



Cole County R-1 Schools

Russellville

Newsletter

Developing Tomorrow's Community by Expecting Excellence Today

Volume 16 Issue 6

January 2025

Superintendent's Letter

Board of Education

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A Message from the Superintendent

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a restful and enjoyable holiday break. As we welcome 2025, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for your continued support and dedication to our district. Together, we've made incredible strides, and I am confident that this year will bring even greater success.

Let's continue working together to achieve our district's goals and ensure that every student receives the best education possible. Thank you for being such an integral part of our journey.

Warm regards,
Dr. Jeff Jennewein
Superintendent

Priority Area 1: Teaching and Learning

U.S. News & World Report Recognition

We are proud to share that Cole R-1 Elementary School has been ranked 204th out of 1,018 elementary schools in Missouri by *U.S. News & World Report's* 2025 Best Elementary Schools rankings. This recognition is a testament to the progress we've made, particularly in student proficiency.

- Math:** Ranked #86 in Missouri
- Reading:** Ranked #236 in Missouri



These achievements are the result of our collaborative efforts—staff, students, parents, and the broader community working together. Key initiatives driving our success include:

- Improvements to the **Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA)** curriculum
- Ongoing staff training through the **LETRS** program to strengthen foundational literacy skills

We are committed to continued growth and are aiming for district-wide recognition in 2026.

Celebrating Success

Our high school band, under the leadership of Mr. Paul Baur, delivered an exceptional performance at their December 9th concert. A former Assistant Superintendent remarked that it was “one of the best concerts I’ve ever attended.” Congratulations to Mr. Baur and his talented students for their hard work and dedication!

Priority Area 2: Collaborative Culture and Staffing

Staff Highlights

- WE Time Presentation:** Kudos to Caleb Sconce for showcasing how **Newsela** engages students with leveled articles and data-driven instruction during our November session.
- Staffing Updates:** We are excited to welcome Denita Jenkins and Devona Maharas to the Technology Applications team.

Administrator Collaboration

Starting in January, our administrators will meet weekly to strengthen collaboration across key areas such as:

- Safety
- Student learning
- Continued Board preparation
- Continued partnership with the entire district leadership team

Board of Education Updates

The January 16th Board of Education meeting will include key agenda items such as:

- Setting tuition rate for the 2025-2026 school year
- Conducting the Superintendent’s evaluation
- Exploring health insurance options
- Addressing a damaged HVAC unit at the Elementary building
- Safety presentation by Terrell Baker, focusing on services provided by the Center for Education Safety

Priority Area 3: Funding and Facilities

Facility Updates

- Mold Remediation:** The Pre-K classroom was successfully treated for mold, and students returned on November 19th.
- Gas Leak Repair:** An exterior gas leak on the elementary campus was repaired in November, ensuring student safety and comfort.

Printer Installation Update

Representatives from GFI installed our updated printers on December 18th. We are excited about the improvements this upgrade will bring to both our staff and students.

High School Gym Scoreboard and Video Board Installation Update

Our new scoreboard and video board have been delivered to InSight, who will handle the installation. We've partnered with **Hale Electric** to provide the necessary electrical services, and the project is progressing well.

Team Assignments:

- **Kyle Mormann:** Removing the old equipment and installing the new.
- **Chris Brizendine:** Installing the sound system.
- **Matt Hale:** Providing electrical services.
- **Carl Anderson:** Handling equipment testing and termination.

Project Oversight:

- **David Coplin:** Director of Maintenance
- **Lucas Branson:** Activities Director
- **Danielle Greubel:** High School Principal
- **Brice Falls:** Business Teacher (responsible for operating the video board during games)
- **Rachel Brizendine:** Finance Official
- **Cathy Trigg:** Director of Technology

Timeline Updates:

The project is set to begin on December 20th, with a completion date of January 10th. Due to this installation, junior high basketball games will be moved to the Elementary gym during this period. Staff training for the scoreboard is scheduled to start by January 16th.

Elementary Sound System Update

Chris Brizendine is also working on the installation of a new sound system in the Elementary Cafeteria.

Fiscal Updates

Projected Budget Status:

- Expenditures (Linked here: [FY 24-25 Expense Report.xlsx - Major Object Codes-YTD \(2\).pdf](#)) : Projected \$347,060 over budget (excluding capital projects).

Projected total expenditures excluding 6500s and 6600s (Operating budget): \$347,060 over budget

- Revenues (Linked here: [FY 24-25 Revenue Report.xlsx - Major Object Codes-YTD \(3\).pdf](#)) : Projected \$729,937 under budget

- SISFIN report does not reflect November revenue, a pending deposit of \$272,335.07 for Prop C, Basic Formula, Transportation, and PAT.

Exciting Sponsorship Opportunities

We are thrilled to offer new sponsorship opportunities for our upgraded gym facilities, including the new scoreboards and video board. Thank you to all of our sponsors for their generous support and commitment to our district.

Our Sponsors

- **Anchor Partners:** Jefferson City Coca-Cola, Russellville Athletic Booster Club, Community Point Bank, State Technical College of Missouri
- **Founding Partners:** Tech Electronics, Hitachi Energy, Farmer's Bank of Lohman, GFI Digital
- **Premier Partners:** Jefferson City Coca-Cola, Russellville School Foundation, and more.

Interested in becoming a sponsor? Contact Dr. Jeff Jennewein at jjennewein@coler1indians.org or 573-782-3534.

School Board Elections

School Board Candidate filings ended at 5:00pm on December 31, 2024. Three candidates have filed for the April 8, 2025 election:

- Elaine Buschjost
- Stephen Schnieders
- Kent Shikles

Looking Ahead

As we move into 2025, we are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. Your continued involvement plays a crucial role in the success of our district. Together, we can achieve our vision for a bright and successful future for all our students.

Wishing you a joyful and productive New Year!

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 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 School Carnival

The Carnival was a great success! The Junior Class raised just over \$3000 to help pay for Prom and Project Prom. In preparation for the event, each grade level donated items for prizes, with the class having the highest percentage of participation earning an ice cream party. Junior high students were asked to bring in a bag of candy, the freshmen and sophomores brought in a 12-pack of soda, juniors donated four 2-liter bottles of soda and seniors donated 2 separate baked goods. Congratulations to the junior class on having the highest percentage of participation and earning the ice cream party!

Thank you to all who came out and joined in the fun, and a huge THANK YOU to all of the students, staff, and parents who helped with the event. We couldn't have done it without you!

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 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".

Select "contact preferences".

Check the type of messages you prefer to receive

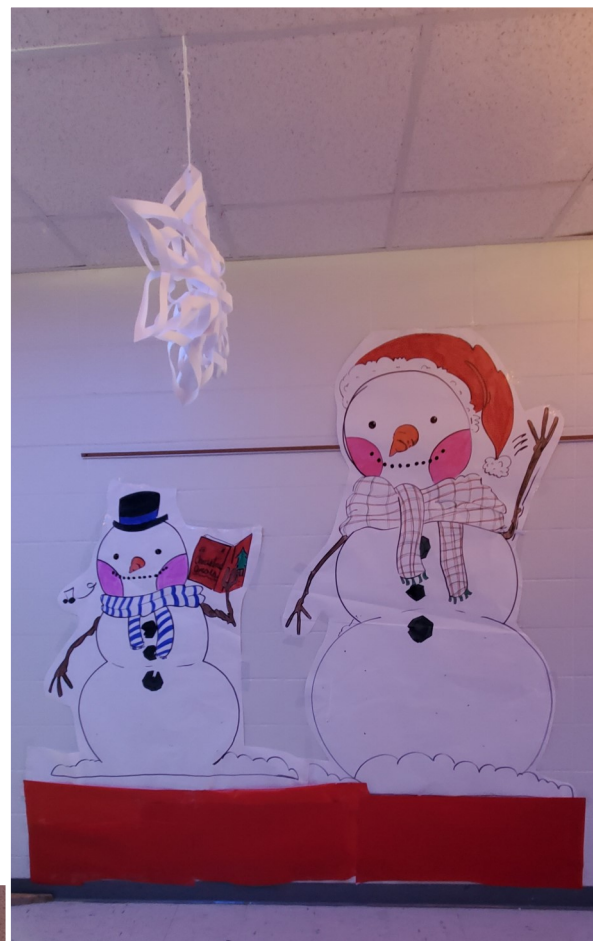
Inbox - Parent Portal

Email - preferred email on file with the school

Text



The junior high and high school classes wowed us with their Christmas spirit during hallway decorating!



FAFSA Frenzy

Need money for college or
trade school?

**Wednesday
1/22/25**

**Russellville Cafeteria
6:00-7:30**

**FREE APPLICATION FOR
FEDERAL STUDENT AID**

- Receive Free professional assistance while completing the FAFSA
- Financial aid advisors from a local university will be here to assist
- Process will go faster if you have a FSA ID created

Snacks Provided

Parents Bring

- Social Security Number
- Income Tax Returns
- Record of Untaxed Income
- Bank Statement/Record of Investment
W-2

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thr	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
January 2025						
			<div>Christmas Holiday Break</div> <div>6:30pm: Parker - Youth Basketball (Elem Gym)</div>	<div>8:00am: HS Girls Basketball Practice (HS GYM)</div> <div>5:00pm: Archery Practice - HS GYM</div> <div>Christmas Holiday Break</div> <div>7:00pm: Rulo - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div>	<div>8:00am: Archery Tournament - Bullseye State Qualifier (HS GYM)</div> <div>8:00am: HS Girls Basketball Practice (HS GYM)</div> <div>Christmas Holiday Break</div>	<div>8:00am: Archery Tournament - Bullseye State Qualifier (HS GYM)</div>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<div>12:30pm: Wood - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div> <div>2:00pm: Earls - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div> <div>3:30pm: Parker - Youth Basketball (Elem Gym)</div> <div>4:00pm: HS Girls Basketball Practice (HS GYM)</div>	<div>8:00am: FFA: District Greenhand Conference</div> <div>5:00pm: HS Girls/Boys Basketball (V) @ Stover Tournament</div> <div>Christmas Holiday Break</div>	<div>5:00pm: HS Girls/Boys Basketball (V) @ Stover Tournament</div> <div>5:30pm: JH Girls/Boys Basketball vs. Tipton (HS GYM)</div> <div>5:30pm: Earls - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div> <div>Teacher Professional Development - NO SCHOOL</div> <div>7:00pm: Rulo - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div>	<div>3:45pm: Archery Practice - ELEM. GYM</div> <div>5:00pm: HS Girls/Boys Basketball (V) @ Stover Tournament</div> <div>6:30pm: Parker - Youth Basketball (Elem Gym)</div>	<div>5:00pm: HS Girls/Boys Basketball (V) @ Stover Tournament</div> <div>7:00pm: Rulo - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div>	<div>5:00pm: HS Girls/Boys Basketball (V) @ Stover Tournament</div>	<div>8:00am: Archery Tournament @ Helias</div> <div>5:00pm: HS Girls/Boys Basketball (V) @ Stover Tournament</div>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<div>12:30pm: Wood - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div> <div>2:00pm: Earls - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div> <div>3:30pm: Parker - Youth Basketball (Elem Gym)</div> <div>5:00pm: Athletic Booster Club Meeting - HS/JH Library</div>	<div>3:45pm: Archery Practice - ELEM. GYM</div> <div>5:00pm: HS Girls/Boys Basketball (V) @ South Callaway Tournament</div> <div>6:00pm: FFA: Agrileader Meeting/Tour @ Learfield Communications in Jefferson City</div>	<div>5:00pm: HS Girls/Boys Basketball (V) @ South Callaway Tournament</div> <div>5:30pm: JH Girls/Boys Basketball vs. Stover (HS GYM)</div> <div>5:30pm: Earls - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div> <div>7:00pm: Rulo - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div>	<div>3:30pm: FFA: Ag Olympics/January Mtg</div> <div>5:00pm: HS Girls/Boys Basketball (V) @ South Callaway Tournament</div> <div>6:30pm: Parker - Youth Basketball (Elem Gym)</div>	<div>5:00pm: HS Girls/Boys Basketball (V) @ South Callaway Tournament</div> <div>5:00pm: Archery Tournament @ Calvary Lutheran</div> <div>5:30pm: Board Meeting</div> <div>7:00pm: Rulo - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div>	<div>12:00am: 75th Annual Senior BETA Convention</div> <div>5:00pm: HS Girls/Boys Basketball (V) @ South Callaway Tournament</div> <div>5:00pm: Archery Tournament @ Calvary Lutheran</div>	<div>12:00am: 75th Annual Senior BETA Convention</div> <div>8:00am: Archery Tournament @ Calvary Lutheran</div> <div>5:00pm: HS Girls/Boys Basketball (V) @ South Callaway Tournament</div>
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<div>12:30pm: Wood - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div> <div>2:00pm: Earls - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div> <div>3:30pm: Parker - Youth Basketball (Elem Gym)</div>	<div>9:00am: Archery Practice - ELEM. GYM</div> <div>Martin Luther King Day - NO SCHOOL</div> <div>6:00pm: HS Girls Basketball (JV/V) @ Linn</div>	<div>5:30pm: Earls - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div> <div>6:00pm: HS Boys Basketball (JV/V) @ Linn</div> <div>7:00pm: Rulo - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div>	<div>3:45pm: Archery Practice - ELEM. GYM</div> <div>6:30pm: Parker - Youth Basketball (Elem Gym)</div>	<div>6:00pm: HS Girls Basketball (V) vs. Belle</div> <div>7:00pm: Rulo - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div>	<div>5:00pm: HS Girls/Boys Basketball (JV/V) @ New Bloomfield</div>	<div>8:00am: Archery Tournament @ Capital City</div> <div>11:00am: HS Girls/Boys Basketball (JV/V) @ Cole Camp</div>
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
<div>12:30pm: Wood - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div> <div>2:00pm: Earls - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div> <div>3:30pm: Parker - Youth Basketball (Elem Gym)</div>	<div>3:45pm: Archery Practice - ELEM. GYM</div> <div>4:00pm: HS Girls Basketball (V) - Russellville Tournament</div>	<div>5:30pm: Earls - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div> <div>7:00pm: Rulo - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div>	<div>3:45pm: Archery Practice - ELEM. GYM</div> <div>4:00pm: HS Girls Basketball (V) - Russellville Tournament</div> <div>6:30pm: Parker - Youth Basketball (Elem Gym)</div>	<div>6:00pm: HS Boys Basketball (JV/V) @ Calvary Lutheran</div> <div>7:00pm: Rulo - Youth Basketball (ELEM. GYM)</div>		

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

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

Infinite Campus Tips

Infinite Campus's Campus Parent app offers a wide array of features to keep students and parents/guardians informed. Here is a quick overview of its useful functions:

- Access transcripts and grade cards: Log into the portal and navigate to the "Documents" section in the menu to view student records.
- Stay Updated on Academic Progress:
 - Notifications for grade updates and assignments can be enabled.
 - Tap the person icon in the upper right-hand corner, go to Profile Options, select Settings, and then choose Notification Settings.
 - Toggle the option for Grades and Assignment Updates to ensure you're always informed

These tools make tracking academic success in real-time easy and efficient, especially as you transition into a new semester!

Important Dates

January 20—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Day—NO SCHOOL

January 31—Mid Quarter

February 6—Parent/Teacher Confer-
ences—Dismiss at 12:30—NO AFTER
SCHOOL CARE

February 7—NO SCHOOL

February 10—Sophomore Ring Mtg.—
1:00pm

SUBSTITUTE BUS DRIVERS AND SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

Sub bus drivers needed—Please contact Tina We-
ber 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 appli-
cation at the Superintendent's office. Any questions,
please contact Rachel Brizendine at 573-782-3534.