

# CARROLL-OAKLAND THE SOARING SENTINEL

## IT'S DOLLY'S WORLD AND WE'RE JUST LIVING IN IT.

By: Hillary Trice, Layla Ankenbauer, and Rylee Dillon

Dolly Parton died on Tuesday, August 25, 2026, at the age of 80 in Nashville, Tennessee. According to the Dolly Parton Official Website, Dolly Rebecca Parton was born on January 19, 1946, in a one room cabin in Locust Ridge, Tennessee. Entertainment icon and savvy businesswoman, Dolly Parton, founded the Imagination Library.

Through her Imagination Library program, launched by the Dollywood Foundation in 1995, she put more than 330 million books into the hands of children across America, Canada, the U.K., Australia and the Republic of Ireland. Dolly's Imagination Library gives a book a month to children signed up for the program from the time they are born until they are 5 years old. Dolly's Imagination Library takes place all over the world and keeps expanding.



She was inspired by her father's inability to read or write. She claimed, "He was the smartest man I have ever known but I know in my heart his inability to read probably kept him from fulfilling all of his dreams." She also said, "Before he passed away, my Daddy told me the Imagination Library was probably the most important thing I had ever done." As you can see, this contribution made a long lasting impact on the world and her personally in life. Jeff Conyers, the president of the Dollywood Foundation, said, "Dolly's legacy was never meant to be something we simply preserve or look back upon. She built things that could keep doing good in the world."



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## INTRODUCING MRS. MCFARLIN AS OUR NEW ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

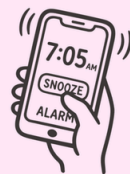
By: Avery Smallwood

Mrs. Kristen McFarlin is our new assistant principal, primarily serving K-4th grade. Mrs. McFarlin has been an educator for 8 years, the past 5 years she has spent at Carroll-Oakland. She taught 5th grade for 2 years and 6th grade for 2. During the 2023-2024 school year, Mrs. McFarlin was awarded with "Teacher of the Year." While interviewing Mrs. McFarlin, she reacted to this by saying, "I was very surprised but honored because there were many deserving teachers." To get to where she is now she had to get a good education, Mrs. McFarlin got her Bachelor's Degree from MTSU in 2019. In 2025, she got her Master's Degree from Tennessee Tech. When asked why she applied to be assistant principal she said, "This is my home, this is where I want to be, and I want to see Carroll-Oakland thrive, so when the job became open I thought about it a lot, and decided it would be a good opportunity to make a difference at Carroll-Oakland." Many current eighth graders had Mrs. McFarlin in 5th and 6th grade. After talking to a few of them they said she was, "the BEST math teacher" and that she "made hard things become easy." Her goals as assistant principal are "to make Carroll-Oakland a place where all students can find success, to improve student achievement across all grades, and continue creating relationships with the families we serve."

# staff shoutout

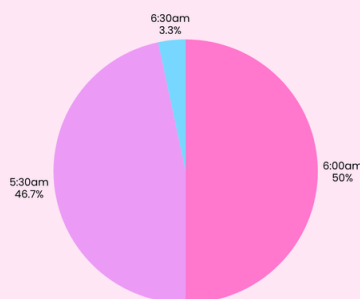


## CARROLL-OAKLAND POLLS



Question: What time do you wake up in the morning?

Here's how the interviewed students answered:



This is Carroll-Oakland's first poll of the school year. Aubrey Frey interviewed 30 students in the 6th-8th grade, 10 from each grade level. 5 were girls, and the other 5 were boys.

Have a great school year!!

### CHOOSE YOUR DONATION

\$25 DONATION



\$50 DONATION



\$100 DONATION



Building Bright Futures Together

**HEATHER VANATTA**

"Always willing to share her time to assist me with questions as a newbie to this district."

**SARA BURGER**

"Sara consistently goes above and beyond for her students and teachers. She is fantastic at working with students in small group and explains things in ways so that the students understand. She challenges students and helps them grow. She is an asset to have in the classroom and handles SO much behind the scenes. She is rockstar and I am thankful to work alongside her at CO!"

## COLOR RUN

By Alannah Hale & Sheldri Aviles-Cruz

The Color Run is a fundraiser where families donate to the school and students get prizes. If you sent in \$5, students got to wear a hat on 9/18. If you sent in \$25, students got pastries with a principal on 9/25. If you send in \$100, students get to tape a principal to the wall on 10/23. If you send in \$150, students get to pie a teacher on 10/30. (Mrs. Glenn is one of those teachers!!!) The highest class gets an ice cream party, and the highest grade level gets extra recess. For middle school, if the students raise \$100, the students get pizza and pepsi lunch on 10/30.

The primary goal of Color Run is to raise money for various needs around the school such as playground equipment, technology, anything that benefits the students and student learning. On the day of the Color Run, all the students run around the school and get sprayed with tie dye. The students do a lot of other fun activities, such as inflatables and a dance party and games. The Color Run is on Friday, October the 2<sup>nd</sup>, with a makeup date on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

The school has sent home forms for people to bring back donations. People may give cash through the forms. The school also has an online link and attached QR codes to all of the forms for people to scan for options to donate online.

Anytime that you can have a fun event where the whole school gets to participate in raising money and further benefiting the school, it's always important. In this specific event the school has the Color Run and other things going on that day, so it's just a fun time to raise money and enjoy a day as a school community before fall break. The school has had parents sign up online to be tent volunteers. The school sent home different options of ways for them to donate. The two biggest ways that parents are able to be involved is through working the day of or monetarily giving to the school.

The staff who help with the Color Run are Mrs. Gibbs, Mrs. Burger, Mrs. Stacy Taylor, Mrs. Hunt, and some of the admin. The admin has been helping with the Color Run by sending home papers or helping with the websites that parents can send in money for the fundraiser. We hope to see you there!

Editor-in-Chief:  
Mrs. Glenn



## 2026-2027 Student Council

By: Mckinley Miller

The student council is a group of students that represent the students and have meetings to discuss ways to improve our school. In our student council, Matthew Briggs is the president and Olivia Wright is the vice president. Cooper Hunt is their secretary and La'Kyia Hastings is their treasurer. They were elected in August of 2026.

In August of 2026 all of the 8th graders voted for who they think would be a good president and vice president. During an interview, Olivia said her goal was to, "Make our school a better place so when teachers and students walk into the building they enjoy it." Matthew added onto Olivia's statement saying, "I would like to improve the school and student body as much as I can." Some fundraising ideas they have for our school are more dances, bingo night, and more activities for the students. With the money from fundraising, Matthew and Olivia would like to get a volleyball net outside, repaint the basketball court, and get more equipment for students. This student council is going to try their best to make this school a GREAT place!



## 8TH GRADE *Journalism*



7TH GRADE



## *Journalism*



## Welcome to Carroll-Oakland: New Teacher Edition

By: Ava Santos

We have a lot of new teachers here at Carroll-Oakland this year in 2026-2027.. Mr. Coleman teaches 4th grade math and science. Mrs. Hall teaches 5th grade ELA and Social Studies. Mrs. Masters teaches 5th grade math and science. Mrs. Vaught teaches 6th grade Social Studies. Mrs. Sevier teaches 7th grade Social Studies.

Mrs. Hall applied at this school because she is "passionate about supporting local schools." She is "new to the area", and she is "impressed by Carroll-Oakland's continued dedication to students and family."

Mrs. Sevier loves this school, and she likes the kids, the teachers, and the administrators. She really enjoys the support as a new teacher. She loves the students and that she got a chance to work here.



## Carroll-Oakland 2026-2027 Volleyball Season

By: Maria Duarte and Gracie Anderson

This season's volleyball team holds, Hillary Trice, Lily Padilla, Emmalee Bringham, La'Kyia Hastings, Lillian Ristich, Rylee Dillon, Kolbi Buhler, Gracie Anderson, Maria Duarte, Mariah Loughe, Elise Torgesen, Adeline Floyd, Adelia Hernandez-Buck, Rainsley Reynolds, Bristol Ardisson, Josi Ward, Kylin Campbell, Kinsley Keys, Kate Miller and Austyn King. The Carroll-Oakland Volleyball season is August through September, and is across Wilson County. We support our COE volleyball team by writing articles, making posters in the gym, and having a student section for 8th grade night.

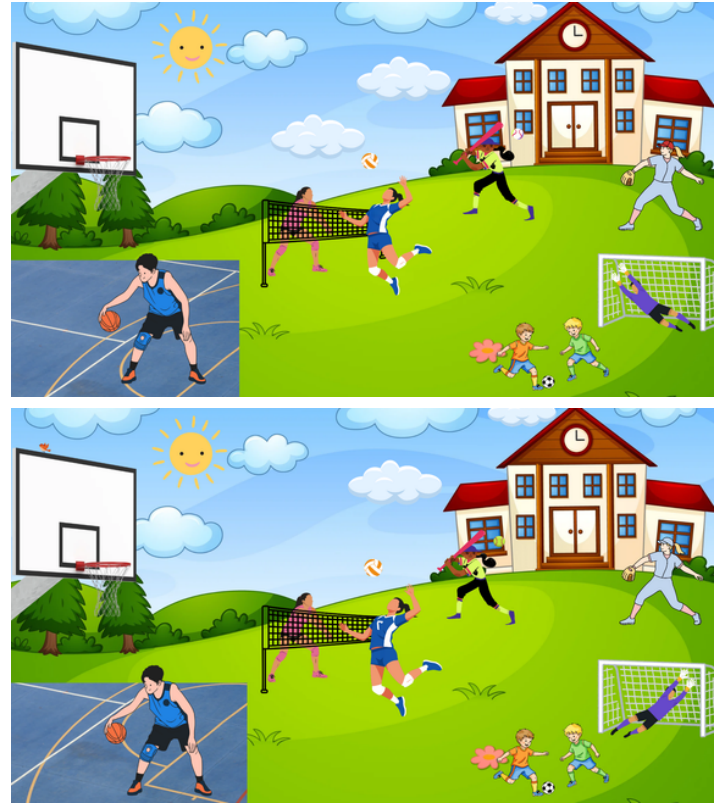
After interviewing Emmalee Bringham, La'kyia Hastings, and Rylee Dillon, we found that most of the girls are going to continue their volleyball careers in the future. When asked how she felt about her last middle school volleyball game, Rylee Dillon said "pretty sad because I've played volleyball for four years". Then La'kyia Hastings said "I'm a little sad because I really enjoyed being a Lady Eagle". Emmalee Bringham said she felt "sad and fun" at their last eighth grade volleyball game.



Some credit for the season also goes to the coaches who are, Coach Teel, Coach Tim and Coach Robin. Two of these Coaches have played since their middle school year, helping the girls improve with all their volleyball knowledge. They are also very sad about this year being the 8th graders last year at this school, wishing them the best in high school. Although we are sad about the girls moving on to a new chapter in their life we are still excited for next season!

## SPOT 7 SPORT DIFFERENCES

By: Adeline Floyd & Adelia Hernandez-Buck



## Color Run Splash



By: Arianna Watt, Blake Shults, and Khaleesi Sandberg

