



Board Briefs

Hickman Mills C-1 School District
BOARD OF EDUCATION

HMC-1 Board of Directors Working Session Meeting Summary Thursday, June 25, 2026

The Hickman Mills C-1 Board of Education met on June 26 for its regular monthly meeting. Below are highlights from the meeting.

Literacy Plan Moving Forward

District leaders shared an update on the district's new literacy initiative. Earlier this month, more than 70 teachers, administrators, parents, and community members came together for the three-day Every Child Is a Reader Literacy Summit to build a comprehensive literacy plan for HMC-1. The completed plan will be released in early July and will guide instruction across the district as HMC-1 works toward improving reading achievement for every student.

Summer School and Hiring Update

Summer school continues to see strong student attendance, with graduating seniors leading the way. Summer graduation will be held on Monday, June 29, and high school students will continue to have virtual learning opportunities during July.

The district also continues recruiting outstanding teachers and support staff through hiring events to ensure every classroom is ready for the start of the new school year.

Preparing for the New School Year

District staff reported that school reconfiguration projects, classroom moves, and facility improvements remain on schedule for the opening of school this fall. Additional updates include:

- Installation of new security cameras and exterior lighting at district facilities.
- A cybersecurity review and updates to the district's phone system to improve emergency response.
- Free summer breakfast and lunch continue to be available for children 18 and younger at designated district locations.

- Development of a new district athletics website to better serve students and families.

Supporting Student Success

The Board approved several initiatives designed to support student learning and district operations, including:

- A new collective bargaining agreement with the Hickman Mills National Education Association.
- A partnership with Varsity Tutors, funded through a Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education grant, to provide intensive reading support for students at Warford Elementary who need additional literacy intervention.
- Renewal of district insurance coverage to protect students, staff, facilities, and district operations.
- Continuation of the district's Finals site website platform, including new tools that will improve family communication, website accessibility, and athletics information.
- A new electronic purchasing system that will simplify and strengthen the district's procurement process.

Financial Update

District leaders shared encouraging financial news. The Board approved Budget Amendment II for the current school year, reflecting more than \$5.2 million in combined revenue improvements and expenditure savings. These efforts are expected to end the 2025-2026 fiscal year with an estimated 19.2% fund balance, an important step in restoring the district's financial stability.

The Board also approved the proposed budget for the 2026-2027 school year. The budget projects \$94.3 million in revenue and \$90.5 million in expenditures, allowing an estimated \$3.8 million surplus. If achieved, the district's fund balance is projected to increase to 25.1% by the end of next school year.

District leaders noted these improvements reflect the continued success of the Road to a Sustainable Destiny plan and the district's commitment to responsible financial stewardship.

Board and Superintendent Comments

Board members thanked district staff and leadership for their dedication throughout a challenging school year and praised the progress being made in improving the district's financial health and academic focus.

Several members also recognized the work completed during the district's Literacy Summit and expressed optimism about the positive impact the new literacy plan will have on students.

Superintendent Dr. Dennis Carpenter thanked employees for their hard work throughout the year and shared his excitement for the start of the 2026-2027 school year as the district continues building on its momentum.

Upcoming Events/Points of Note:

- Summer Graduation: June 29, 2026, at 6:00 pm, Ruskin High School Performing Arts Center
- Board of Education Regular Session: July 23, 2026

For details on Board meetings, agendas, or documents, visit the Board Agenda Listing: https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/SB_MeetingListing.aspx?S=223.

To watch the Board Meeting, visit the District's YouTube account: <https://www.youtube.com/@HickmanMillsC1SchoolDistrict>

Next Board Meeting

- July 23, 2026 – Board Meeting, Regular Session
 - Closed Session – 5:00 pm
 - Open Session Board Meeting – 6:00 pm