

**Coal City Community Unit School District #1
Grundy County
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 6, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

President Miller called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the board members answering roll call present: Dan Engelhardt, Quint Harmon, Cindy Klein, Matt Melvin, Ryan VanDuyne, and Ken Miller. Also, in attendance were Superintendent Christopher Spencer, CSBO Jason Smith, Director of Student Services Luke Krippel, Director of Curriculum & Instruction Jennifer Kenney, Community Relations Specialist Ann Gill, and Secretary to the Board of Education LaWanda Gagliardo. Board Member Mindy Rampa was absent, and Board Member Cindy Klein and Director of Curriculum & Instruction Jennifer Kenney left the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Miller led the Board, and others present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Introduction/acknowledgement of guests.

Theatre Director Jack Micetich was in attendance and recognized the Musical Theatre Division 2026 IHSA Drama State Series Champions. Mr. Micetich provide the Board with a summary of their video submission process. This was the Drama Club's first time entering and they won the IHSA Drama State Series.

Future Business Leaders of America sponsor Harlan Kennell was in attendance and recognized Abi Rose on qualifying for the FBLA National Leadership Conference in San Antonio, TX. Mr. Kennell provided the Board with a summary of the student's experience at the State competition. The student also spoke and is very excited for the opportunity and the support offered by the Board of Education.

Cameron Stone was in attendance also.

This item will be moved to the June Board Meeting High School Principal Art Stafford will be in attendance to recognize the SkillsUSA State Champions.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

1. In regard to agenda items – none.
2. In general (Limited to 5 minutes per person.) – Tony Seminary, the Union Representative for bus drivers. Mr. Seminary wanted to bring to the Board's attention a possible issue when the district goes out for RFP for student transportation. The district has a current contract with Illinois Central Bus Company.

Mrs. Pogliano, a Coal City resident, read a statement to the Board regarding her concerns for supporting students with health issues.

Superintendent Christopher Spencer wanted to inform the Board of the fee increase with Franczek Law; the fee went up by \$10. Mr. Spencer also provided the Board with the dates for summer school.

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Mr. Spencer presented School Board President Ken P. Miller with the Established Board Member certificate, and Vice President Quint Harmon with the Established and Distinguished Board Member certificate from Illinois Association of School Boards for their dedication to Coal City Community Unit School District 1.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

President Miller asked if there were any items that the Board would like to remove from the consent agenda. Hearing none, President Miller asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda and the following facility usage requests.

Mrs. Klein moved, and Mr. Engelhardt seconded to approve the consent agenda and the following building usage requests:

<u>Group</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Date</u>
CYSB	MS	05/14/26 - 06/3/26

MINUTES

April 8, 2026 - Regular Meeting
April 29, 2026 – Special Board Meeting
April 29, 2026 - Board Study Session

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

April 8, 2026 - Regular Meeting
April 29, 2026 – Special Board Meeting
None.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Activity Fund Reports – March 2026
Treasurer’s Report – March 2026
Monthly Manual Check Report – April 2026
Payroll Report – April 2026
Accounts Payable Report – May 2026

PERSONNEL

Resignations

- Matthew Felbein – Middle School Music Teacher & Choir Director and Choir Director at the High School. Mr. Felbein’s last day will be Tuesday, May 26, 2026.
- Riane O’Donnell – 5th Grade Special Education Teacher at the Intermediate School, Ms. O’Donnell’s last day will be Tuesday, May 26, 2026.
- Robert Terrel – Permanent Aide Substitute – Mr. Terrel’s last day was April 13, 2026.
- Sophiya Williams – Theatre Support at the High School – Miss Williams’ last day was April 23, 2026.

Employments - *pending satisfactory completion of all state requirements (See Superintendent’s Report)*

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Employment – Certified Staff Rehires

Non-tenured certified staff successfully completed their first, second and third years in the District and should be offered contracts for the 2026 - 2027 school year. Certified staff who completed their third year with excellent evaluations each year, and those completing their fourth year should be offered tenure for 2026 - 2027.

Employee Transfers

- Brian Elms – Maintenance Worker for the district – Mr. Elms' position will reclassify to Maintenance Lead.
- Savannah Jacobs – 4th Grade Special Education Teacher at the Intermediate School – Ms. Jacobs' is transferring to the 4th Grade General Education Teaching position at the Intermediate School.

Leave Requests

- Belinda Egan – 2nd Grade Teacher at the Elementary School – Mrs. Egan is requesting a sixty (60) day paid FMLA leave from approximately August 12, 2026, through November 6, 2026, and twelve (12) unpaid FMLA days from November 9, 2026, through November 30, 2026.
- Rebecca Pendergast – Assistant Principal at the Early Childhood Center is requesting a forty (40) day FMLA medical leave from approximately Wednesday, June 3, 2026, through Wednesday, July 29, 2026. Mrs. Pendergast plans to return to work Thursday, July 30, 2026.

Extra-Curricular Resignations

- Kathryn Drey – Middle School Speech Coach
- Alicia Matusiak – JV Boys Soccer Coach
- Michelle Painter – 6th Grade Volleyball Coach
- Joey Rivera – Middle School Head Wrestling Coach
- Brad Schmitt – Assistant Softball Coach at the High School

Extra-Curricular Transfers

- Tommy Fatigante – Middle School Assistant Track Coach – Mr. Fatigante is transferring to the Head Middle School Girls Track Coach.
- Chad Larson – Middle School Head Girls Track Coach – Mr. Larson is transferring to the Head Middle School Boys Track. Mr. Larson is replacing Mr. Mikula
- Jim Looper – Assistant High School Wrestling Coach – Mr. Looper is transferring to the Middle School Head Wrestling Coach. Mr. Looper is replacing Joey Rivera.

Extra-Curricular Assignments

Willow DeKruiff – Fall Color Guard Coach
Rebecca Himes – 7th Grade Speech Coach

Honorable Dismissals

- Gabe Barla – Certified Staff Substitute Teacher
- Peggy Feeney – Certified Staff Substitute Teacher

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- Michael Scott – Certified Staff Substitute Teacher
- Robert Terrel – Aide Substitute

Roll Call.

Ayes: Cindy Klein, Dan Engelhardt, Quint Harmon, Matt Melvin, Ryan Van Duyne, Ken Miller

Nays:

Absent: Mindy Rampa

Motion: Carried.

ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS

A. EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER REPORT

Principal Davidson Reported:

Calendar of Events:

May 1st - Coaler Friday
May 4th - 8th - Spring Benchmarking Continues
May 4th - 8th - Scholastic Book Fair
May 4th - Fire Drill @ 9:00am
May 4th - SAP Team Meeting @ 2:55pm
May 5th - SPED Team Meeting @ 2:55pm
May 6th - Staff Culture Committee Meeting @ 2:55pm
May 7th - Graduation Walk @ 10:00am
May 7th - Preschool Team Meeting @ 10:45am
May 7th - A Team Meeting @ 2:55pm
May 8th - Coaler Friday!
May 11th - GO COALERS! Countdown begins!
May 11th - CPI Team Meeting @ 2:55pm
May 12th - Kindergarten Team Meeting @ 11:05pm
May 12th - 1st Grade Team Meeting @ 12:05pm
May 12th - SPED Team Meeting @ 2:55pm
May 12th - Support Staff Team Meeting @ 2:55pm
May 13th - Early Dismissal @ 11:30am/AM Preschool Attends
May 14th - 1st Grade Field Trip
May 14th - Staff Meeting @ 2:55pm
May 15th - Coaler Friday!
May 18th - SAP Team Meeting @ 2:55pm
May 19th - Preschool Field Day
May 19th - Attendance Committee Meeting @ 2:55pm
May 19th - SPED Team Meeting @ 2:55pm
May 20th - K/1 Field Day
May 20th - Custodian Team Meeting @ 2:55pm
May 21st - Kindergarten Field Trip
May 22nd - Last Day of Student Attendance

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May 25th - NO SCHOOL
 May 26th - Teacher's Institute

Current Enrollment:

PreK: 195
 Kindergarten: 120
 1st Grade: 150
Total: 465 (in PowerSchool as of April 29th, 2026)

Completed Safety Drills:

Table1				Quarterly Checks	
Column 1	Panic Button	AED Devices	Phone for Lockdown		AED Pads
August	8/15	8/19	8/18	August	8/19
September	9/12	9/16	9/15	November	11/19
October	10/10	10/15	10/14	February	2/17
November	11/14	11/19	11/17	May	5/19
December	12/12	12/16	12/15		
January	1/9	1/13	1/12		
February	2/13	2/17	2/18		
March	3/13	3/17	3/16		
April	4/17	4/21	4/20		
May	5/15	5/19	5/18		

- Fire Drill (without fire department) - September 12th, 2025
- Bus Evacuation Drill - September 3rd, 2025
- Shelter-in-Place Drill - September 9th, 2025
- Lockdown Drill (with CC Police Department) - October 2nd, 2025
- Fire Drill (with Coal City fire department) - May 4th, 2026

Month-in-Review:

April Month in Review – ECC

April was a busy and exciting month at the ECC as we continued to build momentum toward the end of the school year. On April 17th, our schoolwide ABC Countdown began, bringing a renewed sense of energy and engagement to classrooms. Students and staff have enjoyed participating in themed days, helping to create a positive and fun learning environment as we approach the final weeks of school.

Spring Benchmarking also began this month, providing valuable data on student progress and helping guide instructional decisions as we finish the year strong. Teachers are using this

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information to support student growth and ensure all learners are prepared for the transition to the next grade level.

We were also thrilled to host our annual Kindergarten Round-Up, where we welcomed incoming Kindergarten students and their families for the 2026–2027 school year. This event provided an opportunity to introduce families to our school community and begin building strong connections as students prepare to start their educational journey at the ECC.

As we move into the final stretch of the 2025–2026 school year, there is a noticeable sense of excitement throughout the building. Classrooms have begun their own countdowns, and students are looking forward to upcoming end-of-year activities and the transition into summer.

Recognition:

As we reflect on the 2025–2026 school year, this has been one of the most challenging years our ECC staff has faced. Despite the difficulties, our team has shown unwavering dedication, resilience, and professionalism. Through challenging situations, difficult conversations, and moments that required both problem-solving and perseverance, our staff consistently came together to support one another and do what is best for students.

This year has not only tested our team, but it has also led to tremendous growth. There is a renewed sense of community within our ECC family, built through teamwork, collaboration, and a shared commitment to our students. I am incredibly proud to lead a group of educators who remain focused on student success, no matter the challenge.

The work happening at the ECC is truly foundational. Our staff is responsible for guiding our youngest Coalers through their first school experiences—helping them develop emotional regulation, independence, the ability to work with others, and the skills needed to be successful learners. This is arguably one of the most important and demanding roles in the district.

The ECC staff are nothing short of heroes. Their commitment, compassion, and perseverance ensure that our students are prepared to take on the rest of their academic journeys with confidence and success.

B. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPORT

Principal Trotter reported:

Calendar of Events:

April 27th-May 8th: Spring Benchmarking

May 7th: Senior Walk Through

May 11th: End of Year Countdown Begins (GO COALERS!)

May 3rd: 3rd Grade Field trip to Naper Settlement

May 13th: 11:45 Dismissal

May 15th: Attending the I.S. Musical - Finding Nemo

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May 19th: 2nd Grade Field Trip to Bloomington Zoo (Friddle, Martino, Skubic, Vironda/Egan)
May 20th: 2nd Grade Field Trip to Bloomington Zoo (Foley, Smith, Terrel)
May 20th: 3rd Grade Picnic
May 21st: Field Day
May 22nd: Last Day of Student Attendance (1:35 p.m. Dismissal)
May 26th: Teacher's Institute Day

ES Enrollment:

2nd Grade: 146 students

3rd Grade: 140 students

Total: 286 (enrolled as of 4/30/2026)

Personnel:

- Kristin Wills accepted the 3rd Grade position for the 26-27 school year. Kristin is a Coal City graduate. She brings a wealth of experience and knowledge in general education, special education and math. A special thanks to the School Board for approving this hire.

CCES Happenings and Recognitions:

- We had around thirty students that needed to complete IAR make ups when we returned from Spring Break. They did a great job of getting to work and taking the tests seriously.
- We participated in some fun Spirit Days: Dress like a unicorn for National Unicorn Day, Dress like a librarian for National Librarian Day and Wear Green for Earth Day.
- The 2nd Graders and 3rd Graders had their Fine Arts Showcase in April. Thanks to Mrs. Brncich for the amazing art displays and to Mrs. Kodat for working with the students to put on a terrific musical performance.

A copy of the End of the Year Countdown was attached for review.

C. INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL REPORT

Principal Carlson reported:

Calendar of Events:

4/27-5/8 – FastBridge Spring Benchmarking
5/1 - “The Talk” Growing Up Video and Discussion for 4th Grade 2:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.
5/4-5/8 - Teacher Appreciation Week
5/4 - A Team Meeting 3:10 p.m.
5/5-5/7 - Talent Show Tryouts during Recess
5/5 - PBS Meeting 3:10 p.m.
5/5 - Culture Club Meeting 3:10 p.m.
5/6 - Student Council Meeting 7:30 a.m.
5/6 - Fire/Evacuation Drill 10:50 a.m.
5/6 - 4th, 5th and Specials Team Meeting 3:10 p.m.
5/7 - CPI Team Meeting 3:10 p.m.

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5/8 - Spelling Bee at the Berst Center 1:15 p.m.
5/11 - SAP Meeting 3:10 p.m.
5/12 - TALC Meeting 3:10 p.m.
5/13 - 11:45 a.m. Dismissal; Department Meetings 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
5/13 - Cardiac Response Team Meeting 3:00 p.m.
5/14 - Special Education Team Meeting 3:10 p.m.
5/15 - CCIS Musical, *Finding Nemo*, at CCHS 10:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 5:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
5/18 - A Team Meeting 3:10 p.m.
5/19 - Olympic Day
5/20 - Student Council Meeting 7:30 a.m.
5/20 - PBS Event ~ 4th grade 8:30-10:00; 5th grade 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
5/20 - 5th Grade Step Up Day at CCMS 10:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
5/21 - 5th Grade Cookout
5/21 - Custodian Meeting 3:10 p.m.
5/22 - Talent Show 9:00 a.m. at the Berst Center
5/22 - Last Day of School ~ 1:35 p.m. Dismissal
5/25 - No School ~ Memorial Day
5/26 - Teachers' Institute Day

Current Enrollment:

4 th Grade	156
5 th Grade	154
Total:	310

Emergency/Crisis Drills Completed:

Evacuation/Fire	8/20/25; 10/10/25
Shelter-in-Place/Storm	8/21/25; 11/7/25; 2/18/26
Lockdown	8/22/25; 9/18/25*; 12/9/25; 4/8/26
Bus Evacuation	9/4/25

**Armed Intruder*

Previous Month in Review:

- On April 8 & 10 we had 116 students auditioned for the CCIS Musical, *Finding Nemo, Kids*.
- We practiced another Lockdown Drill on April 8.
- The 8th grade WEB Leaders from CCMS came into our 5th grade homerooms on April 14 to talk about the dangers of vaping and to answer questions about middle school.
- We held our annual Family Bean Bags/Corn Hole Tournament on April 15 from 4:00-7:30. This year we had 25 families sign up for the event.
- On April 17 our 4th graders were bussed to CCMS for a middle band concert to get them excited to join the beginning band next school year.
- During the week of April 20th all 4th graders had the opportunity to try a few band instruments during music class as a preview for our 5th grade beginning band.
- Fifth grade students took the ISA (Illinois Science Assessment) tests 4/21-4/23.
- Our 5th grade spring band concert was held at CCHS on April 21.

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- On April 27 we hosted a parent information meeting about our beginning band. Parents also had the opportunity to sign their child up for our beginning band that evening.
- On April 30 & May 1 we hosted our annual Donuts with My Grown-ups event from 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. at the Berst Center. Over the two days, 532 students and family members gathered to enjoy a free donut & juice and to spend time together before getting the school day started.
- April was Conflict Resolution month at CCIS. Our teachers nominated 1 student each week throughout the month if they observed students trying to work through issues using the strategies they were taught to solve problems. The nominated students (listed below in the Student Recognition section) were recognized and given a piece of candy. Their names were also entered into a raffle for a chance to win 1 of 4 grand prizes.
- We currently have 16 students in ASAP (After School Assistance Program); 7 students in 4th grade and 9 students in 5th grade. Recommended students receive homework help from 3:00-4:00 three days a week from Mr. Leve or Mrs. Rink.
- We held the following “Theme Thursday” spirit days this past month: Rainbows & Unicorns Day, Librarian Day, and Earth/Green Day.
- Every Friday was Coalers Spirit Day.

Student Recognition:

- Congratulations to following Students of the Week:
Week of April 7: Arianna Clemmer, Colson Pasteris, Skylar Cardosi, Avalynn Hester
Week of April 13: Jaycie Pfizenmaier, Rylee Vasilopulos, McKenzie Hurt, Jaxon Xu
Week of April 20: Blakely Riley, Quinn Bruyn, Kylie Wynn, Skylar Flanagan
Week of April 27: Isabelle Steenson, Jackson Koch, Landyn Collins, Jaxon Marquez, Madelyn Aleman, Brandon Jones
- Congratulations to April’s “Conflict Resolution” Month winners.

Emma Johnson	Cam Snell	Callie Davito	Addison Reszel
Ellie Blustein	Ella Tyler	Clay Surman	Isaac Lardi
Lily Cerny	Kenley Faletti	Nolan Wren	Bella Williams
Jameson Lindley	Zayleigh Becker	Scout Hodgen	Cam McKinney
Andrew Vironda	Dannyela Trujillo	Jada Browner	Kate Lehnus
Amelia Lancaster	Shiloh Krause	Isabelle Steenson	Brayden Plata
Adam Calderon	Nick Agamy	Cole Watson	Haley Beckers
Jacob Harris	Emma Connelly	Vivian Dunbar	Hunter Shelton
Alex Jeschke	Grayson Trofimchuck	Reid Trammel	Emmett Scheer
Rio Castle	Edisa Romero	Adelina Garcia	Anila Bakii
Janalee Ruiz	Jadon Kinder		
- Congratulations to the bookmark contest winners for National Library Week.
4th grade – Landon Wozniak
5th grade – Lincoln Wren
- Congratulations to our Family Bean Bags Tournament winners.
1st Place - The Matsko Baggers - Riley Matsko & her dad

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2nd Place - The Bag Bro's - Xander Hannon & his dad
 3rd Place - The Famous Lehnuses - Kate Lehnus & her dad

- Congratulations to our Yearbook Cover Contest Winners.
 1st place - Morgan Mutz and Kensley Schomig (front cover)
 2nd place - London Collins (back cover)
 3rd place - Ava Santos, Chloe Conrad, Leilani Alarcon & Nevaeh Gutierrez (inside page)

- Congratulations to our CCIS Musical Cast for *Finding Nemo, Kids*. We had 116 students audition for the cast.

Tyler Avery	Brock Bailey	Zayleigh Becker	Addison Blake
Ellie Blustein	Cheyenne Boniecki	Colton Brncich	Maverick Brown
Daxton Carey	Landyn Collins	Charles Christensen	London Collins
Victoria Connor	Aubrey Czaja	Lincoln Connor-Mikos	John D'Arcy
Greyson Eaton	Kenley Faletti	Charlotte Gagliardo	Emery Fearday
Brynlee Garner	Finley Gerrish	Mariella Gonzalez	Alex Jeschke
Blake Kargle	Jadon Kinder	Shaelynn Kline	Owen Koch
Zachary Koch	Isaac Lardi	Kate Lehnus	Simeon Leman
Emmersyn Linsey	Evangeline Ludes	Kaden Melvin	Croix Owensby
Kendall Perino	Beckett Pfeifer	Blakely Riley	Ava Santos
Piper Shelton	Charlie Stott	Greyson Sonneman	Lyla Strunga
Avery Swanson	Jack Terrel	Grayson Trofimchuck	Reid Trammel
Darcy VanDuyne	Kennedy Wix	Lincoln Wren	Kylie Wynn

- Congratulations to the following band students, who were recognized at the Spring Concert:
 Dakota Herrera & Landyn Collins ~ Summer Camp or Private Lessons Scholarship Recipients
 Ava Santos ~ Most Improved*
 Anden Gagliardo ~ Most Valuable*
**Voted on by the students*
- Congratulations to these additional ribbon winners whose artwork didn't make it to the Fine Arts Festival display in February.
 1st Place - Oliver Foster for his Felt Landscape
 2nd Place - Brinlei Bulthius for her Thiebaud Cakes & Pies
 3rd Place - Arianna Clemmer for her Koi Fish
 4th Place - Asher Bryant for his Felt Landscape
 The following students received a ribbon for their Artistic Writing: Brinlei Bulthius, Bella Shaw, Elliot Munsell and Zuleyma Sanchez.

Staff Recognition:

- I want to thank and recognize Andrew Brimm for his preparation for the 5th grade band concert. The students did an excellent job.
- I want to thank and recognize Joey Rivera, Savannah Jacobs, Andy Leve, and Steven

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McCleary for running our Family Bean Bags Tournament and volunteering their time after school on April 15.

- I want to thank and recognize Joe Micetich for making our Family Bean Bags Tournament trophy.
- I want to thank and recognize Cherie Sieger and Rachel Rose for volunteering their time to help decorate the Berst Center for our Donuts with My Grown-ups event.
- I want to thank and recognize all the 4th & 5th grade teachers for their help at our Donuts event.
- I want to thank and recognize Savannah Jacobs, Jenn Ness, Tracy Schmitz, and Cherie Sieger for their extra help at our Donuts event.
- I want to thank and recognize Katie Ludes for volunteering to sponsor the CCIS musical.

D. MIDDLE SCHOOL REPORT

Principal Stone reported:

Calendar of Events:

May 2 – Coal Mine Classic Track Invitational @ 9:00 a.m.

May 4 – 8 – Teacher Appreciation Week

May 6 – Nurses Day

May 7 – Middle School Band Concert @ 7:00 p.m.

May 8 – 8th Grade Dance from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

May 13 – Early Dismissal

May 13 – MS101

May 18 – 8th Grade ONLY – Grades due & Chromebooks/charger turn-in

May 19 – 8th Grade Promotion Practice

May 20 – 8th Grade Trip

May 20 – 5th Grade Step-up Day

May 21 – 8th Grade Promotion @ 7:00 p.m.

May 22 – Last Day of Student Attendance

May 25 – No School/Memorial Day

May 26 – Teacher Institute Day/No Student Attendance

June 3 – Middle School Retirement Party @ CC Area Club

Enrollment Numbers:

6th Grade 139

7th Grade 137

8th Grade 157

Total: 433

Month in Review – April 2025

- Coal City Middle School participated in a staff professional development day on Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

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- CCMS took the Illinois Assessment of Reading for ELA on April 8, 9, and 10 and everything went well. We look forward to celebrating the successes of our students and staff.
- Natalie Casey, CCMS Social Work Intern, has completed her internship with CCMS and has been phenomenal in serving our students and their needs throughout her tenure. The CCMS faculty, staff, and students wish her the best in her future endeavors!
- Coal City Middle School 6th grade students visited GAVC on Wednesday, April 29th. This event was the first year that GAVC hosted 6th grade students and we look forward to continuing to attend in future years.

Coal City Middle School Athletics

- CCMS Athletics has turned the page to our last season of the year, track. We have over 100 athletes out this spring. CCMS will host our second annual Coal Mine Classic 12 team invite on May 2nd. Scholastic bowl hosts the IESA Regional on the 29th of this month. Coaching Openings at CCMS: Assistant Wrestling and Head Girls Track.

Track Coaches

Corey Mikula - Head Boys Coach
Chad Larson - Head Girls Coach
Ashley Matsko
Tommy Fatigante
Val Clark

Scholastic Bowl Coaches

Jim Hitchcock
Jen Munsterman

E. HIGH SCHOOL REPORT

Principal Stafford reported:

Calendar of Events:

May 3 - Senior Athletic Banquet
May 5 - Band Concert
May 6 - Scholarship Night
May 7 - Last Day of Senior Attendance
May 8 - Senior Breakfast & Graduation Practice
May 8 - Acclaimed Coaler Ceremony @ 7:00
May 9 - Graduation @ 11:00
May 20-22 - Final Exams
May 22 - Last Day of Student Attendance
May 26 - Teacher Institute

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Month in Review:

→ CCHS gave the spring Pre-ACT and ACT to all its freshmen, sophomores and juniors. The exam was again given digitally.

Recognition:

Congratulations to the top 10% of the graduating class of 2026!

Jacob Cimino	Olivia Weaterbee	Layla Miller	Lance Perino	Sydney Larson
Aiden Kenney	Sam Vota	Dane Noffsinger	Nathan Foster	
Cade Poyner	Liam Seeley	Aubrey Grunwald	Olivia Sage	
Mackenzie Lovell	Kamryn Hansen	Carter Gill	Rhaina Vanek	

Congratulations to our group of seniors who have earned the Acclaimed Coaler recognition. These students have exemplified what it means to be dedicated students and have demonstrated college and career readiness.

Gavin Charles Berger	Ava Tira Garrelts	Mackenzie Lynn Lovell	Rhaina Elizabeth Vanek
Laura Elizabeth Christopher	Carter Anthony Gill	Devon Glen McVey	Jaela Marie Vazquez
Jacob Vincent Cimino	Aubrey Lynn Grunwald	Julian Edward Micetich	Gaven Dallas Vestal
Cambree Kate Davidson	Calleigh Ann Hamilton	Dane Michael Noffsinger	Olivia Paige Weatherbee
Bridget Therese Feeney	Mason Dennis Hamilton	Khloe Kay Picard	Jonathan Brody Widlowski
Rowan William Fitzpatrick	Kamryn Cynthia Hansen	Camryn Marie Planeta	Evelyn Ruth Wills
Hayden Faith Francisco	Aiden Edward Kenney	Cade James Poyner	
Keirsten Paige Gabehart	Sydney Elle Larson	Colin James Schmandle	

Current Enrollment:

Freshmen: 161
 Sophomore: 153
 Junior: 160
 Senior: 162
Total: 636

Discipline Report:

Theft - 1
 Vaping - 1
 Damage to school property - 1
 Disrespect - 4
 Threatening Language - 2

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F. STUDENT SERVICES REPORT

Director Krippel reported:

Current Student Services Data

<i>Coal City Schools IEP Data</i>					
<i>ECC</i>	<i>ES</i>	<i>IS</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>HS</i>	<i>District</i>
<i>145</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>62</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>358</i>

<i>Coal City Schools 504 Data</i>					
<i>ECC</i>	<i>ES</i>	<i>IS</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>HS</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>4</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>136</i>

<i>Coaler Academy Data</i>				
<i>Full Time</i>	<i>Hybrid</i>	<i>Intervention</i>	<i>Total Students</i>	<i>Pending Referrals</i>
<i>13</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>0</i>

<i>Out of District Placements</i>				
<i>Guiding Light</i>	<i>High Road -CP</i>	<i>High Road -MP</i>	<i>Menta</i>	<i>Total Students</i>
<i>2</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>11</i>

<i>Miscellaneous Student Data</i>	
<i>ELL</i>	<i>Homeless</i>
<i>37</i>	<i>21</i>

<i>Overall Preschool Numbers</i>			
<i>Current Students</i>	<i>IEP Openings</i>	<i>At-Risk Openings</i>	<i>Waitlist for 25-26</i>
<i>193/220</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>0</i>

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G. CURRICULUM REPORT

Director Kenney reported:

Department News:

The year is quickly wrapping up, and summer work will be starting. Department leaders will lead their departments through curriculum and assessment work from May 27 through June 19th. This will include the addition of new state mandates that will cause a change in the curriculum in several departments. This year's focus will be mathematics at the PreK-5 level. For 6-12, each department will be focusing on one course. More details to come regarding the focus of our work for the summer and 2026/2027 school year.

Standardized Testing/Accountability:

All standardized testing (IAR, ISA, and SAT) has been completed for the school year. Preliminary results should be back in June, and final results will be available in early fall. At that time, I will present the results to the board.

The ACT was administered on April 14th. Results are already back. The junior class had 3 students score a 30 or higher.

Group	Year	Composite		English	Math	Reading	Science	STEM	Writing	ELA
		Valid Number	Mean Score	Mean Score	Mean Score	Mean Score	Mean Score	Mean Score	Mean Score	Mean Score
COAL CITY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 1	2025-2026	158	18.9	17.7	20.1	18.9	19.2	19.9	6.4	17.9

New Teacher Orientation:

New Teacher Orientation is already set for August 10th and 11th. Mentors are carefully chosen as new hires are being approved. We look forward to welcoming these teachers and adding new activities to acquaint them with Coal City School District #1.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Spencer reported:

1. FOIA Requests:

- A FOIA request was received from Jules Goonewardena from the Lake County Gazette requesting any correspondence referencing, Steve Lefko.
- A FOIA request was received from Sheri Reid from SmartProcure requesting all purchasing records from December 5, 2025, to current.
- A FOIA request was received from Justin Wenig requesting all purchase orders and/or payment records for non-person/vendor entities from January 12, 2025, to current.
- A commercial FOIA request was received from Sunlight Access.
- A FOIA request was received from Michael F. Henry requesting the name of all law firms currently providing legal services to the district anytime within the last eight (8) years.
- A FOIA request was received from Owen Wang from Lake County Gazette

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requesting information for Ramadan Accommodations Policies from January 1, 2026, through present.

- A FOIA request was received from John Wakefield from Data Branch Research Team requesting all executed contracts, agreements, purchase orders and related procurement documents for products/services from Primex, American Time and/or Sapling from January 1, 2021, to present.
 - A FOIA request was received from Patrick Harmon from Data Branch Research Team requesting all executed contracts, agreements, purchase orders, and related procurement documents for products/services from Blackboard, Finalsite, DMS, Funds for Learning, E-Rate Consulting, N-Able, Raptor Technologies, and/or CSM Consulting from January 1, 2021, to present.
2. At the April 8, 2026, Board meeting, the Board authorized the Superintendent to employ personnel as needed due to current candidate shortage. This authority sunsets on July 1, 2026. The following will be employed for the 2026 – 2027 school year, *pending satisfactory completion of all state requirements*:

Certified Staff:

- Emily Bonnell – High School 1-year Math Teacher
- Jacquelyn Henrichsen – 8th Grade ELA Teacher at the Middle School – Ms. Henrichsen is replacing Miss Drey.
- David Lange – MS/HS Music/Choir Teacher
- Rebecca Williams – Assistant Principal at the High School – Ms. Williams is replacing Mr. Mikula, who was promoted to Principal.
- Kristin Wills – 3rd Grade Teacher at the Elementary School – Ms. Wills anticipated start day is August 12, 2026.

Support Staff

Derek Carlson – Performing Arts Center Tech Assistant

3. The Joint Annual Conference registration opens Monday, June 1st. The Board was asked to let Wanda know if they are planning on attending. The conference dates are November 20 – November 22.
4. Monthly student enrollment figures were available for review.

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 3 – Senior Athletic Banquet @ 1:00 p.m.
May 5 – High School Band Concert @ 7:00 p.m.
May 6 – High School Scholarship Night @ 7:00 p.m.
May 7 – Middle School Band Concert @ 7:00 p.m.
May 7 – Senior Walk @ 11:30 a.m.
May 8 – Acclaimed Coalier Recognition @ 7:00 p.m.

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May 9 - High School Graduation Ceremony @ 11:00 a.m.
May 13 – Early Dismissal
May 15 – Intermediate School Musical @ 5:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
May 20 – 22 Final Exams
May 20 – GAVC Health Occupational CNA Pinning Ceremony @ 5:00 p.m.
May 21 – 8th Grade Promotion @ 7:00 p.m.
May 22 – Last Day of Student Attendance
May 23 – Broadway Revue @ 7:00 p.m.
May 24 – Broadway Revue @ 2:00 p.m.
May 25 – Memorial Day/No School
May 26 – Teacher’s Institute Day
May 27 – Board Study Session of the Whole Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

I. GRUNDY AREA VOCATIONAL CENTER REPORT

Mr. Engelhardt reported:

1. Approved the Minutes of the March 26, 2026, Board of Control Meeting.
2. Approved the bills, payroll, and financial reports.
3. The Building and Trades course presented on their program.
4. Assistant Director Gierke discussed GAVC registration.
5. Assistant Director Gierke went through the end of the year calendar for GAVC.
6. Assistant Director Gierke provided updates on Aviation, Building and Trades, Fire Science, Health Occupations, and Welding.
7. Assistant Director Gierke provided an update on work-based learning.
8. Director Copes discussed the May calendar.
9. Director Copes updated the Board of Control on the recent Health/Life Safety process.
10. Director Copes went through the Meeting dates for the FY27 school year and who was up for the Board of Control Chairperson (Dr. Ortiz)
11. Director Copes updated the Board of Control on the GEDC Internship Program update.
12. Director Copes gave a legislative update. He took some students to Springfield where they participated in Legislative Day with other centers and CTE programs.
13. Approved to re-establish the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) beginning in the Fall of 2026.
14. Approved the purchase of an Exmark Lazer Z X-Series 60-inch mower for \$13,300.

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J. ATHLETIC DIRECTOR REPORT

Athletic Director Boresi reported:

Senior Athletic Banquet - Sunday, May 3

Senior Night Dates:

Track & Field - Monday, May 4

Girls Soccer - Tuesday, May 5

Softball - Monday, May 11

Boys Tennis - Wednesday, May 13

Baseball - Thursday, May 14

Coal City High School 3 Sport Awards - Friday, May 15

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

1. In regard to agenda items – none.
2. In general (Limited to 5 minutes per person.) – none.

OLD BUSINESS

A. FINAL READING ON REVISED DISTRICT POLICIES

The following District Policies were revised and submitted for review. The first reading took place at the April 8, 2026, Board Meeting, and the second reading at the April 29, 2026, Board Study Session Meeting. This was the third and final reading, and the policies were presented for Board approval.

2:140-E	Guidance for Board Member Communications, Including Email Use
2:150-AP	Superintendent Committees
2:200	Types of School Board Meetings
2:200-AP	Types of School Board Meetings
2:220	School Board Meeting Procedure
2:250	Access to District Public Records
2:250-AP1	Access to and Copying of District Public Records
2:250-AP2	Protocols for Record Preservation and Development of Retention Schedules
2:250-E2	Immediately Available District Public Records and Web-Posted Reports and Records
2:260	Uniform Grievance Procedure
2:265	Title IX Grievance Procedure
4:40	Incurring Debt
4:140-E4	Resolution to Increase Driver Education Fees
4:165	Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors
4:170-AP6, E2	Notification to Staff and Parents/Guardians of CPR and AED Video
5:30	Hiring Process and Criteria

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5:30-AP1	Interview Questions
5:30-AP2	Investigations
5:30-AP2, E1	Notice of Preliminary Hiring Decision Based on Conviction Record
5:30-AP2, E2	Notice of Final Hiring Decision Based on Conviction Record
5:50	Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition
5:90-AP1	Coordination with Children's Advocacy Center
5:190-E1	Notice to Parents of Their Right to Request Their Child's Classroom Teachers' Qualifications
5:250	Leaves of Absence
5:330	Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves
6:20-AP	Remote and/or Blended Remote Learning Day Plans(s)
6:50	School Wellness
6:65	Student Social and Emotional Development
6:100	Using Animals in the Educational Program
6:100-AP	Dissection of Animals
6:100-E1	Guidelines and Application for Using Animals in School Facilities for Educational Purposes
6:100-E2	Student Permission for Exposure to Animals
6:145	Migrant Students
6:170	Title I Programs
6:170-AP1	Checklist for Development Implementation, and Maintenance of Parent and Family Engagement Compacts for Title I Programs
6:170-AP1, E1	District-Level Parent and Family Engagement <u>Plan</u> ~~Compact~~
6:170-AP1, E2	School-Level Parent and Family Engagement <u>Plan</u> ~~Compact~~
6:170-AP2	Notice to Parents Required by Elementary and Secondary Education, McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance, and Protection of Pupil Rights Law
6:180	Extended Instructional Programs
6:235-AP1, E1	Student Authorization for Access to the District's Electronic Networks
6:235-AP1, E2	Staff Authorization for Access to the District's Electronic Networks
6:235-AP2	Web Publishing Guidelines
6:235-E3	Online Privacy Statements
7:20	Harassment of Students Prohibited
7:50	School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools
7:100	Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students
7:185	Teen Dating Violence Prohibited
7:190-E2	Student Handbook Checklist
7:220	Bus Conduct
7:230	Misconduct by Students with Disabilities
7:240	Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities

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7:240-AP2, E1	Consent to Participate in Extracurricular Drug and Alcohol Testing Program
7:260	Exemption from Physical Education
7:280	Communicable and Chronic Infectious Diseases
7:285-AP	Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program
7:300	Extracurricular Athletics
7:300-E2	Certificate of Physical Fitness for Participation in Athletics
7:305-AP	Program for Managing Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries
7:340-AP1	School Student Records
7:340-AP1, E1	Notice to Parents/Guardians and Students of Their Rights Concerning a Student's School Records
7:340-AP1, E3	Letter to Parents and Eligible Students Concerning Military Recruiters and Postsecondary Institutions Receiving Student Directory Information
7:340-AP1, E4	Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Military Recruiter Access to Students and Student Information
8:90	Parent Organization and Booster Clubs

Mr. Harmon moved, and Mr. Engelhardt seconded to approve the revised district policies, as presented.

Roll Call.

Ayes: Quint Harmon, Dan Engelhardt, Cindy Klein, Mindy Rampa, Ryan VanDuyne, Ken Miller

Nays: Matt Melvin

Absent: Mindy Rampa

Motion: Carried.

B. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON APPROVAL OF THE REVISED DISTRICT RESTRAINT TIME OUT PLAN

At the April 29, 2026, Board Study Session of the Whole Meeting, Director of Student Services Luke Krippel presented the Board with revisions to the District's RTO Plan. There were changes made by the State, and the revised plan was presented for Board approval.

Mr. Engelhardt moved, and Mrs. Klein seconded to approve the revised District Restraint Time Out Plan, as presented.

Roll Call.

Ayes: Dan Engelhardt, Cindy Klein, Quint Harmon, Matt Melvin, Ryan VanDuyne, Ken Miller

Nays:

Absent: Mindy Rampa

Motion: Carried.

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C. DISCUSSION ON FY27 STAFFING UPDATE

Superintendent Christopher Spencer provided the Board with an update on staffing for FY27. Mr. Spencer went through each building and discussed the status of their open positions, and if the principal had filled all their openings.

NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON IESA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Middle School Athletic Director Rodney Monbrum made a recommendation for the membership renewal with the Illinois Elementary School Association at a cost of \$1,275.00 for the 2026 - 2027 school year.

Mr. Harmon moved, and Mr. VanDuyne seconded to approve the membership renewal with the IESA for the 26 – 27 school year in the amount of \$1,275.00, as presented.

Roll Call.

Ayes: Quint Harmon, Ryan VanDuyne, Dan Engelhardt, Cindy Klein, Matt Melvin, Ken Miller

Nays:

Absent: Mindy Rampa

Motion: Carried.

B. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON END OF YEAR SCHOOL YEAR

One (1) emergency day was utilized on Friday, January 23, 2026, during the 2025 – 2026 school year. The last day of student attendance will now be Friday, May 22, 2026, and the Teacher's Institute Day will move to Tuesday, May 26, 2026.

Mr. Harmon moved, and Mrs. Klein seconded to approve the following end of year calendar dates:

Friday, May 22, 2026 – Last day of student attendance

Tuesday, May 26, 2026 – Teacher's Institute Day

Roll Call.

Ayes: Quint Harmon, Cindy Klein, Dan Engelhardt, Matt Melvin, Ryan VanDuyne, Ken Miller

Nays:

Absent: Mindy Rampa

Motion: Carried.

C. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON APPROVAL OF THE CONSOLIDATED DISTRICT PLAN

The Illinois State Board of Education launched the Illinois ePlan, which consolidated and streamlined the federal grant application and management process. The first phase of the Illinois ePlan, the Consolidated District Plan, allowed the district to answer a set of planning questions to meet the requirements for Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV, Title V and IDEA. Director of Student Services Luke Krippel and District Administrators worked together to complete the plan.

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Mr. VanDuyne moved, and Mr. Harmon seconded to approve the 2026 Consolidated Grant Plan, as presented.

Roll Call.

Ayes: Ryan VanDuyne, Quint Harmon, Dan Engelhardt, Cindy Klein, Matt Melvin, Ken Miller

Nays:

Absent: Mindy Rampa

Motion: Carried.

D. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RENEWAL OF PRESS PLUS SUBSCRIPTION

PRESS Plus provides suggested policy updates to district policies through a password protected online site dedicated to the board's policy manual. The annual subscription will start July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

Mr. Engelhardt moved, and Mr. VanDuyne seconded to approve the renewal of the PRESS Plus annual subscription at a total cost of \$4,725.00

Roll Call.

Ayes: Dan Engelhardt, Ryan VanDuyne, Quint Harmon, Cindy Klein, Matt Melvin, Ken Miller

Nays:

Absent: Mindy Rampa

Motion: Carried.

E. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ATTENDING FBLA NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

High School student Abi Rose qualified for the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) National Leadership Conference in San Antonio, Texas. The dates of the conference are June 29, 2026, through July 2, 2026. The Board has a past practice of contributing financially to students to help defray costs of these school related activities.

Mr. Melvin moved, and Mr. VanDuyne seconded to approve the contribution of \$300 to Abi Rose to assist with defraying the cost to attend the FBLA National Leadership Conference in San Antonio, TX.

Roll Call.

Ayes: Matt Melvin, Ryan VanDuyne, Dan Engelhardt, Quint Harmon, Ken Miller

Nays:

Absent: Cindy Klein and Mindy Rampa

Motion: Carried.

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F. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON ACCEPTING THE SCHOOL SITE DONATION FROM THE VILLAGE OF COAL CITY

A School Site Donation in the amount of \$24,509.00 was received from the Village of Coal City. A resolution was prepared for acceptance of the school site donation.

Mr. VanDuyne moved, and Mr. Melvin seconded to approve the resolution to accept the School Site Donation from the Village of Coal City in the amount of \$24,509.00, and to waive the reading of the resolution.

Roll Call.

Ayes: Ryan VanDuyne, Matt Melvin, Dan Engelhardt, Quint Harmon, Ken Miller

Nays:

Absent: Cindy Klein and Mindy Rampa

Motion: Carried.

G. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON ACCEPTING THE SCHOOL SITE DONATION FROM GRUNDY COUNTY

A School Site Donation in the amount of \$3,301.69 was received from Grundy County. A resolution was prepared for acceptance of the school site donation.

Mr. Engelhardt moved, and Mr. VanDuyne seconded to approve the resolution to accept the School Site Donation from Grundy County in the amount of \$3,301.69, and to waive the reading of the resolution.

Roll Call.

Ayes: Dan Engelhardt, Ryan VanDuyne, Quint Harmon, Ken Miller

Nays:

Abstained: Matt Melvin

Absent: Cindy Klein and Mindy Rampa

Motion: Carried.

H. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON ACCEPTING THE LIBRARY MEDIA GRANT

Allison Peterson, Librarian at the High School, was awarded the Library Media Grant from the Secretary of State in the amount of \$1,690.35. The grant funds will provide supplementary support to the school's library media program. The Board and Mr. Spencer thanked Mrs. Peterson.

Mr. VanDuyne moved, and Mr. Engelhardt seconded to accept the Library Media Grant from the Secretary of State, in the amount of \$1,690.35.

Roll Call.

Ayes: Ryan VanDuyne, Dan Engelhardt, Quint Harmon, Matt Melvin, Ken Miller

Nays:

Absent: Cindy Klein and Mindy Rampa

Motion: Carried.

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I. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RENEWING E-RATE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

CSBO Jason Smith discussed renewing the agreement with Telesolutions Consultants for E-rate management services for FY27.

Mr. Harmon moved, and Mr. VanDuyne seconded to approve the one (1) year renewal agreement with Telesolution Consultants, LLC in the amount of \$4,200.00, as presented.

Roll Call.

Ayes: Quint Harmon, Ryan VanDuyne, Dan Engelhardt, Matt Melvin, Ken Miller

Nays:

Absent: Cindy Klein and Mindy Rampa

Motion: Carried.

OPEN FOR ITEMS NOT KNOWN AT AGENDA PREPARATION TIME

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

1. In regard to agenda items – none.
2. In general (Limited to 5 minutes per person.) – none.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. VanDuyne moved, and Mr. Engelhardt seconded to go to closed session at 6:53 p.m. for the purpose of considering information regarding an individual student issue.

Roll Call.

Ayes: Dan Engelhardt, Quint Harmon, Matt Melvin, Ryan VanDuyne, Ken Miller

Nays:

Absent: Cindy Klein and Mindy Rampa

Motion: Carried.

Mr. VanDuyne moved, and Mr. Engelhardt seconded to return to open session at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call.

Ayes: Ryan VanDuyne, Dan Engelhardt, Quint Harmon, Matt Melvin, Ken Miller

Nays:

Absent: Cindy Klein and Mindy Rampa

Motion: Carried.

BOARD STUDY SESSION OF THE WHOLE DATE: MAY 27, 2026 @ 6:00 P.M.

In Coal City CUSD #1 Administrative Center Boardroom

NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE: JUNE 3, 2026 @ 6:00 P.M.

In Coal City CUSD #1 Administrative Center Boardroom

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ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Harmon moved, and Mr. VanDuyne seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 p.m. President Miller asked if there was any opposition to the motion, hearing none considers the motion approved.

Kenneth P. Miller, President

Cynthia Klein, Secretary