

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Christian County Public Schools



E-Newsletter



At the recent *State of the Schools* breakfast I shared CCPS **PROUD** points as well as **PAIN** points in reference to the most recent K-PREP results. Without a fully operational accountability system, it was a challenge.

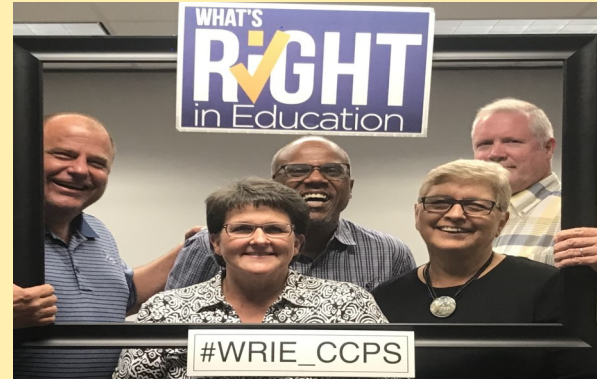
However, we know that together we have achieved so much.

I feel fortunate and thankful to work and partner with people like you, who have a great passion and purpose for creating great schools for our students and for the community. We have much to be thankful for! Thank you so much for the work you do and the services you provide.

I celebrate you and hope that you will take a moment to reflect on your role in helping to provide an education that changes everything for students. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

November Focus Word

Accountable



Sue Hayes Discusses School Board's Role

This month I want to discuss with Christian County Public Schools staff, parents, and our students, the duties of a strong school board. Kentucky school board members are charged with five tasks and I will address each individually.

Build School District Leadership: This responsibility begins with hiring the best superintendent CCPS students and parents deserve, and we have done that.

Provide Fiscal Oversight: As a board, we not only approve the budget necessary to allow CCPS to operate properly, but we continually ensure that those moneys are spent wisely by reviewing our monthly financial statements.

Manage District Policies: The board sets policies that allow our teachers and students to take full advantage of the education process. The board *does not* however, run the day-to-day operations of the school system. The superintendent and her staff are well qualified to do so and they do it well.

Advocate for Public Education: This task is the easiest for me and my fellow board members. The reason we chose to run for this elective office is because we strongly believe in the power of a quality public education.

Foster Board Team Effectiveness: I believe our board's strength is its diversity and its representation of all areas of Christian County. As you will see from time to time, our votes as individual board members do not always align, but we respect each member's opinions and we serve as a team. Our board meetings are open to the public with each meeting having time set aside for public comments. I look forward to hearing from you!

In addition to local school board committees, I am privileged to serve on a state cadre whose mission is to seek and share (with all school districts), innovative methods to close the state-wide achievement gap. Thank you.



What's Right?

The Right Start Institute Supports New Teachers

Amy Wilcox
Chief Instructional Officer

Starting at a new school can be just as overwhelming for new teachers as it is for new students. While it is exciting for new staff to envision the year, it can also be overwhelming. The

new things they need to learn range from information to human resources to curriculum. CCPS's The Right Start Institute for new-to-the-district teachers helps to ease the transition for new staff and establishes a foundation of teacher support to help new teachers thrive.

Over two days in July, new-to-the-district teachers attended the Right Start Institute. The Institute, led by the Instructional Services Department, assists teachers in adapting to a new workplace. We plan around the highest priority needs of new teachers. It is impossible to learn all of the particulars at once, so spacing out district-led conversations around systems, assessment, and teaching and learning is prudent. Attendees focused their learning around developing systems for organizing and managing their classrooms, building relationships with students, and active engagement strategies.

To help new teachers make connections to specific practices within their schools, teacher leaders from each school learn alongside the new teachers. The model allows new teachers to connect their learning to the established school practices of their new workplace and to make a connection to someone who will be working alongside them on a daily basis.

The support continues throughout the year. The new teacher group continues to work together throughout the year for six hours of professional learning. In addition, district instructional coaches provide support to new teachers through ongoing coaching in their daily practice. Developing highly qualified teachers is critical to student success. We believe the right start is foundational to retaining and building a great workforce.



Three Christian County Public Schools have been named among America's Healthiest Schools. The Alliance for a Healthier Generation's 2018 list adds Christian County Middle School, Hopkinsville High School, and South

Christian Elementary School to the prestigious list, joining Christian County High School and Sinking Fork Elementary as members.

District Health/Nursing Coordinator *Megan Kidd* said *"All schools at CCPS utilize the Alliance for a Healthier Generation program to monitor the health and wellness activities in each school. Studies show healthy students perform better academically, have better attendance, and behave better in class. We at CCPS are proud of our schools for being recognized for their commitment to the student's health and wellbeing and creating an overall healthier school."*

Since the program's inception in 2007, 69 out of 1,100 Kentucky schools have been recognized with the National Healthy Schools Award.



Congratulations to the HHS Band of Tigers on their on advancing to the KMEA Class AAAA State Marching Band Finals for the fourth consecutive year!



From left, CCPS Superintendent Mary Ann Gemmill, State Representative Walker Thomas, KDE Government Affairs Director Brad Montell, KDE Commissioner Dr. Wayne Lewis, Braden Howell and Calvin Demps (Gateway Ambassadors).

Kentucky Commissioner of Education Dr. Wayne Lewis toured Gateway Academy to Innovation and Technology with Christian County Public Schools Superintendent Mary Ann Gemmill and Gateway principal Penny Knight in October.

The local visit is a part of the Commissioner's strategy to connect with school districts across the state. Joining Dr. Lewis were State Senator Whitney Westerfield, State Representative Walker Thomas, and KDE Government Affairs Director Brad Montell. The tour, led by Gateway ambassadors Calvin Demps and Braden Howell, showcased the academy's Project Based Learning strategies, the mobile Science Technology Engineering and Math lab, apprenticeship participants, and the VEX Robotics program.

MILITARY AND FEDERALLY CONNECTED PARENTS!

Impact Aid Survey REMINDER

Do you know why Impact Aid funding is important for your child's school?

This funding is provided to school districts to offset the loss of property tax on federal property.

Who should turn in Impact Aid Surveys to the school?

Parents and guardians of Children of Military and Department of Defense (DD) Civilians need to turn in the surveys to their school.

Why is my survey important?

The amount of funds the school district receives is based on the number of Impact Aid Surveys returned.

Military and Federally connected parents, you can help make a difference at your school!

Christian County Public Schools is financially impacted by the presence of federal activity in Kentucky. Our school system is funded primarily by local and state taxes, but due to the large federal presence in our area, CCPS is eligible to apply for federal assistance.

If you are active duty military or federally connected, we need you to complete this form! Call your child's school and complete the survey by Tuesday, November 13th, 2018.



Lanijah Cayce is our Christian County Public Schools *Student of the Month* for October. Lanijah is an eighth grader at Christian County Middle School and a member of the 8th grade choir that has been asked to perform at the prestigious Kentucky Music Educators Conference in Louisville. Lanijah is enrolled in Algebra I and scored distinguished in both reading and math on the 2017-18 KPREP assessment. Lanijah has a perfect discipline record and perfect attendance. According to her principal Kevin Crider; "Lanijah is what is right at Christian County Middle School and Christian County Public Schools."



According to the International Dyslexia Association, 1 in 5 people have dyslexia. The Dyslexia Association of the Pennyriple provides screening and tutorial services. If your child has difficulty with some of the areas listed above, please call them at 270-885-5804.



Christian County Public Schools is on a continuous journey to make our schools the best places for students to learn, staff to work, and parents to send their children. In this effort, we are conducting separate surveys for our students and parents through November 14th.

Please take a few minutes and complete the surveys on our website (christian.kyschools.us). The feedback from students and parents will help us identify areas for growth and to celebrate successes. After the survey period closes, the results will be analyzed by an outside organization and then shared with parents, the school system and the community.

Help Christian County Public Schools be the best we can be!



Hopkinsville High School's Boys Soccer Team just made Christian County Public Schools history as they finished in the final four at the 2018 Kentucky State Soccer Championship. The Tigers lost by one goal to Highlands to complete

their season with the highest finish by a CCPS soccer team ever. Great Season Tigers!

#CLARKSVILLERIVERFEST



Pictured above CCHS artists in the Riverfest Juried Art Show
Row 1: Jenna Humphries, DK Walton, Kenady Estes, Chelsea Shephard

Row 2: Kaleb Hilton, Madison Wilcox, Crystal Clevesy, Laura DeLoach, Dominique English, Asjion Catlett.

Christian County High School art students recently exhibited their art at the 31st annual Riverfest Juried Art Show with Laura DeLoach place 3rd Overall!
CCHS winners were:

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|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 st Place | Kaleb Hilton (Mixed Media) |
| 2 nd Place | Asjion Catlett (Mixed Media) |
| 3 rd Place | Jenna Humphries (Mixed Media) |
| 3 rd Place | Crystal Clevesy (Photography) |
| 2 nd Place | Kenady Estes (3-D) |
| 3 rd Place | Laura DeLoach (Drawing) |

The CCHS art department is led by Paula Gieseke.



Christian County Public Schools

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



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