



Cole County R-1 Schools

Russellville

Newsletter

Developing Tomorrow's Community by Expecting Excellence Today

Volume 17 Issue 3

October 2025

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Superintendent's Letter

A Message from the Superintendent

Dear Cole R-1 Families and Community,

It's hard to believe we're already several weeks into the 2025–2026 school year! Thank you for the strong support you continue to show our students, staff, and schools. The energy in our classrooms and the pride across our district have made for a fantastic start.

Board of Education Updates

At our September meeting, the Board approved several important items:

•**Expanded College Opportunities** – Additional *dual credit courses* may be added this spring through State Fair Community College, pending SFCC master scheduling. Approved courses include Speech, Government, and continuing General Psychology. These courses help students earn college credit while still in high school, saving families money and preparing students for the future.

•**Staff Growth and Support** – Annual staff evaluation plans were approved to ensure meaningful feedback and professional development.

•**Commitment to All Students** – A compliance plan for special education was renewed to support all students receiving the services they need.

•**Accountability and Progress** – The district's **Annual Performance Report (APR)** under MSIP 6 was reviewed, highlighting key accomplishments.

Academic Achievements:

•**Mathematics:** At or above the state average in all tested courses, except 8th grade math.

•**English Language Arts:** Secondary cohorts increased their overall MPI for the first time since MSIP 6 started.

•**Science:** All tested areas met or exceeded the state average; 74% of 5th grade students scored proficient or advanced (state average: 43%).

(Continued)

Student Success:

- College & Career Readiness:** ICAP (Individual Career Academic Plan) completion rate now at **95.5%**.
- Graduation:** Outstanding **100% graduation rate!**

Summary: The APR is both a celebration of student and staff accomplishments and a roadmap for continuous improvement, ensuring we remain accountable and data-driven in our mission to provide excellent education. The complete report is linked here: [MSIP 6 Annual Performance Report \(1\).pdf](#)

CSIP Goal Highlights

Progress toward our five-year strategic plan continues.

- Teachers launched the district-wide *15-Day Challenge for collaborative instructional improvement*.
- A new technology help ticket system was launched, simplifying staff requests for support.
- Facilities projects underway: elementary playground upgrades, parking improvements, and security enhancements.

Staff Updates

Please join us in welcoming the following individuals to the team as they support our students and staff in their new roles.

- Grace Kauffman** – Junior High Assistant Volleyball Coach
- Rachel Ratcliff** – Technology Applications, Elementary

Looking Ahead

The next Board of Education meeting will be held **Thursday, October 16 at 5:30 p.m.**
The tentative agenda includes the following:

- Review of the **Inclement Weather Plan**
- Updates on **Bus Routes**
- Superintendent's Report**
- Principal's Reports** from the elementary and high school
- Athletic Director's Report**

Thank you for your partnership in making Cole R-1 Schools a premier district. Together, we are creating an environment where every student can thrive.

With gratitude,

Dr. Jeff Jennewein

Superintendent, Cole R-1 Schools

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.



Russellville FFA's Annual Back to School BBQ

By: Callee Smith

Russellville FFA Reporter: 2025-2026

The Russellville FFA Chapter held their annual Back to School BBQ on August 24, 2025. They had a short meeting followed by a delicious meal. New and old members gathered at Wasserlauf Valley and learned about the opportunities FFA has to offer. They learned about fundraiser opportunities, SAEs, the greenhand conference, CDEs, LDEs, and committees for their class. Anyone who didn't already have their FFA jackets got them sized and ordered. The Russellville FFA Chapter is looking forward to a great 2025-2026 school year.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Thursday, October 23, 2025

1:00-4:00pm and 4:30-7:00pm

This will be a half day of school, with dismissal at 12:30pm.

NO AFTER SCHOOL CARE!

Parents and guardians of junior high and high school students may reserve a time with their child(ren)'s teachers using the JotForm link below. Walk-ins are also welcome.

<https://form.jotform.com/250157287650156>



Scholastic, Inc. Donation to Parents as Teachers Program

We are excited to share that Scholastic, Inc. of Jefferson City has generously donated close to 250 new books to the Cole Co. R-1 Parents as Teachers program! We appreciate the donation to our library and look forward to our PAT families receiving them throughout the year.

The Book Fair is Coming!!!

The Book Fair will be held in the Elementary Library October 20-23 (M-TH only) 7:30 a.m.- 6:30 p.m. and throughout Parent/ Teacher Conferences on Thursday. I will close the fair from 4-4:30 p.m. for dinner on Thursday night, and will keep the fair open until 7:00pm.

A link to our homepage for the Book Fair is listed below, as well as a QR Code link to our homepage. This page allows you to open an eWallet for your child instead of sending them to school with money. You can also preview the Fair, shop online, pre-order the new Diary of a Wimpy Kid book & the new Dog Man book, and enter for a chance to win a trip to Walt Disney World! I can't wait to see you at the Book Fair!

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/colecorielementarysch>



COLE COUNTY R-I SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Coler1indians.socs.net

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

Important Dates

October 13—Staff PD Day—NO SCHOOL

October 17—End of 1st Quarter

October 23—HALF DAY—Parent/
Teacher Conferences—Dismiss at
12:30pm

October 24—NO SCHOOL

November 14—Progress Reports

SUBSTITUTE BUS DRIVERS AND SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

Sub bus drivers needed—Please contact Tina Weber at 573-690-3256.

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.