

Christian County Public Schools

E-Newsletter

September 2018

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Welcome back to the 2018-19 school year! It is surprising how quickly time flies during the summer months. I hope everyone enjoyed some time off by relaxing and spending quality time with family and friends.

As another year begins, we intend to CELEBRATE “**What’s Right in Education**” and showcase **CCPS Proud Points**. It’s a tough time in Public Education. Last year we struggled with: budget, pension, push for privatization and uncertainty in school accountability. This year starts with continued uncertainty in all of these areas. But there is much to celebrate that is **Right in Education**. This news-

letter is one effort to showcase some of our employees and students who make us **CCPS PROUD**.

Last year a district-wide committee came together to develop a set of value words/specific behaviors that all employees are expected to practice while on duty. The expectations for ALL employees are:

- Accountable
- Professional
- High Standards
- Equitable
- Progressive
- Dedicated
- Diversified

This month we are focused on being **PROFESSIONAL**. Come to work on time, dress appropriately for the setting, and use time in a responsible way. By incorporating this standard (and all others) as a measure of overall work performance, we are defining our organization as one of excellence.

Let’s make a great 2018-19 school year!



CCPS Board Chair Linda Keller (center) with (L to R): Jeff Moore, vice Chair Tom Bell, Sue Hayes and Lindsey Clark

Vice Chair Tom Bell Talks Education

The most important reason I became involved with Christian County Public Schools is I come from a family of educators and I see what education can do for a person. My mother was a high school drop out and I saw some of the jobs she worked. She went back and obtained her GED, and by the time I graduated from high school, she was a teacher in my high school. So, it wasn’t *if* I was going to college, but *where*.

I now have a child in grad school, one in under grad, a child in high school and a grandchild in elementary school. I am invested in all levels of public education. I would like to see our students more prepared to interact on a global perspective. As we have seen in recent presentations at our school board meetings, people are applying for jobs in Hopkinsville who are not from our area. Our children will not only have to compete for a job or career with students sitting in the classroom, but maybe even someone from Des Moines, Iowa or Paris, France. I want to ensure our students can participate in that environment.



Frontline Brings Progressive Approach to District Process

Laura Morris
Chief Administrative Officer

April 2018, Christian County Public Schools contracted with Frontline Education to provide online management for processes around absences, hiring, evaluation that was formerly in CIITS, and professional learning. Instead of opting for four different vendors and platforms, a progressive decision was made that would interface those systems together. With any conversion, we will experience growing pains until we become comfortable and work out bumps during the implementation.

Absence Management is the component we are focusing on our employees becoming comfortable with in August. Much rests on effectively managing employee absences and time. We must ensure that we have qualified substitutes covering every absence, are accurately compensating each employee for their time, and are staying compliant with labor laws and many other things. That is a tall order—especially if you are keeping hand-calculated reports and lacking a computerized system to track of employees' absences, time worked and holidays. Christian County Public was in this situation.

With Frontline Absence & Time (formerly AESOP), we can effectively manage employee attendance and substitute assignments while reducing the amount of paperwork and manual data entry. One system will give a districtwide picture of the number of substitutes requested on a given day and if those needs can be met.

In future months, you will work more in the professional learning platform, which includes both systems for managing our professional growth/evaluation and our professional learning



Christian County Middle School

Hopkinsville High School



Hoptown's Band of Tigers and the CCMS 8th Grade Choir have been selected to perform at the 2019 Kentucky Music Educators Association's Annual Conference. The honor is reserved for the best school musicians in the Commonwealth!



HHS JROTC instructor, 1SG(R) Anthony W. Holloway, was recently honored with the *Bronze Instructor Award*. The award recognizes Holloway's work as a Director of Army Instruction for classroom excellence, motivation through service projects, competitions, and overall

Student Spotlight!



Hopkinsville High School's AP European History class recently expanded on their course work by taking a trip to Europe. Eleven students, led by instructor Andrew Goins, toured throughout France and Italy visiting the Louvre, Notre Dame Cathedral, the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triomphe, the Palace of Versailles, the French Riviera, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the Duomo, the Colosseum, the Sistine Chapel, and St. Peter's Basilica.

Students on the tour included: Kaylee Baumgardner, Ellie Colburn, Greer Givens, Olivia Groom, Madyson Hallmark, Bryce Hanson, Lauren Langhi, Riley Moore, JB Morse, Rayna Pound, and Mason Rye. Chaperones were Amanda Goins and Amber Ryan.



Indian Hills Elementary School Principal Tonya Oakley has been awarded the *Sherry Jeffers Spirit of Leadership* at the graduation ceremonies for the 2018 Leadership Hopkinsville/Christian County class! The award is presented to the member of the leadership class who best exemplifies the spirit of Sherry Jeffers. Jeffers was a long time civic leader and former mayor of Hopkinsville. Congratulations, Ms. Oakley!



Hopkinsville High School's new principal, Dr. John W. Gunn has 33 years' experience in public schools and is credited with helping his schools raise ACT scores. Gunn says, "I am honored and humbled to be given the honor of serving as principal at Hopkinsville High School. HHS has a long and proud history of excellence, and I look forward to working with the teachers, students, and parents to continue that tradition of excellence."



Thirteen seniors from Christian County Public Schools are members of the 2018 Governor's Scholars Program. The Governor's Scholars Program took place over the summer, providing academic and personal growth for students through the balance of a strong liberal arts program, a co-curriculum of related activities, and a residential life experience at one of three state universities: Northern Kentucky, Morehead State, and Murray State.

The Governor's Scholars Program is a competitive application program for high school seniors across the Commonwealth and strives to enhance Kentucky's next generation of civic and economic leaders. Representing CCHS were Taylor Blakely, Gracie Garrett, Payton Hale, and Lukas Ferrell. Hoptown's representatives were Riley Fort, Sydni Henagan, Lexy Oatts, Ethan Bailey, Koby Batts, Aaron Crosby, Spencer Walker, Dustin Wilcox, and Hayden Woosley.



Once again the CCPS community stepped up to help our schools by donating school supplies for this school year! Thank you, Leader Rakkasans 1-187th/101st Airborne, All Kleen Services, SKY Pediatric Dentistry, Hopkinsville Community Friends, Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 12, Hopkinsville Christian and Todd County Board of Realtors, and the Pennyroyal Center!



Christian County Public Schools Transportation Director Mike Brumley has been named the *J.T. Coomer Memorial Director of the Year* for the state of Kentucky! The award was presented at the Student Transportation Association of Kentucky conference in Louisville. Mike's track record is not only providing timely transportation for our students, but safe transportation also. Congratulations, Mike!

The Leader in Me™

great happens here

Freedom Elementary School has been selected to present its unique teaching model at the Kentucky Association of School Councils' "What Great Schools Do Differently" fall conference. Freedom Elementary is designated a *Leader in Me Lighthouse School* by *FranklinCovey Education* based on the school's outstanding results in student outcomes utilizing the of the Leader in Me process. Principal Brook Stinson will discuss the implementation of student leadership at her school. Stinson says, "We are very excited for this opportunity to share the great things we are doing at Freedom and Christian County Public Schools."

The September meeting will be at the Marriott Griffin Gate in Lexington.



Cumberland Hall School is an *Alternative Program of Distinction* for alternative education in Kentucky. In a letter to Christian County Public Schools Superintendent Mary Ann Gemmill, Kentucky Education Commissioner Dr. Wayne D. Lewis said Cumberland Hall School is deemed to be an exemplary program. Lewis further stated, "It is our hope that your program will serve as a model for other alternative programs across the state."

Cumberland Hall Principal Chris Gilkey, excited by the recognition; said, "Our teachers and staff work very hard to ensure students enrolled at Cumberland Hall receive a rigorous and comprehensive education."

Likewise, Superintendent Gemmill said, "I appreciate the leadership provided by Mr. Gilkey and all the hard work of the Cumberland Hall staff." Cumberland Hall School received a monetary award for instructional support and was formally recognized June 6 at the Kentucky Board of Education meeting in Frankfort.