Crawfordsville Community School Corporation
Board of Education - Regular Meeting
Thursday, October 8, 2026, at 5:30 P.M.
Crawfordsville Administration Building
3 West Athenian Dr.

MINUTES

I. **Roll Call:** President Steve McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.
Present: Steve McLaughlin (President), Dr. Ryker (Superintendent), Dr. Bokhart (Assistant Superintendent), Kathy Brown (Vice President), Susan Albrecht (Secretary), Kent Minnette (Trustee), Monte Thompson (Trustee), Andrew Nicodemus (Business Manager), Stephanie Wilkinson (Executive Assistant), Emily Race, Bryan P., Henry Bannon, Ethan Campbell, Hayley Jarman (Journal Review)

II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

III. **Consent Agenda: Approve Previous Meeting Minutes, Construction Accounts Payable Voucher, Payroll Claims Vouchers, Register of Accounts Payable Voucher, Surplus Items, and Lay Coaches**
Monte Thompson made a motion to approve all Consent Agenda items, seconded by Kathy Brown. Motion Carried.

IV. **New Business**

A. Consider CHS Baseball Team Spring Break Trip to Nashville, TN
Henry Bannon & Ethan Campbell presented information about going to Tennessee during Spring Break for an annual tournament. Team bonding is encouraged and creates a positive culture for the team.
Kathy Brown made a motion to approve, seconded by Kent Minnette. Motion carried.

B. Public Meeting to Discuss the Tentative Agreement
A tentative agreement has been reached with Emily Race leading the CEA. Emily spoke with gratitude toward the corporation. A Special Meeting will be held 10/14 at noon to ratify the tentative agreement between CCSC and the CEA.

C. Public Hearing for 2026 Budget Items
1. Consider Resolution for Capital Projects Plan

Kent Minnette made a motion to approve the Capital Projects Plan, seconded by Kathy Brown. Motion carried.

2. Consider Resolution for Bus Replacement Plan

Monte Thompson made a motion to approve the Bus Replacement Plan, seconded by Kathy Brown. Motion carried.

D. Consider Adoption of the 2026 Budget and Resolution for 2026 Appropriations and Tax Rates
Tax rates will apply for the maximum allowed tax rates but will not be final figures until after the December review by the Department of Local Government Finance. This sets the maximum adopted levy revenue allowed from the property tax revenue as well as the maximum budget for the next year.
Susan Albrecht made a motion to approve, seconded by Kathy Brown. Motion Carried.

E. Consider Ivy Tech MOU

Agreement to provide dual credit courses and dual enrollment. We now meet the criteria for the College Core Partnership. Dr. Bokhart and Madison Smith at CHS have worked together to make sure these courses are available.

Monte Thompson made a motion to approve, seconded by Kent Minnette. Motion carried.

F. Consider Sugar Creek Swim Club (SCSC) MOU

This outlines the financial piece as well as equipment. This is a 4-year rolling agreement.

Susan Albrech made a motion to approve, seconded by Kathy Brown. Motion carried.

G. Consider School Resource Officer Agreement with the City of Crawfordsville

Minor revisions to this agreement outlining that we have two resource officers and have received a higher grant amount. The revision has a minimum set and allows us to apply for more.

Kent Minnette abstains from the vote as counsel for the city.

Monte Thompson made a motion to approve, seconded by Kathy Brown. Motion carried.

H. Consider United Way Grant Application - CARA & Willson Preschool

Kent Minnette made a motion to approve, seconded by Susan Albrecht. Motion carried.

I. Consider Common School Loan Application

This application will cover the cost of Software, Desktops, and Chromebook purchases for students and teachers.

Monte Thompson made a motion to approve, seconded by Kent Minnette. Motion carried.

V. Personnel

A. Resignations

1. Consider Alexis Benge's resignation - CMS 1:1 Assistant
2. Consider Maria Seward's resignation - Hoover Assistant

Kathy Brown made a motion to approve resignations, seconded by Monte Thompson. Motion carried.

VI. Business Manager's Report

A. Cash Flows

1. Key funds experienced a **$100,000** increase in cash value during the month of September.
2. Rainy Day Cash Reserve is holding steady at $2.9 million.
3. Management notes that the 12-month expenditure rate for the three primary funds currently sits at 20.65%. While this reflects a slight increase over August, this is still 32.9% higher than at the close of Calendar Year 2025; spending patterns are expected to stay steady for the remainder of the calendar year. Year-end projections remain on track to settle at approximately 20.00% by the close of the calendar year, with the current projected finish at 22.55%. These figures are based on a 2% increase in salaries/wages outlined in the CBA to be ratified October 14.

B. Operations/Facilities

1. No current projects going on.

2. Fall Break Projects
    i. Bathroom deep cleanings
    ii. Roach Fumigation
    iii. LED Lighting - CHS, Hoover, Nicholson, Hose
    iv. CHS Fire Pump Installation - requires power to be turned off for the building
    v. CHS Parking Lot Repair - Otto's
    vi. Roof Preventative Maintenance - AAA Roofing.

C. Audit
    1. The Entrance Conference for the Audit has begun. Documents for the auditors are being gathered. It is expected to be executed as a fully remote audit and complete audit work late October into November, with an expected Exit Conference in December.

VII. Assistant Superintendent's Report

A. School Safety
    1. September 17th, reunification drill from Hoover to CHS. There were close to 30 parent volunteers who debriefed along with the team. Timing of communication is always a common reflection, along with this time the question of secondary reunification sites, which the district team has planned to run a secondary site drill in the spring.
    2. CFD conducted their fire awareness drills last week. All went well, including at Hoover and CHS, which worked with increased disruptions with Hoover evacuating during lunch and CHS evacuating during homeroom with seniors and freshmen in large groups in the auditorium and aux gym. The elementary schools are eagerly awaiting the winner of the elementary competition.

B. ILEARN Webinars
    1. The IDOE has been hosting a series of webinars this past month on ILEARN and changes/updates. A main focus will be using the new reporting and how we can use it to adjust instruction and reteach in the classroom after the checkpoints.

C. Attended IPLI on September 22nd, as I mentor a group of principals with their teacher leaders. Dr. Warrick presented on Level 2, Effective Instruction, so it was good to hear reinforcement of our HRS practices and to connect with what principals are commonly working through in their buildings.

D. New Teacher Seminar for our year one teachers took place on September 29th. It was the fall seminar and the first time the full group came together. Caleb Fenimore and Josey Aguilar served as mentors for the two groups, along with Jenny Veatch, Molly Whitecotton, and Sharon Danforth as lead mentors who helped lead sessions during the day. CCSC is grateful for its teacher leaders and energizing days like this to provide PD and support to its new teachers.

VIII. Superintendent's Report [Dr. Ryker]

A. Please see the Oracle

B. Community
    1. Thank you to the Board for attending the ISBA Fall Conference. I found the session on right-sizing strategies powerful in that it supported many of the steps that are in our current two-year plan and also provided ideas for consideration. Andrew and I have both reached out to Monroe County admin. It was also to see Dr. Jeff Henderson, former CHS principal and the principal who hired me, present as Monroe County's current Asst. Supt. of HR.
    2. Chamber Connections (October 7),

3. Dr. Ryker was invited by the League of Women Voters Education Committee to appear on the Mayor's podcast to discuss how school financial cuts affect our schools; taping targeted for late October or November.
4. Celebrations:
   i. MAC co-championship in boys' soccer and a championship in girls' soccer;
   ii. County championships in boys' tennis, girls' and boys' cross country, and boys' and girls' soccer;
   iii. CHS's Paige Johnson named a National Merit Commended Scholar and Chang Yeung recognized as a National Merit Semifinalist;
   iv. Parent-teacher conferences are underway this week (October 5–9). Upcoming:

C. Educational Leadership
   1. The elementary organization study continues, examining a two K–3 / one 4–5 configuration; a teacher discussion is scheduled for October 9.
   2. Opportunity to Learn: Indiana Lifelong Learning Projects approved the district's planning grant. The planning grant is $75,000. CCSC will partner with Marian University's Center for Vibrant Schools, led by Dr. Jillian Lain, to provide project management, research support, program design expertise, and grant development assistance. The planning process will include weekly meetings with district leadership to guide implementation, review findings, and develop recommendations. CCSC will analyze local student data, including chronic absenteeism, mobility trends, and demographic indicators, to identify the main barriers affecting student success. The district will also evaluate evidence-based integrated student support models, focusing on the feasibility of implementing the City Connects framework to connect students with school and community resources based on individualized needs. To ensure community-informed planning, CCSC will engage teachers, staff, families, and community partners through surveys, focus groups, and interviews. These activities will help identify service gaps, strengthen stakeholder buy-in, and inform program design. The district will also formalize partnerships with healthcare, mental health, food security, and out-of-school-time providers to build a coordinated support network for students and families.

      The proposed $75,000 budget includes professional consulting services, grant writing support, staff planning stipends, stakeholder engagement activities, site visits to successful integrated support programs, professional development, and planning-related supplies. Together, these activities will result in a data-driven, actionable three-year implementation plan and a competitive grant proposal designed to reduce barriers to learning and improve outcomes for all CCSC students.

D. Reminders
   1. October 9: "Kicking the Stigma" Mental Health Awareness Night with a Colts tailgate.
   2. October 9: no school (staff professional development day). October 19–23: fall break.
   3. Wednesday, October 14, 12:00 p.m.: Supplemental Board Meeting — CEA agreement ratification.
   4. I'm grateful to be your superintendent and proud to be an Athenian

IX. Other: None

X. Board Member Communication: None

XI. Patron Comments: None

XII. Adjournment: President Steve McLaughlin called for a motion to adjourn.

Kathy Brown made a motion to adjourn at 5:55 pm, seconded by Kent Minnette. Motion carried.