



Board Briefs

Hickman Mills C-1 School District
BOARD OF EDUCATION

HMC-1 Board of Directors Working Session Meeting Summary Thursday, September 17, 2026

The HMC-1 Board of Education met for its Regular Session on September 17. The Board reviewed district updates, approved several partnerships and contracts, and discussed ways to continue supporting students, families, and staff.

District Reports Approved

The Board approved the Superintendent's reports from the August 6 Work Session. The reports included updates from the Academics, Operations, and Business and Finance teams. The Board also approved the August Board meeting minutes and August check registers as part of its regular consent items.

New Business: Expanding Support for Students and Families

The Board approved an agreement with LINC to provide Caring Communities programming during the 2026-27 school year. Caring Communities provides before- and after-school programming, youth development, extended learning opportunities, and family and neighborhood engagement. The program supports students' social, emotional, intellectual, and physical development. LINC will manage staffing, training, background checks, program supervision, and daily operations. HMC-1 will provide school facilities and other agreed-upon support.

The Board approved updates to the District's Local Compliance Plan to align with changes to Missouri's Special Education State Plan. One important change will take effect in the 2027-28 school year. Postsecondary transition services will need to be included in a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) before the student leaves eighth grade, or earlier when the IEP team determines it is appropriate. These changes help HMC-1 continue meeting state requirements while preparing students for their next steps after high school.

The Board approved an agreement with Yellow House Therapies to help address ongoing Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) vacancies. HMC-1 currently has two open SLP positions. These professionals provide essential services for students with speech and language needs identified in their IEPs. Using an external staffing partner will give

the District another way to find qualified professionals and help ensure students receive the services they need.

Ratification of Contracts: Supporting Career and Real-World Learning

The Board approved contracts supporting several HMC-1 programs and student opportunities, including:

- Summit Technology Academy
- Rainbow Center
- Zeta CDL and Diesel Tech Program
- Transformed Barber Cosmetology Academy
- Google Workspace for Education

These partnerships and programs give students opportunities to explore careers, build skills, earn credentials, and prepare for life after high school.

Board and Superintendent Comments

Board members recognized the important role community partners play in supporting HMC-1 students and families. Board member Irene Kendrick thanked the District for supporting the Community Assistance Council's 50th Anniversary Bash and highlighted the importance of strong community partnerships. Superintendent Dr. Dennis L. Carpenter also thanked the many volunteers who participated in the Caring for Kids Network Kickoff breakfast. These volunteers support HMC-1 schools, principals, students, and families throughout the community. Dr. Carpenter encouraged community members to take the next step by becoming advocates for public education and making their voices heard on issues that affect students and schools.

Upcoming Events/Points of Note:

- **October 1, 2026:** HMC-1 Board of Education Work Session
- **October 15, 2026:** HMC-1 Board of Education Regular Meeting
- **October 24, 2026:** Hickman Mills Community Days at Ruskin High School
- **October 28-29, 2026:** Parent-Teacher Conferences
- **October 30, 2026:** No School, Professional Development Day

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>