8845

Bridget Victor (502) 681-7687