



**Cole County R-1 Schools**

**Russellville**

# Newsletter

*Developing Tomorrow's Community by Expecting Excellence Today*

**Volume 16 Issue 4**

**November 2024**

## **Superintendent's Letter**

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Tina Kauffman

Director of Special Services  
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## **Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,**

As we embrace the month of November, we want to take a moment to express our gratitude for your continued support and involvement in our school community. This month is filled with exciting events, important updates, and opportunities for us to come together as a community.

### **Priority Area 1: Teaching and Learning Updates**

#### **National Resources**

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) released the [Anonymized Threat Response Guidance: A Toolkit for K-12 Schools](#), a new resource to help K-12 schools and their law enforcement and community partners create tailored approaches to addressing anonymous threats of violence, including those received on social media. The toolkit outlines steps school leaders can take to assess and respond to anonymous threats, better prepare for and prevent future threats, and work in coordination with law enforcement and other local partners when threats arise. It is co-sealed with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), which provided expert feedback on the toolkit's key principles and strategies.

The toolkit emphasizes six key strategies for schools to consider when addressing anonymous threats:

- Build awareness about reporting to detect threats early and deter future threats.
- Develop a partnership structure that will help address threats. This includes school administrators, law enforcement personnel and mental health professionals.
- Engage law enforcement to manage threat situations and decide when to scale response actions up or down.
- Balance initial response steps to ensure the campus is safe. Most critically, treat each threat as credible, and from there, work with necessary partners to determine how to approach an immediate response.
- Tap into multidisciplinary threat assessment teams, when appropriate, to support interventions and expedite response if the subject who made the threat becomes known.
- Take steps throughout the school year to prepare for threats. Establish a response protocol and practice other types of emergency management activities, such as training exercises for staff.

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**Missouri-Specific Resources**

C2R would like to remind LEAs and families of the importance of reporting threats and not reposting or sharing threats on social media. If you become aware of any social media threat, please report it to Courage2Report and your local law enforcement. Reporting allows C2R staff to see the trends occurring in the state and the country. As a reminder, treat all threats as real until they are fully investigated and vetted.

**Mental Health Resources**

The Missouri Department of Mental Health (DMH) has a number of violence-related resources available to families and school leaders on the [DMH website here](#). The National Association of School Psychologists has additional resources for parents and educators for [supporting students experiencing childhood trauma](#). The [988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline](#) is also a source of support available 24/7 to people in crisis, including people experiencing challenging reactions to disasters or threats.

**Priority Area 2: Collaborative Culture and Staffing Updates****2024-2025 Inclement Weather Procedures**

- When school is canceled or a late start is called for, every effort will be made to publicize as soon as possible. Late starts will only be called the night before and will occur before 9:00 p.m.
- Cancellation and late start notifications will be sent to the following:
  - Via Infinite Campus (to all guardians who have a portal account)
  - KMIZ
  - KOMU
  - KRCG
  - District Facebook page

**Recommendations to Parents/Guardians**

- We highly recommend obtaining a portal account through Infinite Campus and checking to ensure you receive the messages during our testing dates. We are not responsible for others reporting pertinent information.
- We encourage you to review the school cancellation information under the Schools - Cancellation and Transportation Info tab of the school's website (or click here: <https://coler1indians.socs.net/vnews/display.v/ART/6140de209261b>) and your child's student handbook, and establish a plan for your children before the time comes.

**How to receive inclement weather notifications via Infinite Campus**

- To be notified of school cancellations or late starts, you must have a portal account through Infinite Campus.
- Parents and guardians with students in the district should have received an email from Infinite Campus with an activation link and activation code to set up a parent portal.
- If you have not received that email, please check first to see if the email was delivered to your spam/junk mail folder. If you have not received an email, please contact your child's school office (Elementary – Carol Koestner at 573-782-4814. High School – Devona Maharas at 573-782-3313). If you do not have a child in the district and would like to receive notifications, please contact Kristen Heidbreder at [kheidbreder@coler1indians.org](mailto:kheidbreder@coler1indians.org) and request an Infinite Campus portal account. To request an Infinite Campus portal account, you will need to provide the email address and cell phone number you want the notification to go to.

Important note: Parents and guardians must have a parent portal in Infinite Campus and opt into the service in order to receive district messages. We recommend that all parents and guardians check their contact preferences in Infinite Campus to ensure they receive messages through their preferred method. To check your preferences, log in to your parent portal and follow the steps below.

In the upper right-hand corner, click on the person icon.

Select "settings".

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Select "contact preferences".  
Check the type of messages you prefer to receive  
Inbox - Parent Portal  
Email - preferred email on file with the school  
Text

### **2024-2025 Inclement Weather Testing Dates and Times**

We will send our first test message via Infinite Campus on October 28th and run another test message on November 4th.

### **Shout outs**

Due to unforeseen circumstances, our Elementary building was tasked with cleaning most of the building during after school hours. I was very impressed with the leadership and direction of Tina Kauffman and Lori Clark on how efficiently the task took place each night. It is inspiring to see how the elementary staff, Larry Duscheke, and Elaine Buschjost come together to support one another to ensure that our elementary school remains a place where everyone can thrive. Words cannot describe the gratitude I have for everyone who stepped up to ensure our elementary school was clean. Their effort to go above and beyond for our school community truly exemplifies their dedication and commitment. I want to ensure their efforts into maintaining a clean and welcoming environment for our students does not go unnoticed. To better support our night time janitorial staff, the district has decided to utilize Mint janitorial services for the remainder of the school year. .

If you haven't had a chance, stop by to take a look at the new pickle ball court and basketball court on the Elementary campus. The capital improvements made by the city have significantly enhanced the area and have provided a positive impact on our community. I appreciate the time, effort, and resources that have gone into this project, and am excited about the opportunities it will bring.

On October 3rd, our Culture Committee led a team building scavenger hunt activity for our district teachers. It was great to see our teachers working together with a smile on their faces. On October 10th, Erin Tellman and Sara Williams led our staff in our annual dyslexia training. They always do a great job of keeping the training fresh every year.

### **District Policy Update**

The district will move away from MCE policies and work with the Ed Counsel to provide EGS district policy services for the 2025-2026 school year through the end of the 2029-2030 school year. Our administrative staff and Board of Education was impressed with the additional support and transparency the Ed Counsel will provide the district and stakeholders with their policy services.

### **Staffing Updates**

We are pleased to welcome the following individuals to our district!

1. Sasha Towles - part time cook
2. Rena Albertson - part time cook
3. Jason Fisher - part time custodian
4. Jimmy Green - volunteer boys basketball coach

### **Board of Education Updates**

Attached here [October 17th, 2024 Agenda.pdf](#) is the October 17th Board of Education Meeting agenda. According to our perpetual calendar, the following are the tentative items for the November 21st BOE regular meeting starting at 5:30pm:

- Anticipated report for phase 2 construction project presentation
- Early graduation applications for approval
- Board of Education election informational reminder
- Enrollment Report, September Membership Data informational report

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The Cole R-1 School District encourages qualified persons interested in running for a position on the School Board to file to be a candidate in the April 8th, 2025 election. Interested persons may file at the central office located at 13600 Route C, Russellville, MO 65074. For more information contact Dr. Jeff Jennewein or Mrs. Rachel Brizendine at 573-782-3534.

**Filing will begin on December 10th, 2024**, at 8:00 a.m. and will continue during the district's regular business hours, which are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Except for the first and last days of filing, filing will not occur on days that the school district's central offices are closed due to inclement weather. Filing will also not occur on the following holidays and breaks when the school district's central offices are closed: December 25th. Filing will end on December 31st, 2024, at 5:00pm

There are 2 positions available with three year terms.

### **Priority Area 3: Funding and Facilities Updates**

#### **Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Update**

According to numbers that were retrieved from SISFIN on 10/11/2024, our expenditure updated report is attached here: [FY 24-25 Expense Report \(with CW edit\).xlsx - Major Object Codes-YTD.pdf](#) FY 23-24 Expense Report and our updated revenue report is linked here: [FY 24-25 Revenue Report.xlsx - Major Object Codes-YTD.pdf](#). The reports projects the following:

#### **FY 2024-2025 Expenditures**

- Salaries (6100s): Projected \$323,904 over budget
- Benefits (6200s): Projected \$28,784 under budget
- Purchased Services (6300s): Projected \$362,899 under budget
- Supplies (6400s): Projected \$42,766 under budget

#### **FY 2024-2025 Revenue**

- Local (5100s): Projected \$670,483 under budget
- County (5200s): Projected \$25,410 under budget
- State (5300s): Projected \$2,021,128 over budget
- Federal (5400s): Projected \$504,921 under budget
- Other (5800s): Projected \$94,246 over budget

#### **Introducing our Sponsors for new High School Scoreboard and Video Board**

We are thrilled to share some exciting news that will greatly benefit our school community. As part of our on-going commitment to enhancing the educational experience for our students, we are launching new donating sponsorship opportunities!

We are proud to announce partnerships with several local businesses and organizations that are eager to support our district. These sponsorships will help fund the recent purchase of the 2 new scoreboards, scorer's table, video board, gym floor services and new sound system in the high school gym. We offer 4 Anchor Partners (who will be displayed around the video board), 5 Founding Partners (who will be displayed at the bottom of the scoreboard), and 10 Premier Partners (who will be displayed on a rotating logo on the video board).

#### **Anchor Partners**

- Jefferson City Coca-Cola Bottling Company
- Russellville Athletic Booster Club
- Community Point Bank
- We still have one more available spot

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### Founding Partners

- Jefferson City Coca-Cola Bottling Company
- Tech Electronics
- Hitachi Energy
- Farmer's Bank of Lohman
- We still have one more available spot

### Premier Partners:

- Jefferson City Coca-Cola Bottling Company
- Russellville School Foundation
- Pro Powder Coating
- We still have 7 more available spots for our Premier Partners

We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our current sponsors and all community members who support our school. Their generosity and commitment to education make a world of difference in the lives of our students.

If you have any questions or would like more information about our new sponsorship opportunities, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Jeff Jennewein at [jjennewein@coler1indians.org](mailto:jjennewein@coler1indians.org) or 573-782-3534.

### Phase 2 Planning Begins

The District will move forward with PWA Architects with the phase 2 preliminary planning services. The services for this next phase will be to do preliminary planning and budgeting for the following:

- ADA compliance at the Elementary School
- Paving replacement at the High School
- Additional parking lots at both the Elementary and High School campuses
- Site and Building planning to support a new athletic/activity building to the west of the high school and north of the football field
- Adding PreK classrooms to the Elementary School

### Grant updates

Our Russellville School Foundation does so many wonderful things for our teachers and students! We are very thankful for their hard work and dedication to make our district a better place! Below are our October grant award winners:

- Tara Turpin secured \$500 for her Special Education Life Skills Classroom
- Brice Falls secured \$1,000 for his multimedia and sports marketing classes
- Laura Campbell and Olivia Gilpin secured \$1,000 for additional resources to enhance their current curriculum.

We recently secured \$1,987.50 of additional funding through the **WorkKeys Grant**. The design of this grant will provide payment to ACT for the three core WorkKeys assessments (Applied Math, Graphic Literacy, & Workplace Documents). These assessments have been or will be provided to students at Russellville High School, during the period of July 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025 for the testing of approximately 53 students.

Thank you for being an essential part of our school community. We wish you and your family a joyful and restful Thanksgiving!

Warm regards,

Dr. 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](http://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 Indians Special Olympics

Friday, October 18, the Russellville Special Olympics team, student volunteers and staff travelled to South Callaway for the Special Olympics Track Event. We are incredibly proud of all of our student athletes! They participated very well and earned multiple medals! Congratulations on your terrific accomplishments!

Aiden Newcomb—50m Run—Gold; Softball Throw—Gold; 100m Run—Gold;

James Pearon—50m Run—Silver; Softball Throw—Silver; Running Long Jump—Gold

Sidney Beardsley—50m Run—Gold; Softball Throw—Gold; 100m Run—Gold

Blake Matheis—T-Ball Throw—Gold; 10m Assisted Walk—Gold; 25m Assisted Walk—Gold

Bradley Percival—Softball Throw—Silver; Running Long Jump—Gold; 100m Run—Silver

Larry Alderman—Softball Throw—Gold;

Maelyne Cartee—Softball Throw—Silver; 10m Wheelchair—Gold; 25m Wheelchair—Gold





## 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 65074

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

13600 Rt. C  
Russellville, MO 65074



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Find us on the web at  
[Coler1indians.socs.net](http://Coler1indians.socs.net)

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

### **PAT Play Center Open Play Dates**

The PAT play center will host 2 open play dates in November.

Thursday, November 7, 9:00am-10:30am

Thursday, November 21, 5:00pm-6:30pm

If you have any questions, please contact Britney Fisher at  
[bfisher@coler1indians.org](mailto:bfisher@coler1indians.org), or by calling 573-782-3298.

### **Important Dates**

**November 11**—Veterans' Day breakfast  
and assembly—breakfast, 8am; assembly,  
9am

**November 15**—Mid-Quarter

**November 23**—FFA Turkey Supper—  
4pm, Elementary Cafeteria

**November 25-29**—NO SCHOOL—  
Thanksgiving Break

**December 2**—NO SCHOOL—Teacher PD  
Day

### **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](http://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.