

Crystal City Community: October Board Update

Dear Crystal City families, friends and neighbors,

There is a lot of good happening in our schools, and we want you to hear about it. Starting this month, after each meeting of the Board of Education, I will share a short letter like this one so you can see what our students and staff are accomplishing and what is ahead for our district. Our Board met on Tuesday, October 20, and here are the highlights.

Celebrating Our Hornets

Every board meeting begins with the best part: recognizing the people who make Crystal City proud.

Congratulations to Blake Parker, our September Rotary Student of the Month; Brennan Smith, our September Elks Student of the Month; and Hannah Schilly, our October Rotary Student of the Month. Hannah was also recognized for reaching an amazing 1,000 career assists in volleyball. We are also proud of Zackary Mills, who was selected to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program this past summer.

Please join me in welcoming Riley Komo, our new junior high and high school choir teacher.

These last few months, our staff celebrated one another, too. You Rock Awards went to Tracey Mills, Chrissy McMullin, Shanna Meyer, Riley Komo, Nick Webb and Mrs. Baxter at the middle/high school, and to Mrs. Gaylada, Mrs. Picarella, Mr. Petri, Mrs. Schlemmer, Ms. Williams, and Ms. Hankins, and the cafeteria crew at the elementary. Ms. Mary Schaumburg was named Elementary Staff Member of the Month for September. Thank you all for the care you bring to our students every day.

Life in Our Buildings

Crystal City Schools now serves 572 students, including 340 in Pre-K through 6th grade, and attendance has been strong across the district.

At the elementary, our cafeteria crew planted a small garden grown from the seeds of fruits and vegetables students tried through the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program. A cherry tomato plant, a baby lemon tree, and bell peppers are already growing, with more on the way. Students also enjoyed Homecoming Week, Grandparents Bingo Night, Walk, Bike & Roll to School, Fire Prevention Week, a preschool visit to the City Library and Fire Station, and a 2nd grade Book Tasting.

A heartfelt thank you to the Mississippi River Eagles Aerie 4341 for their generous \$1,500 donation to our Food Service Program. Partners like you make a real difference.

Learning and Growing Together

Our District Leadership Team shared student achievement data. We saw real strengths in Government, English Language Arts, 10th grade Science and 6th grade Math. We also know there is more to do, and math is a focus for us over the next two years. Our teachers are aligning math from grade to grade, adding math support in junior high, and working with instructional coaches to keep improving instruction.

The Board also heard a facilities report from Veregy and reviewed our quarterly financial reports. Like public schools across Missouri, we are planning carefully for changes in state funding, and every decision we make keeps students at the center.

We Want to Hear From You

The DESE Culture & Climate Survey has been sent to students, families and staff. Your voice matters, so please take a few minutes to complete it by Friday, November 6. Results are expected in December, and we will share what we learn.

Mark Your Calendar

- Fri., Oct. 23: No school for students; Parent/Teacher Conferences, 8:00–11:00 a.m.
- Tue., Oct. 27: McTeacher's Night
- Wed., Oct. 28: Trunk or Treat in the CCHS gym, 6:00–7:00 p.m.
- Fri., Oct. 30: Elementary Halloween parties
- Fri., Nov. 6: Culture & Climate Survey closes

Thank You

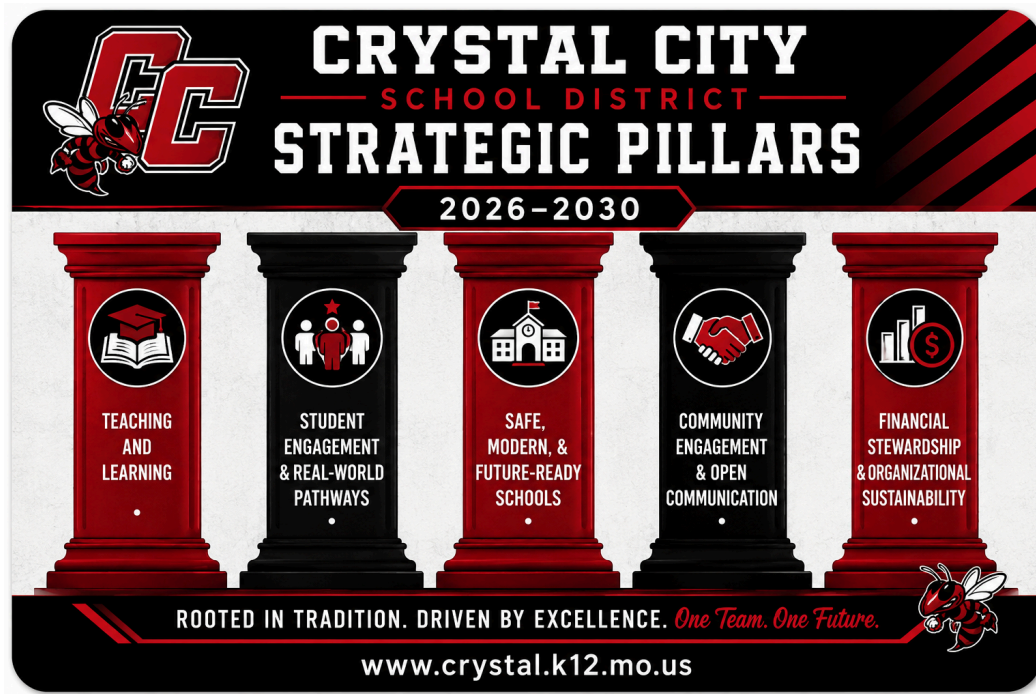
Thank you for the way you show up for our students in their activities, programs, and in the everyday moments that make Crystal City feel like home. Board meetings are always open to the public, and you are welcome to join us. Agendas and approved minutes are posted at www.crystal.k12.mo.us, and the Central Office is always glad to help at 636-937-4411.

With gratitude and Hornet pride,

Taylor Massa

Superintendent of Schools

Rooted in Tradition. Driven by Excellence. One Team. One Future.



Our Mission

Learn and grow today, achieve and succeed tomorrow

Our Vision

The Crystal City School District is committed to engaging academic instruction and experiences that provide for real-world connections in a communicative, collaborative, safe and inclusive environment. In preparation of our students' futures, we believe it takes a strong community of leaders, teachers, learners, family, and community to ensure all students learn, grow, and succeed.