



# *Board Briefs*

Hickman Mills C-1 School District  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

## **HMC-1 Board of Directors Working Session Meeting Summary Thursday, August 6, 2026**

The Hickman Mills C-1 Board of Education met on August 6 for its monthly work session meeting to prepare for the upcoming school year, review district finances and operations, and discuss ways to support students, staff, and families. Below are highlights from the meeting.

### **Students Connect with a Local Business**

The Board recognized **CSD Credit Union and CORE students** for their work on a client-connected project. Students worked with CSD Credit Union to develop ideas for reaching more students, including a mobile app, student ambassador program, and promotional video. The project also helped students learn about financial literacy and how businesses use technology and marketing to connect with their customers.

### **District Finances**

Through July 31, HMC-1 recorded approximately **\$3.2 million in revenue**, or 3.4% of the annual budget. District expenditures totaled approximately **\$3.4 million**, or 3.7% of the annual budget.

### **Bond Projects and School Improvements**

The district shared an update on the \$20 million no-tax-increase general obligation bond voters approved in April. After setting aside contingency funds and fees, approximately **\$5.5 million** is currently available for planned projects.

The district is focusing first on deferred maintenance and important building improvements. One of the first projects is installing **new stadium lights at Ruskin High School**, expected to be completed before the first home football game.

Other planned maintenance projects include work at:

- Brooks-Sharp Sixth-Grade Center
- Truman Elementary
- Hickman Mills Middle School

- C.A. Burke Elementary
- Ruskin High School
- Compass Elementary

A major capital improvement project at Warford Elementary is currently planned for summer 2028.

### **Preparing Teachers and Supporting Students**

New Teacher Orientation is scheduled for Aug. 10-13. New educators will learn about district expectations, instructional practices, resources, and support to help them begin the school year strong. District leaders also met with administrators to review updates and expectations for special education services.

The district also celebrated strong results from **Summer School**. More than **1,100 students** participated across five sites, with an average attendance rate of **87.09%**. High school students had a **91.5% course pass rate**, with several courses reaching 100%. Warford Elementary students also showed strong participation in summer literacy activities, averaging 200-230 reading logs each week.

### **Christmas in July Helps Hundreds of Families**

The district's **Christmas in July Fair** brought together schools, community partners, and volunteers to support HMC-1 families. The event served **1,858 participants and 531 households** and included 21 community partners and vendors and 13 volunteer groups. Families received school supplies, clothing, food, hygiene items, and health resources. The event also provided workforce experience for 25 youth interns.

### **Board Approves New and Continuing Services**

The Board discussed and approved several items to support students, staff, and district operations, including:

- Additional crossing guard services as the district adjusts to new school boundaries and more students walking to school.
- HVAC repairs at Dobbs Elementary and Truman Elementary following theft and vandalism.
- Renewal of technology and device security services for district-owned computers and iPads.
- Continued partnership with Kelly Education to provide substitute teachers and support staff.
- Literacy resources through Collaborative Classroom.
- Updated exterior signs to reflect the district's new school configurations.
- A new teacher certification pathway through Moreland University.
- The district's 2026-27 Alternative Methods of Instruction plan for emergency school closures.
- Continued use of the Raptor visitor management system to support school safety and visitor tracking.
- Adobe Creative Cloud for authorized staff and students.
- Frontline technology asset management and help desk services.

- Radio advertising to support district recruitment efforts.

### **Board Discusses Professional Development**

A request to send a Board member to the **2026 CUBE Annual Conference in Chicago** did not receive enough votes to pass. Board members agreed that ongoing training and professional development are important but discussed the need to consider travel expenses while the district continues working to strengthen its financial position.

### **Board and Superintendent Comments**

Board members discussed the importance of responsible financial decisions, professional development, and keeping Board goals connected to district work. Superintendent Dr. Dennis Carpenter shared his excitement about welcoming new educators to the **HMC One Team** and preparing for the new school year. **Convocation on August 17** will officially kick off the new school year for HMC-1 staff.

### **Upcoming Events/Points of Note:**

- Work Session Board Meeting: August 6, 2026
- Convocation: August 17, 2026, at 2:00 pm, Hickman Mills Middle School gym
- Back to School Nights, Pre-K, Elementary, Middle School: August 20, 2026
- Board of Education Regular Session: August 20, 2026
- First Day of School, 2026-2027 School Year: August 24, 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](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>