



Newsletter

May 2026

Developing Tomorrow's Community by Expecting Excellence Today

Volume 17 Issue 10

Board of Education

President

Adam Weber

Christina Wood

Vice-President

Jenifer Seaver

Secretary

Renee Bungart

Treasurer

Stephen Schnieders

Member

Kent Shikles

Member

Dwayne Blackwell

Member

Administration

Superintendent

Jeff Jennewein

Junior High/High School Principal

Danielle Greubel

Dean of Students

Lucas Branson

K-6 Principal

Tina Kauffman

Director of Special Services

Lori Clark

Inside This Issue

Item 1 Letter from Superintendent

Item 2 Board Meeting Minutes

Item 3 Student News

Item 4 Upcoming Events

Item 5 Important Dates

Item 6 Employment Opportunities

Dear Cole County R-1 Families and Community Members,

As we wind down another successful school year together, our students are currently finishing up MAP, ACT, and EOC testing. Graduation is just around the corner on May 8th, and we are incredibly proud of all our students' hard work! As we prepare to close out the 2025-2026 academic year, I want to share some additional district updates, facility plans, and upcoming community events.

Board of Education Updates & Gratitude

Following our recent elections, we were pleased to officially swear in our newest board member, Dwayne Blackwell, alongside returning members Adam Weber and Christina Wood. The Board also conducted its annual reorganization, electing Adam Weber as President, Christina Wood as Vice President, Jenifer Seaver as Secretary, and Renee Bungart as Treasurer.

We also want to share a heartfelt tribute to outgoing board member Ritchie Jenkins for his six years of dedication to the Cole County R-1 Board of Education. Since 2020, Ritchie has been a pillar of our district, providing steady leadership during the 2022 administrative overhaul, navigating the shift of 7th and 8th graders to the high school, and helping to pass the vital district bond. We thank him for his unwavering commitment to our students, staff, and community.

Celebrating Our Staff

We are thrilled to welcome new staff to the Cole R-1 family for the 2026-2027 academic year: Libby Mueller as our new Speech-Language Pathologist and Bryce Hale as a High School Math/Science teacher.

To ensure financial certainty and reward our hardworking educators, the Board formally approved the 2026-2027 Certified Salary Schedule and the revised Career Ladder District Plan. We also want to congratulate several staff members who were awarded Russellville School Foundation Grants for innovative classroom projects, including Bethany Weber, Cole Edwards, Kayleigh Campbell, Macy King, Olivia Gilpin, Rachel Pittman, and Matt Witt.

(Continued)

Summer Facilities & District Operations

To maintain and improve our beautiful campus, several projects will take place this summer:

- **Parking Lot Restriping:** Precision is tentatively scheduled to start sealing and restriping on the west side of the High School on May 18th. Work on the Elementary lot and the east side of the High School will begin around July 6th.
- **Safety Notice:** ARSI will remove remaining asbestos from the Elementary Building between June 15th and June 19th. For safety, no one is permitted in the Elementary Building during this week.
- **Flooring Upgrades:** New floors will be installed in the Elementary gym mezzanine, maintenance office, Speech room, and various hallways in both buildings from July 13th to July 24th.

In addition to physical improvements, our new Online Enrollment system is officially rolling out from April 20th through September 4th, offering families a faster way to enroll. We have also implemented new expenditure tracking to provide real-time transparency regarding district liquidity, displaying actual bank account balances for Bond and Capital projects on our monthly reports.

Upcoming Community Events

We hope to see you at these upcoming community gatherings hosted by the Russellville School Foundation. More detailed information is included in this newsletter.

- **Russellville Alumni Banquet:** Please join us on June 6, 2026, at 6:00 pm in the Russellville Middle School Gymnasium. We will be honoring the 50th and 25th reunions of graduates from the classes of 1976 and 2001. The cost is \$20 per person at the door, but 2026 Graduates are free. Please RSVP by Friday, May 22, 2026.
- **14th Annual Golf Tournament:** Save the date for Saturday, September 19, 2026, at the Redfield Golf Course.

Finally, I would like to share with you some personal news that was recently made official. On April 22nd, at a Special Board meeting, the Board accepted my resignation as Superintendent of the Cole County R-1 School District, effective June 30, 2026. I have accepted the Superintendent position at Bowling Green R-1 School District.

It has been a profound privilege to lead this district and work alongside such a dedicated and talented team of educators and support staff, and in a community of parents, individuals and businesses that consistently support and encourage our students. I am incredibly proud of what we have accomplished together during my tenure—from the implementation of our first in-seat Advanced Placement classes to the significant facility improvements made possible through the Phase 2 Bond projects. Seeing the "Best Elementary School" recognition and the 100% graduation rate are testaments to our hard work and commitment to our students.

While I am looking forward to the next chapter of my professional journey, my priority over the next two months will be ensuring a seamless transition of leadership for the district. I am fully committed to wrapping up our current initiatives and supporting the Board and administration to ensure Cole County R-1 remains on its path toward excellence.

Thank you for the support you have shown me and, more importantly, for the incredible impact you have on our students every day. I have no doubt that this district will continue to thrive and reach new heights in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Jeff Jennewein
Superintendent
Cole County R-1 School District

Board Minutes

Board meeting minutes are posted to the district's website at coler1indians.socs.net under the Board of education tab. Agendas and meeting minutes for previous school years may be found under Archived agendas in the Board of Education tab.

FACS Club

What an awesome afternoon with our FACS after school group! We went to Blooms & Blossoms in Russellville. Sheila Thomas, the owner, gave us a tour and explained so much to the students about the plants and greenhouses. She also explained the economic side of the business. Next, she taught them how to properly make a hanging basket of flowers, which the students got to take home. Thank you so much, Sheila. If you are in need or just want some beautiful flowers, visit her at Blooms & Blossoms Greenhouse on Curtman Road.



Summer Athletic Enhancement

We are excited for another summer of athletic enhancement. We have time slots for all students 4th - 12th grade. We love watching the students get stronger, more athletic, and more confident! Please join us this summer.

(Continued)



RUSSELLVILLE INDIAN STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

Timothy Rulo ~ Head Strength Coach ~ trulo@coler1indians.org ~ (314) 210 – 0209

2026 Summer Athletic Enhancement Schedule

DATE(S)	ACTIVITY	DAY(S)	TIMES
Week of 5/18	7th - 12th Grade Optional Weightlifting	M, T, W, Th	8:00a - 9:00a 5:30p - 6:30p
Week of 5/25	Athletic Enhancement	T, W, Th	6:00-7:30a (High School Boys & Girls) 7:30-9:00a (High School Boys & Girls) 9:00-10:00a (4th-8th Grade Boys & Girls) 5:30-6:45p (4th-12th Grade Boys & Girls)
Week of 6/1	Athletic Enhancement	M, T, W, Th	6:00-7:30a (High School Boys & Girls) 7:30-9:00a (High School Boys & Girls) 9:00-10:00a (4th-8th Grade Boys & Girls) 5:30-6:45p (4th-12th Grade Boys & Girls)
Week of 6/8	Athletic Enhancement	M, T, W, Th	6:00-7:30a (High School Boys & Girls) 7:30-9:00a (High School Boys & Girls) 9:00-10:00a (4th-8th Grade Boys & Girls) 5:30-6:45p (4th-12th Grade Boys & Girls)
Week of 6/15	Athletic Enhancement	M, T, W, Th	6:00-7:30a (High School Boys & Girls) 7:30-9:00a (High School Boys & Girls) 9:00-10:00a (4th-8th Grade Boys & Girls) 5:30-6:45p (4th-12th Grade Boys & Girls)
Week of 6/22	Athletic Enhancement	M, T, W, Th	6:00-7:30a (High School Boys & Girls) 7:30-9:00a (High School Boys & Girls) 9:00-10:00a (4th-8th Grade Boys & Girls) 5:30-6:45p (4th-12th Grade Boys & Girls)
Week of 6/29	Russellville Dead Period (June 28th – July 6th) There will be NO weightlifting activities during this time!		
Week of 7/6	Athletic Enhancement	M, T, W, Th	6:00-7:30a (High School Boys & Girls) 7:30-9:00a (High School Boys & Girls) 9:00-10:00a (4th-8th Grade Boys & Girls) 5:30-6:45p (4th-12th Grade Boys & Girls)
Week of 7/13	Athletic Enhancement	M, T, W, Th	6:00-7:30a (High School Boys & Girls) 7:30-9:00a (High School Boys & Girls) 9:00-10:00a (4th-8th Grade Boys & Girls) 5:30-6:45p (4th-12th Grade Boys & Girls)
Week of 7/20	Athletic Enhancement	M, T, W	6:00-7:30a (High School Boys & Girls) 7:30-9:00a (High School Boys & Girls) 9:00-10:00a (4th-8th Grade Boys & Girls) 5:30-6:45p (4th-12th Grade Boys & Girls)

OTHER NOTES:

- We are here to help you become the best athlete and young person you can be. We will adjust workouts according to ability, schedule and experience.
- If these times do not work, please contact Coach Rulo. We can make something work!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS from the Nurse *Christie Murphy, RN*

Following are some reminders for the 2026-2027 school year affecting certain grade levels and all students due to current Missouri state laws.

8th Grade: Tdap and MCV4 Vaccinations: Tdap (tetanus booster with pertussis) and MCV4 (Meningococcal in the form of Menactra or Menveo) vaccines are required for students enrolled in 8th grade. **The deadline to submit proof of Tdap and MCV4 vaccines is the 1st day of school in August.** If your child needs this immunization, contact your physician or clinic. Once he/she receives the Tdap and MCV4, please forward a copy of the official record from your health care provider to the school office. The vaccines may also be received at the Cole County Health Department. Bring your child's immunization record with you. For more information, their phone number is 573-636-2181.

12th Grade: MCV4 vaccinations (2 doses): Two doses of MCV4 (Meningococcal in the form of Menactra or Menveo) are required for students enrolled in 12th grade. If the first dose was administered at age 16 years or older, then only one dose is required. **The deadline to submit proof of MCV4 vaccines is the 1st day of school in August.**

Kindergarten Immunizations: A current and updated immunization record must be provided to the school before they can attend. The final set of vaccinations that Kindergarten enrollees must receive **after** their 4th birthday and before entering Kindergarten include: another Dtap, polio, a 2nd MMR, and a 2nd Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine. If the child has had chickenpox disease, proof of disease must be provided in the form of a written statement signed by a physician documenting the month and year the child had chickenpox. Parental verification is not accepted. Immunizations can be obtained through the child's physician or by appt. at the Cole Co. Health Dept. For more information, call 573-636-2181.

Preschool Immunizations: A current and updated immunization record must be provided to the school before they can attend.

District-wide Medication policy reminder for ALL GRADES: Medication must be delivered to and picked up from school by a parent or designated adult. Long-term daily prescription medications given during school hours require a written physician authorization with pharmacy-labeled container. **New authorization is required for the new school year even if there was no change to your child's prescription.** If the dosage changes during the school year, an updated authorization is also required. Additional rules to the medication policy are in the school handbooks. For clarification, call Christie Murphy at 782-4814.

Student health history forms: In August, your child will bring home a new Student Health Information form. All students **must** return this form each school year. Please ensure that the pain reliever and cough drop permission line is marked according to your preference to be administered to your child as needed from the nurse's supply.

Food substitutions: If your child will require food substitutions due to a medically diagnosed condition, a specific form entitled "**Medical Statement for Student Requiring Special Meals**" will need to be completed by their physician. Copies of the form are available in the school nurse's office or on the school website. Note: *This form must be in place before dietary accommodations can be made.

Nurse's section website: Check out the **Nurse and Wellness** link on the school district website home page to find medication forms, health condition forms, and the food substitution form.

Have a safe and active summer!



Russellville Alumni Banquet

June 6, 2026

Please join us for the Annual Russellville Alumni Banquet in June. Reunite with old friends and make new ones!

When: June 6, 2026

Where: Russellville Middle School Gymnasium

Dinner: 6:00 pm

Cost: \$20 per person at the door
*(2026 Graduates are FREE)

RSVP: by Friday, May 22, 2026

E-Mail: rsf@coler1indians.org or

Call: Larry Bishop (573) 619-7336 or Kathy Koestner (573) 690-0956

Be sure to include the name(s) of those in your party and the year(s) of graduation with the RSVP!

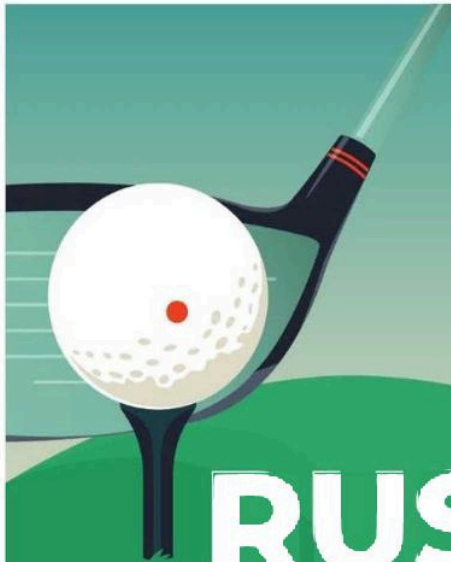
We will be honoring the **50th and 25th** reunions of graduates from the classes of **1976 and 2001** at this year's banquet.

Be sure to let us know if you are interested in:

- (1) reserving a classroom for a meeting place prior to the banquet, or
- (2) taking a tour of the building.

*Those 2026 RHS Graduates who RSVP and attend the banquet will receive a free meal. Up to five of the 2026 RHS Graduates in attendance will be eligible to win a scholarship of \$500. Funds will be sent directly to the school of choice for each recipient.

This event is hosted by the Russellville School Foundation.



14th ANNUAL
GOLF TOURNAMENT

RUSSELLVILLE SCHOOL FOUNDATION

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

**REDFIELD GOLF COURSE
SHOTGUN START - 8AM**

FEES

\$400/team
\$100/player

ALL ENTRIES RECEIVE

lunch - beverages
tee gifts

MULLIGANS

\$5/player
4/team max
Optional

17th HOLE BUY UP - \$20/team Optional

2 FLIGHTS - PAYING 3 PLACES BASED ON 30 TEAMS
\$100 ENTRY FEE REQUIRED FOR TEAM RESERVATIONS

QUESTIONS? CONTACT

Don Kennedy - (573) 644-4844
Larry Bishop - (573) 619-7336

EMAIL **RSF@COLERIINDIANS.ORG**
FOR TEAM ENTRY FORM

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE
RUSSELLVILLE SCHOOL FOUNDATION



COLE COUNTY R-I SCHOOL DISTRICT

13600 Route C
Russellville, MO 65074

Superintendent's Office - (573) 782-3534

Elementary Office - (573) 782-4814

13111 Park St.
Russellville, MO 64074

Junior High/High School Office - (573) 782-3313

13600 Rt. C
Russellville, MO 65074



Developing Tomorrow's Community
by Expecting Excellence Today

Find us on the web at
ColerIndians.socs.net

Find us on Facebook at
<http://goo.gl/tWEze>

Missouri SuN Bucks Program

Families eligible by household income or direct certification to receive free or reduced-price meals through the National School Lunch Program may qualify for Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (SEBT). This summer benefit provides \$120 in grocery benefits per eligible student. If your student already receives free or reduced-price meals this school year, their information will be submitted. Families not eligible during the 2025-2026 school year may use the Missouri SuN Bucks Eligibility Navigator (<https://mydss.mo.gov/sunbucks-eligibility>) to check eligibility.

If you have any questions about the Missouri SuN Bucks Program, please contact the Missouri Department of Social Services.

- Phone: 855-373-4636
- Online: mydss.mo.gov/SunBucks
- Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm

Important Dates

May 3 - Baccalaureate - 6:30pm - HS Gym

May 4 - JH/HS Academic Awards Night & Senior Awards - 6:30pm - HS Gym

May 8 - Graduation - 7:00pm

May 13 - Last Day of School - Dismiss at 12:30pm - NO After School Care

May 19-June 4 - Summer School (exc. Monday, May 25 - Memorial Day)

SUBSTITUTE BUS DRIVERS & SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

Sub bus drivers needed—Please contact Tina Weber at 573-690-3256. The current rate is \$21 per hour, guaranteed 4 hours/day when school is in session.

Substitute Teachers—The Cole County R-1 School District is in need of Substitute Teachers. Must have Substitute Certification from DESE. The pay is \$100 per day. The Cole County R-1 School District is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Download and print the Classified application from our website (coler1indians.socs.net), or you may pick up an application at the Superintendent's office. Any questions, please contact Rachel Brizendine at 573-782-3534.