

CULBERTSON SCHOOL DISTRICT #17 J/R/C
RICHLAND/ROOSEVELT COUNTIES
CULBERTSON, MONTANA

NOTICE OF REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Monday—October 19, 2026, 4:20 PM

BOARD TRAINING by MTSBA...4:20 PM

PREVIEW BILLS.....6:20 PM

CALL TO ORDER.....6:30 PM

ROLL CALL

- 01. Action, establish quorum

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

- 02.

APPROVE AGENDA

- 03. Action, approve agenda

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR AGENDA ITEMS

- 04.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- 05. Action, approve minutes from the following meeting(s)
 - a. September 17, 2026 (September Board Meeting)

FINANCE REPORT

- 06. Action, pay bills, approve investments, and note cash & extra-curricular balances

REPORTS

- 07. Information, Student Representative Report—BPA
- 08. Information, Teacher Report
- 09. Information, Activities Director Report
- 10. Information, Technology Systems Administrator Report
- 11. Information, JH/HS Principal Report
- 12. Information, Elementary Principal Report
- 13. Information, District Clerk Report
- 14. Information, Superintendent Report

* Items listed on the agenda do not necessarily indicate the order in which they will be addressed.

Mission

Culbertson Public Schools are committed to providing opportunities for students in a safe and productive environment, to achieve their personal best, become responsible and productive citizens, and embrace lifelong learning in an ever-changing world.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

15. Action, Extra-curricular Contract
16. Action, Second Reading Policies: 7231 & 7231-P(1) Federal Impact Funds
17. Action, 2026-2027 Board Goals

NEW BUSINESS

18. Action, BPA Co-Advisor
19. Action, Additions to the Guest Teacher List for 2026-2027
20. Action, Resignation
21. Action, Student Custodian
22. Action, Inter-Local Agreement for the Roose-Valley Cooperative
23. Action, MQEC Membership
24. Action, Sick Bank Request
25. Action, Breakfast and Lunch Prices
26. Action, Graduation Date and Time
27. Action, Fall Drivers' Education

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

28.

REPORTS (Continued)

29. Information, Trustees Reports/Requests

DATE/TIME FOR NEXT MEETING

30. Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2026
Time: 6:20 Preview Bills, 6:30 mtg.
Potential Conflicts:
Suggested Changes:

ADJOURNMENT

31. Time of adjournment: _____

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SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
September 17, 2026
Thursday – 5:30 p.m.

The Board met in regular session on Thursday, September 17, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. Trustees present were: Chair Chris Petersen, Amber Fox, Chris Newbill, Lisa Stepler, Verlin Stepler. Representatives were Nicole Simonsen, Mike Olson, Janessa Parenteau, Dave Solem, Lora Finnicum. Visitors were recognized.

Amber Fox made motion to approve the agenda. Chris Newbill seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously. Public comment acknowledged.

Amber Fox made motion to approve the minutes of August 18, 2026 (regular board) meeting(s). Lisa Stepler seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Verlin Stepler made motion to pay the September bills, approve investments, note cash and extra-curricular balances. Chris Newbill seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously. Payroll warrants #4406 to #4437 and claims warrants #14537 to #14597 were written.

Reports were presented. Fall testing completed. Fourth and fifth grade students attended an outdoor classroom in Williston as well as the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library in Medora. Homecoming activities gearing up for the upcoming weeks. Purchase of additional chrome books will be postponed until November. Nicole Simonsen disseminated packet on the tax implications from the legislative changes to county base distributions payments.

Amber Fox made motion to hire Jamason Schmidt as JH Boys' Basketball Assistant Coach. Chris Newbill seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Verlin Stepler made motion to approve the Speech & Drama Cooperative for 2026-27 with Froid/Lake. Chris Newbill seconded motion. Concerns expressed about students getting here after 4 p.m., starting practice late, payment of activity fee, and prorated costs of the program. Verlin Stepler made amendment to modify the coop agreement to state all program costs will be prorated by the number of students participating, payment of \$50 activity fee, and students' arrival for practice by 4 p.m. Lisa Stepler seconded amendment. Amendment carried unanimously. Amended agreement will be presented to the Froid/Lake Coop for approval. Motion carried unanimously.

Lisa Stepler made motion to hire Cassie Williams, Whitney Smith, Bailey Finnicum, and Jackie Olson as Guest Teachers pending background check. Amber Fox seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Chris Newbill made motion to approve 6 miles per day to Route #1 for a total 87.8 miles per day. Verlin Stepler seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Amber Fox made motion to approve to be fiscal host of the SHARE Consortium. Chris Newbill seconded motion. The consortium will provide vocational skills-based modules to the six member schools. Donations will be requested to purchase equipment. Motion carried unanimously.

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
September 17, 2026
Thursday – 5:30 p.m.

Amber Fox made motion to approve indemnity bonds for Payroll Warrants #4182, #4379, #4383 and Claims Warrants #14443, #14433, #14462 to void and reissue. Lisa Stepler seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Board reviewed the board goals for 2025-2026 to begin work on goals for 2026-2027. Culture, climate, and communications should be done regardless and not necessarily a goal. Goals need to be defined better. Trustees asked to review. No action at this time.

Amber Fox made motion to post 1st reading of Policy 7231 Federal Impact Funds and Procedure 7231-P(1) Federal Impact Funds. Verlin Stepler seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Notice for public comment for non-agenda items was given. Concern expressed regarding the spending deficits in the lunch program. Board to consider raising meal prices at the October board meeting. Check to see if regular meetings could start at 5:30 p.m. Next regular meeting scheduled for Monday, October 19, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. Amber Fox made motion to adjourn. Chris Newbill seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Board Chair



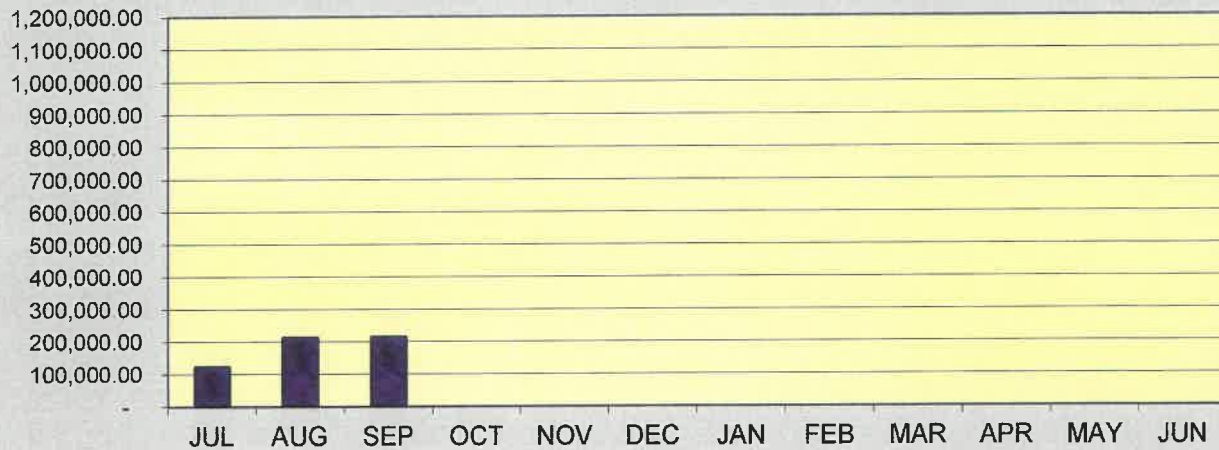
Clerk

CULBERTSON SCHOOL DISTRICT CASH FLOW REPORT
for the month of SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

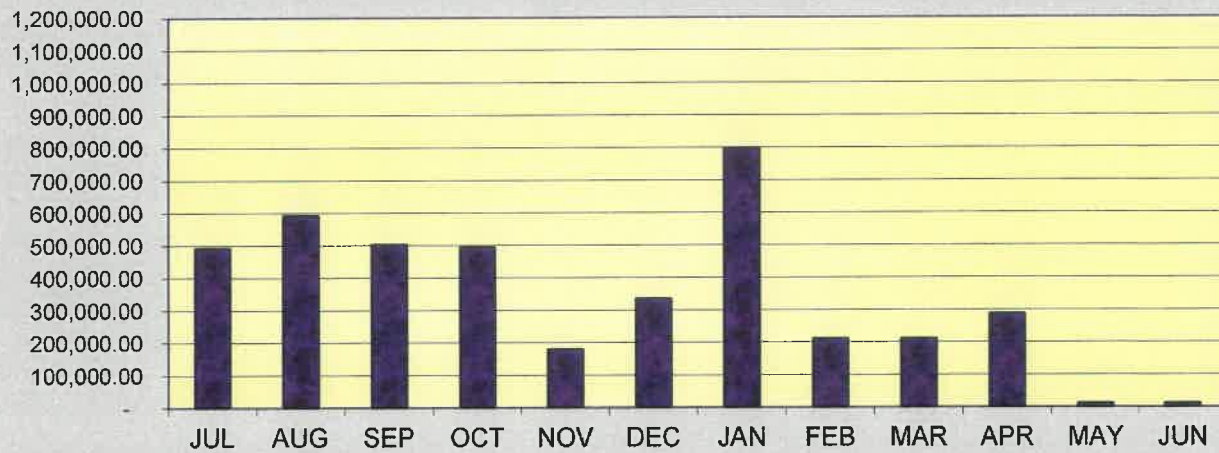
A	B	C	E	E	F	G	H	I
FUND	BEGINNING BALANCE	RECEIPTS	INVESTMENTS OUT	INVESTMENTS OUT	DISBURSEMENTS	ENDING BALANCE	TREASURER BALANCE	VARIANCE
GENERAL	(7,885.07)	108,535.43	26,451.00	17,923.00	174,659.35	(65,480.99)	(65,480.99)	-
TRANSF	50,487.53	32,717.75	11,449.00	12,886.00	27,919.65	53,848.63	53,848.63	-
TUITION	12.20	22.72	224.00	227.00	-	31.92	31.92	(0.00)
RETIREM	(5,489.88)	46,624.95	42,422.00	6,898.00	22,477.45	54,181.62	54,181.62	-
MISC	11,098.76	29,962.25	-	-	38,912.78	2,148.23	2,148.23	(0.00)
Misc	2,967.85	599.25				3,567.10		
Title	-				8,398.80	(8,398.80)		
Mental H	22,065.29				22,065.29	-		
Ind Ed	-	3,252.00			2,811.09	440.91		
SRS	(20,473.40)	26,111.00			5,637.60	-		
JOM	6,539.02					6,539.02		
AD ED	(1,564.53)	64.06	5,391.00	3,798.00	400.00	(307.47)	(307.47)	-
COMPA	0.02		-	-		0.02	0.02	-
IMPACT	(78,826.63)	0.03	15.00	-	3,826.96	(82,638.56)	(82,638.56)	-
TECH	1,299.69	0.02	9.00	1,308.00	620.47	(619.76)	(619.76)	-
FLEX	84,145.85		-	84,145.00	76,836.63	(76,835.78)	(76,835.78)	-
PR	2,055.19	324,252.62			317,942.72	8,365.09	8,365.09	0.00
CL	20,234.78	253,672.78			257,773.01	16,134.55	16,134.55	0.00
ELEM	75,567.91	795,852.61	85,961.00	127,185.00	921,369.02	(91,172.50)	(91,172.50)	0.00
GENERAL	(34,854.06)	65,146.64	2,120.00	-	107,310.43	(74,897.85)	(74,897.85)	-
TRANSF	32,081.29	27,158.03	6,796.00	37,651.00	22,615.88	5,768.44	5,768.44	(0.00)
LUNCH	49.52	6,165.94	449.00	497.00	7,670.97	(1,503.51)	(1,503.51)	-
TUITION	21.75	7.61	889.00	889.00		29.36	29.36	(0.00)
RETIREM	(5,354.46)	45,649.17	40,524.00	1,918.00	15,059.96	63,840.75	63,840.75	-
MISC	31,634.92	5,000.00	-	-	189.54	36,445.38	36,445.38	-
Misc	31,634.92				189.54	31,445.38		
AG	-					-		
BUS	-					-		
FCS	-					-		
SHARE	-	5,000.00				5,000.00		
Perkins	-					-		
AD ED	(1,567.56)	20.15	5,676.00	4,076.00	400.00	(347.41)	(347.41)	-
DR ED	(625.63)		-	-		(625.63)	(625.63)	-
COMPA	0.01		-	-		0.01	0.01	-
IMPAC	(1,121.99)	0.12	49.00	-	1,122.19	(2,195.06)	(2,195.06)	-
TECH	840.25	0.01	5.00	845.00	158.00	(157.74)	(157.74)	-
FLEX	(2,594.75)	0.22	88.00	-	2,595.36	(5,101.89)	(5,101.89)	-
ENDOW	119.90	49,687.61	71,047.00	42,451.00		78,403.51	78,403.51	-
HS	18,629.19	198,835.50	127,643.00	88,327.00	157,122.33	99,658.36	99,658.36	(0.00)
TOTAL	94,197.10	994,688.11	213,604.00	215,512.00	1,078,491.35	8,485.86	8,485.86	0.00

		JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
2026	101 General	-	26,451.00	17,923.00	-								
	110 Transport	11,153.00	11,449.00	12,886.00	-								
	113 Tuition	211.00	224.00	227.00	-								
	114 Retirement	20,091.00	42,422.00	6,898.00	-								
	117 Adult Ed	5,383.00	5,391.00	3,798.00	-								
	121 Comp Abs	-	-	-	-								
	126 Impact Aid	15.00	15.00	-	-								
	128 Technology	9.00	9.00	1,308.00	-								
	129 Flex	-	-	84,145.00	-								
	201 General	-	2,120.00	-	-								
	210 Transport	6,548.00	6,796.00	37,651.00	-								
	212 Hot Lunch	449.00	449.00	497.00	-								
	213 Tuition	859.00	889.00	889.00	-								
	214 Retirement	1,549.00	40,524.00	1,918.00	-								
	217 Adult Ed	5,662.00	5,676.00	4,076.00	-								
	218 Drivers Ed	-	-	-	-								
	221 Comp Abs	-	-	-	-								
	226 Impact Aid	49.00	49.00	845.00	-								
	228 Technology	5.00	5.00	-	-								
	229 Flex	88.00	88.00	-	-								
	281 Endow	71,047.00	71,047.00	42,451.00	-								
	TOTAL	123,118.00	213,604.00	215,512.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
2025	101 General	4,080.00	47,448.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	110 Transport	70,379.00	70,379.00	92,157.00	81,358.00	21,242.00	4,901.00	96,186.00	43,489.00	43,489.00	-	-	-
	113 Tuition	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	114 Retirement	101,666.00	101,666.00	64,490.00	12,116.00	-	-	93,230.00	-	-	-	-	-
	117 Adult Ed	1,679.00	1,679.00	1,020.00	259.00	-	3,904.00	5,020.00	3,349.00	3,349.00	2,774.00	-	-
	121 Comp Abs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	126 Impact Aid	-	1,076.00	1,076.00	-	-	40,429.00	40,128.00	33,100.00	33,100.00	18,017.00	-	-
	128 Technology	10.00	10.00	1,094.00	869.00	537.00	17.00	20.00	-	-	20.00	-	-
	129 Flex	-	-	149.00	-	-	-	3,696.00	-	-	-	-	-
	201 General	-	33,937.00	26,873.00	-	-	-	22,185.00	-	-	-	-	-
	210 Transport	27,030.00	569.00	10,022.00	30,958.00	-	51,077.00	53,171.00	17,966.00	17,966.00	8,417.00	-	-
	212 Hot Lunch	9,933.00	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,495.00	-	-
	213 Tuition	-	-	-	-	-	-	226.00	-	-	-	-	-
	214 Retirement	81,346.00	80,346.00	75,147.00	95,073.00	78,413.00	-	159,850.00	-	-	-	-	-
	217 Adult Ed	2,012.00	1,680.00	888.00	464.00	-	5,262.00	5,359.00	3,555.00	3,555.00	2,979.00	-	-
	218 Drivers Ed	-	-	-	3,419.00	3,419.00	2,693.00	2,659.00	2,270.00	2,270.00	2,198.00	-	-
	221 Comp Abs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	226 Impact Aid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	228 Technology	4.00	-	-	666.00	666.00	6.00	9.00	-	-	9.00	-	-
	229 Flex	3.00	-	-	-	-	-	14,159.00	-	-	6,406.00	-	-
	281 Endow	194,143.00	253,498.00	229,805.00	268,354.00	75,000.00	227,027.00	302,353.00	107,121.00	107,121.00	238,682.00	11,763.00	11,763.00
	TOTAL	492,285.00	592,289.00	502,721.00	493,536.00	179,277.00	335,316.00	798,251.00	210,850.00	210,850.00	287,997.00	11,763.00	11,763.00
		JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
2024	101 General		199,165.00	211,434.00	229,898.00			144,732.00	104,828.00	46,125.00	-	-	
	110 Transport		85,714.00	102,969.00	75,842.00	40,326.00	13,227.00	149,850.00	134,304.00	108,016.00	16,174.00	56,425.00	6,637.00
	114 Retirement		123,934.00	111,475.00	86,292.00	60,820.00	50,709.00	178,132.00	172,017.00	147,940.00	-	99,886.00	2,298.00
	117 Adult Ed		5,453.00	3,932.00	2,653.00	996.00	349.00	6,422.00	5,968.00	5,476.00	-	4,781.00	
	121 Comp Abs		3,897.00	3,897.00	3,897.00	3,897.00	3,897.00	3,961.00	3,977.00	3,988.00	-	2,156.00	
	126 Impact Aid							4,573.00	-	-	-	8,223.00	
	128 Technology		11.00	1,253.00	1,253.00			10.00	10.00	10.00	-	10.00	
	129 Flex							-	-	-	-	-	
	201 General		128,569.00	125,075.00	60,931.00			99,554.00	100,530.00	35,774.00	-	-	
	210 Transport		38,079.00	47,257.00	29,950.00	9,617.00	-	85,300.00	75,429.00	58,957.00	41,933.00	25,357.00	5,044.00
	212 Hot Lunch		2,602.00				4,023.00	9,152.00	11,204.00	16,351.00	20,129.00	27,744.00	
	214 Retirement		95,888.00	90,900.00	77,260.00	70,017.00	54,318.00	131,782.00	127,981.00	105,836.00	90,063.00	78,053.00	1,756.00
	217 Adult Ed		5,509.00	13,801.00	12,518.00	1,034.00	378.00	3,589.00	6,297.00	5,796.00	6,282.00	5,093.00	
	218 Drivers Ed		1,475.00	1,475.00	5,300.00	5,300.00	5,300.00	4,719.00	4,060.00	2,953.00	2,623.00	2,528.00	
	221 Comp Abs		3,785.00	3,782.00	3,782.00	3,793.00	3,793.00	3,572.00	3,572.00	3,582.00	3,582.00	3,609.00	
	226 Impact Aid							-	-	-	-	-	
	228 Technology		12.00	886.00				4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	
	229 Flex		3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	41,990.00	31,814.00	6,213.00	4,150.00	-	
	281 Endow		232,905.00	56,528.00	100,304.00	40,358.00	35,358.00	201,839.00	114,425.00	62,526.00	45,957.00	29,354.00	3,571.00
	TOTAL		927,001.00	774,667.00	689,883.00	236,161.00	171,355.00	1,069,181.00	896,420.00	609,547.00	230,897.00	343,223.00	19,306.00

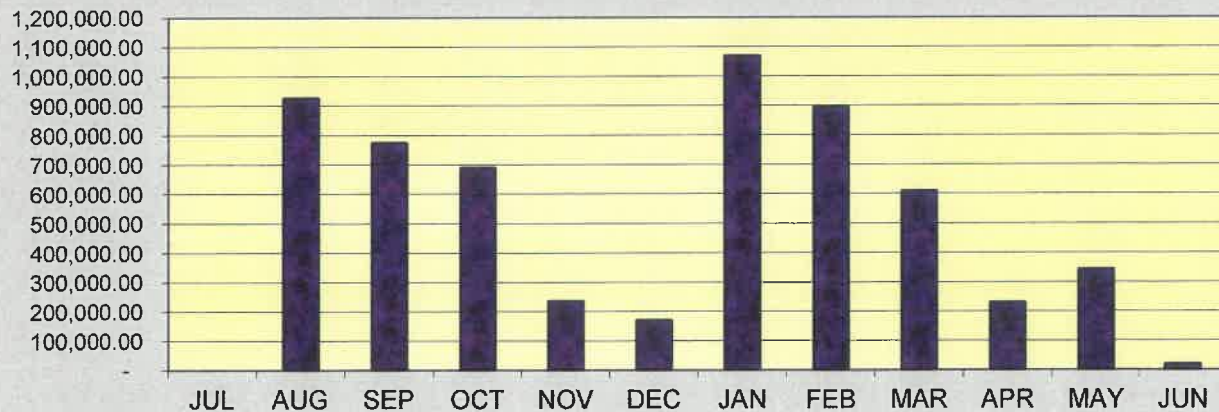
2026-27 INVESTMENTS



2025-26 INVESTMENTS



2024-25 INVESTMENTS



Culbertson Public School

Totals Report for September 2026 through September 2026
2026-2027

10/13/2026
7:49:24 AM

Checking
Savings
Investments

Account	Beginning +	Receipts -	Expenditures +	Transfers =	Ending
1 - ANNUAL	1,787.43	1,220.00	45.99	0.00	2,961.44
2 - ATHLETICS	10,670.05	9,454.22	11,750.26	-95.50	8,278.51
3 - SOPHOMORE CLASS 2029	7,044.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,044.26
4 - 7TH GRADE CLASS 2032	1,770.25	1,181.00	0.00	0.00	2,951.25
5 - 6TH GRADE CLASS 2033	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6 - GRADUATED SENIOR CLASS 2026	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7 - JUNIOR CLASS 2028	3,968.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,968.77
8 - CHEERLEADER	1,222.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,222.76
9 - FFA	11,357.12	6,070.00	3,396.38	55.50	14,086.24
10 - BAND/CHOIR	4,359.70	720.00	131.64	0.00	4,948.06
11 - STUDENT COUNCIL	5,239.42	282.00	0.00	0.00	5,521.42
12 - SPEECH AND DRAMA	1,283.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,283.14
13 - VO-AG REVOLVING	1,895.49	500.00	0.00	0.00	2,395.49
14 - SENIOR CLASS 2027	7,789.64	0.00	112.38	0.00	7,677.26
15 - PLAY	2,433.93	100.00	0.00	0.00	2,533.93
16 - Golf	3,614.46	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,614.46
17 - BPA	50.54	1,330.00	0.00	0.00	1,380.54
18 - EXPLORE AMERICA	31,350.31	4,063.00	251.95	40.00	35,201.36
19 - MUSIC PARENTS	2,680.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,680.02
20 - ART	2,991.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,991.68
21 - LIBRARY	1,361.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,361.76
22 - 8TH GRADE CLASS 2031	875.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	875.83
23 - FRESHMAN GRADE CLASS 2030	3,282.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,282.71
24 - SCIENCE OLYMPIAD	5,000.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.66
25 - MUSIC FESTIVAL ACCOUNT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	112,029.93 +	25,920.22 -	15,688.60 +	0.00 =	122,261.55



Dear Culbertson Board of Trustees,

This year our chapter elected the following people for officers:

President = Payton Labatte
Vice President = Cal Stepler
Secretary = Kalia Featherston
Treasurer = Felixe Becker
Communications Director = Harper Anderson
Parliamentarian = Stella Fox

Fundraisers:

We did a meal at the homecoming football game and have been taking tickets at volleyball and football games. Also, we are currently doing Socktober-Fest, which is selling socks where half the profit comes to us and half goes to charity.

We recently attended the Fall Leadership Summit in Fairmont Hot Springs. There were different leadership training offered throughout the day that we attended. Members attending were Harper and Felixe.

I (Harper) am going to be running for a State BPA Officer position in March at the state leadership conference in Billings.

Student Rep. Report Submitted by,

-BPA Communications Director, *Harper Anderson*

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to be 'Harper Anderson', with a stylized, overlapping structure.A second handwritten signature in purple ink, also appearing to be 'Harper Anderson', with a more fluid, cursive style.

October 2026 AD report

Culbertson Board of Trustees,

Junior high football and volleyball have ended. Junior high basketball practice began on Oct 6. JH boys has 17 participants, JH girls has 12 participants. There are 14 participants out for speech and drama. District volleyball will be held in Culbertson Oct 29-30. State cross country will be held Oct 24 in Billings.

Sincerely,

David Solem

Mr. Olson
Technology Report
School Board Meeting
October 19, 2026

The school will be moving to a Google SSO and away from our current domain-based logins. This will continue throughout the year. We have already moved all student devices to Google SSO.

Schoolhouse IT was here on October 14th. I can update at the meeting of any findings.

The Wifi bridge came in for the bus barn. We will put the new one to the football field and move the current one to the bus barn.

Mr. Olson
 6-12 Principal Report
 School Board Meeting
 October 19, 2026

Homecoming week went well. Students and staff did a great job.

InterQuest Detection Canies were in the building on Sept 23rd.

Culbertson VFD was in the building on Oct 10th for fire prevention week.

The 5-12 Fall concert was on Oct 12th. It was a great concert, and the north bleachers were full.

As of 09-14-26

	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	Total
Aug	10	23	22	20	21	21	25	25	20	20	23	10	16	256
Sept	14	22	20	19	20	19	25	26	20	19	24	8	15	251
Oct	13	22	21	19	21	19	25	26	20	20	24	8	15	253
Nov														0
Dec														0
Jan														0
Feb														0
March														0
April														0
May														0

Enrolled	4	0	1	0	1	1	1	3	3	0	1	0	0	15
Transferred	0	1	1	1	2	2	0	1	1	2	1	2	0	14
Total In/Out	4	1	2	1	3	3	1	4	4	2	2	2	0	29

Ended the 2025-2026 year with 263

115 Elem
 71 JH
 67 HS

October Elementary Report

- We have added two new students since the last meeting.
- Prior to me leaving for a week, the students, Mrs. Newbill, and I have been working together to improve lunchroom behavior. The students have been working hard to improve their lunchroom manners, keep their areas clean, and not be as loud while eating. The students have made huge gains over the last month.
- Fall MAPS testing has been completed. Grades 3-5 have begun the first round of MAST testing.
- There will be a Math and Literacy evening that runs simultaneously with the Kee and Stacy event. NHS students will be helping with the event so parents can attend the parent evening.

Culbertson School Board Meeting

Superintendent's Report

October 19, 2026

Staff shoutouts this month go to the following:

***Student Council**—Thanks to the planning of our student council and their advisor (Mrs. Standley) we had another awesome Homecoming week! Our student council and Mrs. Standley ensure that all the activities during Homecoming are carried out successfully. We would not have a successful week without their hard planning!

***Class Advisors**—My second shout out this month is to our class advisors! They are the chaos coordinators during the weeks leading up to Homecoming week and throughout Homecoming week. Organizing and equipping their classes to divide and conquer hallways, floats, skits, class banners, class games, and teams for the competitions is no small task. I am grateful for their willingness to be class advisors!

A. Events that I plan to attend for October & November:

October 1	VB @ Savage
October 2	FB vs. Plentywood
October 3	VB @ Ekalaka
October 6	VB @ Bainville
October 7	NEMASS @ Wolf Point
October 8	Parent Teacher Conferences 3-6pm
October 12	JH BB vs. R&L 4:30
October 13	HS VB vs. Froid/Lake
October 14	MASDA 2026 @ Billings
October 15-16	MCEL @ Billings (TBD)
October 19 or 21	Regular October Meeting of the Culbertson Trustees
October 20	JH BB vs. Fairview
October 22	JH BB vs. Circle & HS VB @ Brockton
October 23	HS VB vs. Mondak
October 26	Kee Concept Parent Night
October 27	JH BB vs. Mondak
October 29-31	District VB Tournament in Culbertson
October 31	JH BB @ Circle
November 3	JH BB @ Bainville
November 4	NEMASS @ Sidney
November 6	JH BB @ Lambert
November 10	JH BB vs. R/L
November 11	Veterans' Day Assembly
November 13	JH BB @ Mondak
November 14	JH BB vs Froid/Lake
November 17	OPI onsite for final Food Service Audit
November 17	Regular November Meeting of the Culbertson Trustees
November 20	JH BB @ Savage
November 21	JH BB vs. Brockton

B. Other updates and items for your review:

1. Bus #2—This bus is currently still in Williston at Dakota Diesel. We have now reached the top of their list so they can focus on our bus and work with I-State to properly diagnose our engine in this bus. Mr. Olson has been talking directly to the mechanic, so he can provide more information on the specifics if you are interested.
2. Extra-Curricular Openings—We are currently still looking for elementary GBB assistant for Holly Nickoloff and an elementary BBB assistant for Shawn Larsen.
3. Accreditation—The rest of this month I will be making a heavy push to gather feedback from students, staff, parents, and community to help drive our goals for the integrated strategic action plan and graduate profile. This Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA) is a valuable requirement for the accreditation process.
4. Staff Book Studies—This fall we had 6-10 staff choose to participate in our optional book studies for professional development. Both books were written by Ron Clark, founder and CEO of the Ron Clark Academy (RCA) in Atlanta, Georgia. Our first book was “The Essential 55”, which is a set of rule Ron teaches his own students and now all students at the RCA for success. The second book was “Move Your Bus” which includes Ron’s view of how to get the most out of your organization whether it is a school or corporation.
5. SHARE Consortium—No new updates to provide to you on the SHARE (Shared High-tech Access for Rural Education) Consortium. I believe this consortium will need to be built one module at a time as we slowly receive sponsorships and donations to make this happen.
6. C-C Complex Updates—We are grateful for the hard work of lots of volunteers that pitched in to do all the dirt work, fence, concrete for the new discuss ring, and planting/watering of the new grass at our C-C Complex!
7. Custodial—We have pieced together our custodial schedules for now. I am requesting permission to advertise for a part time custodial position. Our current custodians are all going above and beyond to make things work, but I want to be cautious not to burn anyone out because then we would really be in a bind.
8. OPI Food Service Audit—After our food service audit with OPI last year, we earned ourselves one more visit from them this fall. On November 17th, Sydney Dickerson from OPI will be back in our building to check in one more time before we are in the clear. There are multiple pre-submission items that we will provide her with before her onsite visit with us on November 17th. If we successfully pass her visit this time, we will not have another food service audit for 5 years.
9. OPI Transportation Audit—We are also the lucky winners of doing a transportation audit for OPI this year. This is new experience for me, but the required submissions for this audit will include our route maps, list of riders, individual transportation contracts, and a few more documents.
10. HS Girls Flag Football—This is not an MHSA sanctioned sport yet, but is quickly gaining

momentum across Montana for schools of all sizes AA-C. This is something we would like the board to look at for our high school girls. Currently HS Girls' Flag Football is funded through the NFL and there can be up to \$20,000 of start up money for this sport and new money each year to support it. There are loads of variables to consider, which is likely most appropriate for an athletic committee meeting to start. Mr. Solem and I, along with Mike Erickson (Glasgow AD and current girls' flag football commissioner) can present initial information for review at an athletic committee meeting. Then, the athletic committee can make a determination on how they would like to move forward (no action, take to the full board for consideration, or make a recommendation to the full board).

11. Kee Concepts—This will be our final year of the mental health grant which allows us to continue working with Kee Dunning and Stacy Steflug on the Kee Concepts. This year's focus will be to continue to support staff and focus on launching the concepts to students and parents. We have a parent night scheduled for Kee and Stacy to come present the concepts to parents this month on Monday night, October 26th at 6:00pm. in the cafeteria. We intend to run our fall math/literacy/science night for K-5 students in the gym in conjunction with this presentation so parents are able to attend without having to find childcare.
12. PD Opportunity—At the end of last week I was gifted with a scholarship to cover the entire registration fee (\$1,250) for the New Era Superintendent Achievement Summit in Park City, Utah (about 35 minutes from Salt Lake City) November 4-6. This is an incredible opportunity for me to learn alongside superintendents from around the nation to make myself better for our school, staff, and students. I will be traveling to Billings early on November 4th to catch a flight to Salt Lake City and the itinerary kicks off almost immediately on my arrival. Thursday, November 5th is jam packed from 7am to 6:30pm. Friday's learning is a half day to allow for travel home. I attached the agenda so you can see the learning I will get to be part of when I attend. Then, it is followed up with 6 meetings (one per month), to continue our learning.
13. FCC on E-rates—Currently the Federal Communications Commission is looking at eliminating E-rates. This would have an impact on our district financially regarding technology. I was able to submit commentary to the FCC with the assistance of our national School Superintendent Association (AASA). I attached my letter to the FCC.
14. Legislative Session—The upcoming legislative session starting in January has potential to make a positive impact on school funding, but more funding for education never comes without extensive work. I have attached a document that shows the CAMPS proposal and School Funding Interim Commission proposal. Both proposals would require finding \$276 million-\$433 million of new money for education. Discussions are being held across the state about a proposed flat 4.7% income tax, which does not affect most of us but would bring down income taxes substantially for the extremely wealthy Montanans resulting in less "new" money to find for education. One more piece of legislation I will be watching closely will be a potential screen time bill. There is chatter that the legislative body may propose a ban on all screen time for K-3 during the school day with the exception of activities or instruction on the smartboard and of course standardized testing. If this bill is modeled after Utah—this could get interesting! I will continue to update you as we head into this session.

15. Here are a few items that will be part of the next regular Board meeting agenda:

- 2026-2027 Board Goals

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about any item in this report or on the agenda, please feel free to contact me at any time. I can be reached at 787-6246 (school), 787-5211 (home), 404-774-4088 (cell), or by email at simonsenna@culbertson.k12.mt.us at any time. I believe in an open door, so please feel free to drop in my office anytime to visit.

CULBERTSON
SCHOOLS

PRESENTS

Kee Concepts

PARENT NIGHT

OCTOBER 26, 2026

6-7:30 PM

IN THE CAFETERIA

RESPECT

LISTEN & VALIDATE

WHAT DON'T I KNOW?

MEET PEOPLE WHERE THEY ARE

DON'T FEED THE BEARS

BACK OUT OF POWER STRUGGLES

ANYTIME

ANYWHERE

THE PROGRAM.

NOVEMBER 4–6, 2026 BLACK ROCK MOUNTAIN RESORT
PARK CITY – DEER VALLEY, UTAH

01 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

ARRIVAL & OPENING NIGHT

3:00 PM **Summit Registration Opens**

Black Rock Lobby

5:00 PM **Summit Welcome Reception**

Ballroom

6:00 PM **First Night Banquet Dinner**

Ballroom



OPENING KEYNOTE

The Superintendent as World-Class CEO

James H. Quigley

CEO Emeritus, Deloitte Global • Founder & CEO, School Leadership Alliance

8:00 PM **New Era Leadership Lounge**

Live music with Utah's own Brooke Mackintosh
On The Rocks

02 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

BALLROOM UNLESS NOTED

7:00 AM **Breakfast**

Overlook Restaurant

7:45 AM **Welcome & Summit Kick-Off: Disrupting Education for Good**

With a special appearance by Esther Wojcicki, the Godmother of Silicon Valley

8:30 AM **Superintelligence for Superintendents I: Your Leadership Story**

Powered by Mosaic AI

9:00 AM **Action Circles I: Kindred Spirits in the Quest for Solutions & Success**

9:30 AM **SUPERINTENDENT SUCCESS STORY 1***

Literacy Achievement: Surprising Success Stories

10:00 AM **SUPERINTENDENT SUCCESS STORY 2***

Math Achievement: The Age of AI Innovation

10:30 AM **Coffee & Refreshment Break**

10:45 AM



THURSDAY KEYNOTE

By Design: How to Transform School Systems

Mike Miles

Superintendent, Houston Independent School District

11:30 AM

SUPERINTENDENT SUCCESS STORY 3*

"Nothing is Over": The After-School Opportunity

Noon

Lunch: New Era Achievement Alliance Launch

Choose your Superintendent Collaborative

1:15 PM

SUPERINTENDENT SUCCESS STORY 4*

Student Mental Health & Achievement Breakthroughs

1:45 PM

SUPERINTENDENT SUCCESS STORY 5*

New Frontiers in School Safety: Are You Prepared?

2:15 PM

Achievement Focus Group I

Breakout rooms as assigned

3:30 PM

Leadership Strength & Reflection Break — on your own

5:30 PM

Thursday Networking & Recognition Reception

Ballroom

6:30 PM

Park City Dine Around

Small group dinners

03 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

BRINGING IT HOME

7:15 AM

Breakfast

Overlook Restaurant

8:00 AM

Superintelligence for Superintendents II: Top Summit Stories

Powered by Mosaic AI

8:30 AM

Survival or Success? The Art of School Board Leadership

With Dr. Quintin Shepherd

9:10 AM

Leadership Working Session: The Secret Sauce

With Superintendent Mike Miles

10:00 AM

Action Circles II: Bringing It All Back Home

11:00 AM

Highlight Video, Recognitions, Wrap-Up & Prize Drawing

11:30 AM

Summit Adjourns

Plus ice cream for the road ahead

* These sessions feature sponsors' superintendent speakers.

More summit information: newerasuperintendents.com/achievement-summit-2026

Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street NE
Washington, DC 20554

RE: WC Docket Nos. 26-133, 13-184, 21-93, and 21-455 — Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Concerning E-Rate

October 13, 2026

Dear Chairman Carr:

My name is Nicole Simonsen, and I serve as Superintendent of Culbertson School Dist 17 C.A.K.A. Culbertson Public Schools in Culbertson, Montana, a public school district serving approximately 275 students across 1 school.

I am writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to preserve and strengthen the E-Rate program and to reject any proposal that would eliminate, sunset, substantially reduce, or unnecessarily restrict E-Rate support for schools and libraries.

As a superintendent, I see firsthand that reliable, high-quality broadband is no longer an optional technology benefit for students. It is essential infrastructure for modern public education and supports myriad operational and instructional functions in our schools.

Before a student even enters our classroom, E-Rate helps provide the network infrastructure that allows our school district to function. When that connectivity is unavailable or unreliable, it can disrupt the basic operations of our school and compromise our ability to safely and effectively serve students.

Our door access system, security cameras, and emergency notification systems all require our network, which is paid for through our e-rate program.

The FCC's proposal points to the progress schools have made in expanding broadband connectivity over the past three decades. But the fact that schools are connected today is, in large part, evidence of the success of E-Rate — not evidence that the need for the program has disappeared. Connectivity must be maintained, upgraded, secured, and scaled as instructional demands and technology continue to evolve. For my district, reducing or eliminating E-Rate support would have a direct and tangible impact.

E-Rate covers roughly 70% of our fiber and wi-fi costs, about \$13,277 annually. Cutting that funding would require us to delay purchasing new technology for teachers and replacing outdated technology.

Those costs would ultimately compete with the resources we use to support students and educators. School districts operate within finite budgets. When the cost of essential infrastructure increases, districts like mine are forced to make difficult choices about staffing, instructional programs, student services, transportation, facilities, and other priorities.

Culbertson School Dist 17 C.A.K.A. Culbertson Public Schools has received \$58,934 in committed federal E-Rate support over funding years 2021–2025 — an average of roughly \$11,787 a year toward the connections our students depend on. That support does not represent a one-time build; it is the recurring cost of keeping a modern network running.

E-Rate's success over the past three decades should be viewed as a reason to preserve and improve the program — not as a reason to assume that the work is finished. From my perspective as a

superintendent, reliable broadband is part of the basic infrastructure of a modern school system, just like electricity, transportation, and safe facilities.

I therefore respectfully urge the Commission to:

1. Reject any proposal to sunset or eliminate the E-Rate program;
2. Reject proposals that would unnecessarily narrow E-Rate eligibility or restrict support based solely on geography or other criteria that would leave students without adequate support;
3. Preserve support for the connectivity and internal network infrastructure schools need to provide reliable educational access; and
4. Work with schools and other stakeholders to strengthen and modernize E-Rate rather than reduce its role in public education.

E-Rate has enabled schools (public and private) and libraries to build and maintain the connectivity necessary for students and patrons to participate fully in modern education. As our nation seeks to prepare students for college, careers, and an increasingly technology-driven economy, now is not the time to undermine the very program and related infrastructure that makes those opportunities possible.

Our students deserve access to the tools they need to learn and succeed regardless of where they live or their family's financial circumstances. I urge the Commission to protect E-Rate and ensure that public schools can continue providing students with reliable, affordable, and effective connectivity.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Respectfully,

Nicole Simonsen
Superintendent
Culbertson School Dist 17 C A.K.A. Culbertson Public Schools
Culbertson, Montana

Is funding adequate? How far behind are we?

Per Pupil Spending: National Average	MT \$600M Behind on an annual basis.
PP Spend: North Dakota Comp	MT \$500M Behind
CAMPS Proposal	\$276M Increase over current formula
SFIC Consultant Proposal, Foundation Formula	\$433M Increase over base formula \$213M Increase over adopted budgets

What did the SFIC Recommend at the end of their 18 mos study of the MT School Funding?

These are proposed bills that will need to be approved by the 2027 legislature.

<u>Bill #</u>	<u>Fund/Program</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Potential Increase - statewide</u>
PD9	Inflationary Cap	Remove the cap, redefine how inflation is calculated, calculate inflation each year of biennium.	? Unknown - based on inflation
PD13	State Special Ed Fund	Would increase the allowable cost - money received from the state for special ed.	\$56M
PD10	Special Ed High Cost Pool (New fund - does not currently exist)	Create a high cost pool that would cover costs for high cost students. District would cover first \$35K.	\$20M
PD11	Major Maintenance Fund	Increase amount per student for the major maintenance account. Some reporting required - facility inventory.	\$14M
PD15	Increase the at-risk payment	Redefines how to count number of at-risk students statewide. Increases the amount for each student.	\$160M (proposal is that it will be phased in, so only 1/2 in the first year.)
PD?	EL Funding (New fund - does not currently exist)	Create state fund for EL students - appropriated based on the number of EL qualified.	\$10M
PD12	6th Grade Funding	Provide HS funding for 6th graders who are attending a MS or JH program.	\$18M
PD8	Indian Education for All Payment	Increase the district minimum from \$100 to \$1000.	\$63,000
PD16	High Quality Instructional Materials (New fund - does not currently exist)	Create a statewide allocation for materials and professional development.	\$5M
		Estimated Total Increase	\$213M in the first year \$293M in subsequent years.

**CULBERTSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICTS 17 J/R/C
BOARD AGENDA FACT SHEET**

MEETING DATE: 10-19-2026

AGENDA ITEM #: 15

AGENDA TITLE: Extra-Curricular Contract

SUMMARY: Mr. Solem and I recommend the following for an extra-curricular contract:

JH/Elem. Track Assistant: Jeffrey Haus

Nepotism was posted properly. Chris Petersen needs to abstain from the vote and the remaining vote must be unanimous.

BOARD ACTION

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Petersen					
Newbill					
L. Steppler					
Fox					
V. Steppler					

Mission

Culbertson Public Schools are committed to providing opportunities for students in a safe and productive environment, to achieve their personal best, become responsible and productive citizens, and embrace lifelong learning in an ever-changing world.

**CULBERTSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICTS 17 J/R/C
BOARD AGENDA FACT SHEET**

MEETING DATE: 10-19-2026

AGENDA ITEM #: 16

AGENDA TITLE: 2nd Reading Policy

SUMMARY: The following policy updates are recommended by MTSBA to bring our Impact Aid policies up to date. This is the second reading. There were no comments during the comment period. IEC reviewed both policies at their meeting on September 23rd with no recommendations to change. This is the second and final reading for the proposed policies.

7231 & 7231-P(1): Federal Impact Funds

BOARD ACTION

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Petersen					
Newbill					
L. Steppler					
Fox					
V. Steppler					

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Policy 7231: Federal Impact Funds

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 03/20/1984

It is the intent of the District that all American Indian children of school age have equal access to all programs, services, and activities offered in the District.

It is also the intent of the District to fully comply with the requirements of Title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and regulations relating thereto. To that end, the District shall:

1. Provide tribal officials and parents of Indian children with relevant applications, evaluations, program plans and information related to the District's education program and activities sufficient advance notice for an opportunity to comment on the participation of Indian children on an equal basis in all programs and activities offered by the District;
2. Annually assess the extent to which Indian students are participating on an equal basis in the educational programs and activities of the District;
3. If and when necessary, modify its educational programs to ensure that Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Indian children served by the District;
4. Respond at least annually in writing to comments and recommendations made by tribes or parents of Indian children, and disseminate the responses to the tribe and parents of Indian children prior to the submission of the IPP's.
5. Provide an opportunity for tribes and parents of Indian children to provide their views on the District's educational program and activities, including recommendations on the needs of their children and how the District may help those children realize their benefits of the District's education programs and activities.
6. Provide a copy of the IPP's annually to the affected tribe or tribes.

Assessments

Tribal officials and parents of Indian children are encouraged to assess the effectiveness of their input regarding the participation of Indian children in the District's educational programs and activities and the development and implementation of the District's Indian policies and procedures and share the results of such assessment with the District.

Procedure 7231-P(1): Federal Impact Funds

Status: DRAFT

The Board adopts the following procedures as required by Title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA):

1. The Superintendent and/or his/her designee will disseminate information and seek timely input regarding the following programs on its educational program (including but, not limited to): Title I, Part A, Title I, Part C, Title I, Part D, Title II, Part A, Title III, Part A, Title IV, Part A, Title IV, Part B, Title V, Part B subpart 2, Title VI, Part A, subpart 1, Title VII-Impact Aid programs, Johnson O'Malley programming.

The completed applications, evaluations, and program planning will be made available to parents of Indian children, Tribal officials, and the Indian Education Committee to afford all interested parties the opportunity to review the documents with sufficient time to provide thoughtful input at the meetings. These meetings will be publicly advertised to allow all interested parties to attend.

Parents of Indian children, tribal officials, the Indian Education Committee and any other interested person can review assessment data to help develop or modify educational programs and services allowing for the participation of Indian students on an equal basis in the district.

Minutes from the Indian Education meetings will be posted on the District's website for all patrons and Tribal officials to review. This will allow for ongoing dissemination of information.

2. The Culbertson School District will take the following measures to annually assess the extent to which Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Indian children in the District's education program and activities.
 - A. The District will monitor Indian student participation in all academic and co-curricular activities.
 - B. School district officials will review school data to assess the extent of Indian children's participation in the District's education programs on an equal basis.
 - C. The District will share its assessment of district funding, Indian student participation, related academic achievements and other related data will be shared with the parents of Indian children and tribal officials.
 - D. Parents of Indian children, tribal officials and other interested parties may express their views on participation through direct communication with the school district, at any school board meeting or to the Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee).
 - E. Copies of annual reports will be provided to tribal officials upon request.
3. During the organization meeting of the Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee), the Indian Policies and Procedures (Policies 7231-7231P) will be reviewed and revised if necessary. Once this has happened, the document will be forwarded to the School Board as well as the tribal officials and parents of Indian children for review and consideration. If necessary, the Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee) may suggest revisions at other times of the year as appropriate. Any updates will be sent to the Indian Education Committee.
4. The School District will respond at least annually in writing to comments and recommendations made by tribes or parents of Indian children, and disseminate the responses to the tribe and parents of Indian children prior to the submission of the IPP's by the District.
5. The Indian Education Committee (parent Advisory Committee) of the District will meet monthly or minimally quarterly for the purpose of addressing comments and concerns of parents of Indian children regarding the District's educational programs and activities. The meeting agendas are posted and all meetings are open to the public allowing for tribal officials as well as parents of Indian children the opportunity to submit comments and recommendations for consideration.

A school board representative is a non-voting member of the Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee). This representation allows for the discussion of the needs of the students and ideas to be brought forward to both the Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee) as well as the School Board.

At any board meeting, members of the Indian community will be afforded the opportunity to provide comments and suggestions regarding programming for Indian students during public comment.

6. The District will annually provide a current copy of Policies 7231 and 72131P to the Fort Peck tribe by mail and/or email upon request.

**CULBERTSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICTS 17 J/R/C
BOARD AGENDA FACT SHEET**

MEETING DATE: 10-19-2026

AGENDA ITEM #: 17

AGENDA TITLE: 2026-2027 Board Goals

SUMMARY: The board reviews their goals annually to ensure they are in line with our integrated strategic action plan, policy, and graduate profile. The 2025-2026 goals are listed here:

- Monitor Culture/Climate in the School
- PreK in the Building
- Gifted/Talented
- Facility Improvements
- Continued Communications

BOARD ACTION

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Petersen					
Newbill					
L. Steppler					
Fox					
V. Steppler					

Mission

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**CULBERTSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICTS 17 J/R/C
BOARD AGENDA FACT SHEET**

MEETING DATE: 10-19-2026

AGENDA ITEM #: 18

AGENDA TITLE: BPA Co-Advisor

SUMMARY: I am requesting and recommending Ashlee Anderson for Co-Advisor of BPA for the remainder of this 2026-2027 school year. Mrs. Ator has a demanding case load this school year and has requested help with BPA.

BOARD ACTION

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Petersen					
Newbill					
L. Steppler					
Fox					
V. Steppler					

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**CULBERTSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICTS 17 J/R/C
BOARD AGENDA FACT SHEET**

MEETING DATE: 10-19-2026

AGENDA ITEM #: 19

AGENDA TITLE: Additions to the Guest Teacher List for 2026-2027

SUMMARY: The following applicants are being recommended as additions to the 2026-2027 guest teacher list pending background checks:

Camryn Zink

BOARD ACTION

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Petersen					
Newbill					
L. Steppler					
Fox					
V. Steppler					

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**CULBERTSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICTS 17 J/R/C
BOARD AGENDA FACT SHEET**

MEETING DATE: 10-19-2026

AGENDA ITEM #: 20

AGENDA TITLE: Resignation

SUMMARY: I accepted the verbal resignation of Brittney Pirkle on September 16th, effective after her shift on September 18th. The board can also formally approve this resignation.

BOARD ACTION

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Petersen					
Newbill					
L. Steppler					
Fox					
V. Steppler					

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**CULBERTSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICTS 17 J/R/C
BOARD AGENDA FACT SHEET**

MEETING DATE: 10-19-2026

AGENDA ITEM #: 21

AGENDA TITLE: Student Custodian

SUMMARY: Kaylynn (janitorial supervisor) and I recommend the hiring of Harper Struna as a student custodian. She will work 1 hour before school for now and possibly more in the future after school. This will help us fill the gap left from the resignation.

BOARD ACTION

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Petersen					
Newbill					
L. Stepler					
Fox					
V. Stepler					

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**CULBERTSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICTS 17 J/R/C
BOARD AGENDA FACT SHEET**

MEETING DATE: 10-19-2026

AGENDA ITEM #: 22

AGENDA TITLE: Inter-Local Agreement for the Roose-Valley Cooperative

SUMMARY: The Roose-Valley Cooperative is composed of 9 schools including Culbertson. We pool our special education funding together in order to employ a school psychologist and speech pathologists. This agreement requires annual review and board approval. I recommend approving this agreement so we can continue to have access to a school psych and speech services for our students.

BOARD ACTION

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Petersen					
Newbill					
L. Steppler					
Fox					
V. Steppler					

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ROOSE–VALLEY SPECIAL SERVICES COOPERATIVE

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

THIS AGREEMENT, Made and entered into this seventh day of June, 2026 between and among the following School Districts: Bainville School District #64; Brockton School District #55; Culbertson School District #17, hereinafter referred to as the "Fiscal Host School," Frazer School District #2; Froid School District #65; Frontier School District #3; Lustre School District #23; Nashua School District #13; and Opheim School District #9.

WHEREAS: The participating Districts desire to offer full services to persons requiring Special Education, said persons defined in (Section 20-7-401-MCA) and to all children with disabilities residing within said Districts, and

WHEREAS: The participating District desire to provide these Special Education services in compliance with all applicable State and Federal laws and regulations.

WHEREAS: Sections 20-7-451 through 20-7-456, MCA, provide that School Districts may contract with one another to establish a Cooperative to perform all Special Education administrative services, activities and undertaking that the School District entering into this Agreement is authorized by law to perform.

NOW THEREFORE: The parties hereto, hereby establish a Special Education Cooperative, pursuant to the following mutual covenants and promises.

COOPERATIVE'S POWERS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- I. The Cooperative shall provide assistance in the development and maintenance of Special Education Programs in all School Districts who are party to this Agreement.
- II. The Cooperative shall provide a comprehensive evaluation for each child referred to it by any District that is a party to this Agreement, when such an evaluation is not available in said District.
- III. The Cooperative shall assist in the development of an individualized education program, for each child requiring the services of this Cooperative.
- IV. The Cooperative shall provide all the instructional and support services required by the individualized educational program, when such services are not available in said District, developed under the requirements of sub-paragraph III.
- V. The Cooperative shall provide the above-mentioned services to all persons between the ages of six years and eighteen years, inclusive, who reside within the School

Districts that are parties to this Agreement, and when such services are not available in said District. Further, the Cooperative, after evaluation of persons between three years of age to five years of age, may offer services to those persons who would benefit from those programs established for persons between six years of age and eighteen years of age.

COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION

- I. Cooperative's name: the name of this Special Education Cooperative shall be: ***ROOSE-VALLEY SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE.***
- II. Duration of Cooperative's existence: the duration of this Cooperative is perpetual.
- III. The Cooperative shall have the following powers:
 - A. To sue, and be sued, complain and defend, in its Cooperative name.
 - B. To purchase, take, receive, lease, take by gift, devise or bequest, or otherwise acquire, hold, own, improve, use, and otherwise deal in and with real or personal property, or any interest therein, whatever situated.
 - C. To sell, convey, pledge, lease, exchange, transfer or otherwise dispose of all or any part of its property and assets.
 - D. To make contracts and incur liabilities, through the purchasing of goods and materials.
 - E. To conduct its affairs, carry on its operations, and have office within the boundaries of the Cooperative.
 - F. To make and alter, by resolution of the Management Board, by-laws governing the calling and conducting of meetings, election of a Management Board and the internal operating procedures of the Board.
 - G. To employ professional and other skilled or unskilled personnel as and when the need arises, either on the basis of permanent employment through contractual agreements, or in a temporary or consultative capacity, but only to the extent that funds have been available to it for the purpose.
 - H. To organize and to establish such education programs for the residents of the Cooperative as shall be approved by the member.
 - I. To make joint application for Federal and State funds, on behalf of its member School Districts.
 - J. To do what is reasonable, necessary to achieve the purpose of this Agreement to the extent that such action is within the intent and purpose of this Agreement, existing law, and regulations.

- IV. MANAGEMENT BOARD: All determinations of employment of Cooperative Staff, expenditures of Cooperative funds, provisions of Special Education Services, and implementation of Cooperative's policy shall be done by the Cooperative's Management Board.
- V. MANAGEMENT BOARD ORGANIZATIONS:
- A. The Management Board shall consist of a representative of each School District; namely the Superintendent or Designee. The composition of the cooperative management board shall be an elected member from each participating districts' board of trustees or an administrator assigned by the district board of trustees to represent the participating district on the cooperative management board.
 - B. The Management Board shall recruit and employ a Director. The Management Board may delegate by resolution any or all of the powers granted it in sub-paragraph III herein, and allowed by law, to the Director.
 - C. The Management Board shall employ significant qualified staff to provide services contemplated by this Agreement.
 - D. Set policy to be implemented by the Director.
 - E. Comprehensively review at least annually all aspects of the Cooperative including:
 - 1. Policies and Procedures
 - 2. Records and Accounting
 - 3. Recruitment of Staff
 - 4. In-Service Training
 - 5. Employee Supervision and Evaluation
 - 6. Compliance with State and Federal Special Education Guidelines
 - F. Review the financial management of the Cooperative monthly.
 - G. Set and approve the fiscal budget of the Cooperative.
 - H. Meet quarterly.
 - I. To exercise the executive management and administrative control of the Cooperative and its properties, facilities, programs and the contracted activities and performance of its employees.
 - J. The Management Board shall have the power to make contracts for the Cooperative. No such contract entered by the Cooperative shall bind the Cooperative for a term in excess of one year.
 - K. The Management Board shall employ only those persons whose qualifications equal or exceed the qualification required by Part V of the Montana Special Education Reference Manual (NSERM).
 - L. Provide for a yearly audit.

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

- I. Culbertson School District #17 shall be designated as the Fiscal Host for this Cooperative, pursuant to section 20-9-701 et seq., MCA.
- II. Said Fiscal Host shall establish a non-budgeted Interlocal Cooperative Fund for the purpose of the financial administration of the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement. All revenues received including Federal, State or other type of grant payments in direct support of the Agreement and the financial support provided by Cooperative Agencies, shall be deposited in such fund. All financial support of the Agreement contributed by a member District may be transferred to the interlocal Cooperative fund from any fund maintained by such District by resolution of the trustees and District warrant. Any such transfer to the Interlocal Cooperative fund shall be used to finance those expenditures under the Agreement which is comparable to those that are permitted by law to be made out of the fund from which the transfer was made and are within the final budget for the fund which the transfer was made. No transfer shall be made from the miscellaneous Federal Program Fund without the express approval of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- III. All expenditures in support of the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement shall be made from the Interlocal Cooperative fund established by the Fiscal Host.
- IV. The Management Board shall have the sole power to expend funds from the Interlocal Cooperative Fund.
- V. In the event that funds are received directly from the Office of Public Instruction, then the member Districts will not have to transfer said sum.
- VI. Each District shall be responsible to provide, at a minimum, the matching dollars that are necessary for the related services block grant.
- VII. The federal application for Part B and Preschool funds will be made by the Cooperative on behalf of its member school districts.
- VIII. A financial audit by an independent auditor shall be ordered each year to assure proper expenditure procedures.

TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP IN COOPERATIVE

Each District agreeing to the terms of this Agreement shall remain a member of the Cooperative for a minimum of three years. Unless membership is requested to be dropped by October 1st of the current school fiscal year, the District's commitment will automatically extend for three fiscal years. Each District's commitment to membership in the Cooperative is effective

with the signature on this Interlocal Agreement. A District intending to withdraw must provide notification of intent to withdraw three fiscal years in advance of the withdrawal date.

Any property in the possession of the Cooperative and owned by the terminated District shall be returned to the terminated District as soon as reasonably possible. Total amount of the contract is due upon termination and any monies paid to the Cooperative by the District shall be retained by the Cooperative as payment for services already rendered and in full satisfaction of any damages caused to the Cooperative by said termination.

ADDITION OF A DISTRICT TO COOPERATIVE

Any non-participating school district within the geographic boundary of the Cooperative will be notified annually no later than October 1st of an opportunity to join the Roose-Valley Special Education cooperative for the ensuing three (3) state fiscal years. Non-participating districts who wish to join must respond within 60 days of the date of mailing of the opportunity to join. The Cooperative shall allow the addition of a district within the geographic boundaries of the Cooperative in accordance with state statute. Such addition shall only be allowed at the December meeting of the Board. Notice of application to add a district shall be given to all Management Board members at least ten (10) days prior to the winter meeting of the MANAGEMENT BOARD OF THE COOPERATIVE.

APPLICATION TO JOIN COOPERATIVE SHALL CONTAIN:

1. The District's name.
2. Anticipated required services.
3. District's proposed budget for contracted Special Education Services.
4. Application must be signed by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the applying District.

The Cooperative may contract with any District during the Fiscal Year to provide Special Education Services, if available, to a non-member District. Any such Contract entered into shall comply with the terms and conditions stated herein and shall be for compensation deemed reasonable by the Cooperative.

TERMINATION OF COOPERATIVE

The Cooperative may be terminated by majority vote of all the representatives of the Management Board. Such vote shall only be held at the spring meeting of said Management Board. Any member of the Board may propose termination. Notice of intention to propose termination shall be sent to each member of the Management Board proposing termination at least thirty (30) days prior to the March meeting of the Board.

If the Management Board should terminate the Cooperative, the termination shall be effective at the end of the fiscal year in which termination occurs. During the period from the termination of the Cooperative until the end of the fiscal year, the Cooperative shall undertake closure procedures. All property in the possession of the Cooperative and owned by any member District shall be returned as soon as possible, but no later than June 30, to the Owner-District. Any property owned by the Cooperative shall be liquidated. All monies in the possession of the Cooperative, including any monies generated from the Cooperative-owned property liquidation, shall be distributed to the members District by the following formula:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Contribution of Member District} \\ / \text{ (divided by) Contribution of all Districts} \\ \times \text{ (times) all remaining Cooperative monies.} \end{array}$$

REVIEW BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

THIS AGREEMENT shall be submitted to the office of the Attorney General of the State of Montana for review and approval, in accordance with Section 20-7-453, MCA, and this Agreement shall not be effective until such approval is obtained, and the Agreement is recorded with the Montana Secretary of State and Clerk and Recorder of each County within which a participating District lies.

Signature of a member of the Board of Trustees indicates acceptance of the Roose-Valley
Special Education Interlocal Agreement on behalf of the Culbertson School District

CULBERTSON DISTRICT #17

DATE

**CULBERTSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICTS 17 J/R/C
BOARD AGENDA FACT SHEET**

MEETING DATE: 10-19-2026

AGENDA ITEM #: 23

AGENDA TITLE: MQEC Membership

SUMMARY: MQEC (Montana Quality Education Coalition) is a membership we have had for decades. This coalition works hard to protect public education in Montana. MQEC also works hard during legislative sessions to advocate for public education and keep us informed of bills moving through the session that will affect our schools. I recommend renewing this membership.

BOARD ACTION

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Petersen					
Newbill					
L. Steppler					
Fox					
V. Steppler					

Mission

Culbertson Public Schools are committed to providing opportunities for students in a safe and productive environment, to achieve their personal best, become responsible and productive citizens, and embrace lifelong learning in an ever-changing world.



INVOICE

JCCS Accounting
Attn: Mary Donna Schultz
3060 Cabernet Drive, Suite 2
Helena, Montana 59601

INVOICE #	DATE
2026-27	September 16, 2026

BILL TO

Nicole Simonsen, Superintendent
Culbertson Public Schools
P.O. Box 459
Culbertson, MT 59218

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
MQEC Membership Dues	\$1,250.00
Thank you for your support!	TOTAL \$1,250.00

Please Return a Copy of This Document with Payment

- Make Checks Payable to: Montana Quality Education Coalition or MQEC
- Please call Mark Johnston at (406) 261-1558 with any questions regarding this invoice.

**** MQEC is ensuring your voice at the table when important decisions are made implicating the Constitutional rights of students and communities pursuant to Article X of the Montana Constitution.**

**CULBERTSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICTS 17 J/R/C
BOARD AGENDA FACT SHEET**

MEETING DATE: 10-19-2026

AGENDA ITEM #: 24

AGENDA TITLE: Sick Bank Request

SUMMARY: The board must review and approve/deny all sick bank requests from employees per policy 5321-P(3). Attached is a request from a certified staff member. I recommend approval.

BOARD ACTION

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Petersen					
Newbill					
L. Steppler					
Fox					
V. Steppler					

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Procedure 5321-P(3): Sick Leave - Sick Leave Bank

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 03/19/2002 | **Last Revised Date:** 04/15/2025 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 06/16/2026

Sick Leave Bank

Any Culbertson School District employee may donate sick leave to the bank to be used by any employee in emergency situations. Each employee, upon filing a Contribution of Sick Leave Form and approval from the Culbertson School Board of Trustees, may voluntarily place a maximum of five (5) of their individual emergency/sick days per year into the Culbertson School Employees' Sick Leave Bank. The application for contribution must be submitted for approval at the regular May School Board Meeting each year. Upon approval by the Board, all contributions are irrevocable.

Conditions and decisions for granting such use are as follows:

1. Any employee of the Culbertson School system may apply to the Culbertson School Board for approval to use sick leave from the Bank by filing a Sick Leave Bank Request Form, if and when, they have exhausted all individual accumulated emergency, sick, personal, comp., and vacation leaves.
 2. Once an employee has exhausted all accumulated leave and all granted Bank leave, the salary for that employee shall cease to be paid until such a time as the employee returns to duty.
 3. Applications for days from the Bank will be granted for medical emergencies. Maternity leave will not be considered unless the extended absence is for medical complications as a result of birth, or complications with the child's health after birth.
 4. The maximum number of days in the Culbertson School Employees' Sick Leave Bank shall not exceed one hundred (100) days.
 5. The maximum number of days that may be granted to any employee will be half the number of days available in the Sick Leave Bank at the time of approval by the Board.
 6. At the completion of the budget year, June 30th, any unused Bank days shall be carried completion over of the into the new year.
-

Culbertson School District #17 J/R/C

Sick Leave Bank Request Form

To request sick leave from the Culbertson School Sick Leave Bank, this form must be filled out and returned to the Clerk's office. This request will be presented to the Culbertson School Board of Trustees for approval, or denial, at the next school board meeting.

I, Khrista Copron request no more than 3 weeks sick leave days from the Culbertson School Sick Leave Bank for the following reasons:

I will have hip replacement
surgery on Nov 20th 2026

Khrista Copron
Employee's Signature

10/12/26
Date

To be completed after evaluation of request:

Request Approved _____

Request Denied _____

Board Chairman's Signature

Date

Board Vice-Chairman's Signature

Date

**CULBERTSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICTS 17 J/R/C
BOARD AGENDA FACT SHEET**

MEETING DATE: 10-19-2026

AGENDA ITEM #: 25

AGENDA TITLE: Breakfast and Lunch Prices

SUMMARY: Attached is financial information Lora has compiled for your review regarding our current lunch and breakfast prices. If board action is taken to increase these prices, we can do so fairly quickly in the system so that it reflects the change within a day.

BOARD ACTION

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Petersen					
Newbill					
L. Steppler					
Fox					
V. Steppler					

Mission

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prices

	Breakfast		Lunch			
	K-12	Adult	K-6	7-12	Adult	Others
Culbertson	\$ 1.25	\$ 2.00	\$ 1.50	\$ 1.75	\$ 2.75	
Bainville	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3.50	\$ 3.50	\$ 4.99	
Fairview	\$ 2.25		\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50		
Lambert						
Med Lake						
Plentywood	\$ 2.40	\$ 3.15	\$ 4.15	\$ 4.15	\$ 5.65	
Savage						
Scobey	\$ 2.50	\$ 3.50	\$ 3.50	\$ 3.50	\$ 5.50	
Westby	\$ 1.75	\$ 2.15	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 3.00	
avg	\$ 2.13	\$ 2.65	\$ 3.13	\$ 3.13	\$ 4.79	

proposed	\$ 2.25	\$ 2.75	\$ 3.25	\$ 3.25	\$ 5.00
meals served	8,151	\$ 738.00		19,258	\$ 2,234.00
	8,151.00	553.50	-	28,887.00	5,026.50

42,618.00

	Current Yr Revenues		Current Yr Expenses	Previous Yr Carryover	Ending Fund Balance
2021-2022				\$ 1,076.88	
Federal	200,319.03				
Daily	4,616.85				
State	-	Salaries	89,417.75		
Misc (interest)	644.70	work comp	3,501.21		
General/Imp Aid Fund	-	Food,etc	99,180.89		
	205,580.58		192,099.85		\$ 14,557.61

2022-2023				\$ 14,557.61	
Federal	100,677.40				
Daily	33,971.70				
State	-	Salaries	78,303.30		
Misc (interest)*	15,530.69	work comp	3,785.93		
General/Imp Aid Fund	31,920.90	Food,etc	110,269.54		
	182,100.69		192,358.77		\$ 4,299.53
*includes \$14,864.00 state nutrition disc grant					

2023-2024				\$ 4,299.53	
Federal	93,696.58				
Daily	36,623.60				
State	-	Salaries	76,178.55		
Misc (interest)*	12,351.21	work comp	3,605.09		
General/Other Funds	31,952.95	Food,etc	96,423.81		
	174,624.34		176,207.45		\$ 2,716.42
*includes \$11,850.40 state nutrition disc grant					

2024-2025				\$ 2,716.42	
Federal	79,637.40				
Daily	41,692.95				
State	-	Salaries	82,269.14		
Misc (interest)*	461.99	work comp	3,333.54		
General/Other Funds	49,827.02	Food,etc	86,565.77		
	171,619.36		172,168.45		\$ 9,934.20
*includes Due From \$7,766.87					

2025-2026				\$ 9,934.20	
Federal	81,899.94				
Daily	50,321.10				
State	-	Salaries	77,903.11		
Misc (interest)*	113.71	work comp	3,515.21		
General/Other Funds	87,605.97	Food,etc	146,764.69		
	219,940.72		228,183.01		\$ 1,691.91

**CULBERTSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICTS 17 J/R/C
BOARD AGENDA FACT SHEET**

MEETING DATE: 10-19-2026

AGENDA ITEM #: 26

AGENDA TITLE: Graduation Date and Time

SUMMARY: The senior class of 2027 is requesting board approval for their ceremony to be held on Saturday, May 22nd at 1pm.

BOARD ACTION

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Petersen					
Newbill					
L. Steppler					
Fox					
V. Steppler					

Mission

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**CULBERTSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICTS 17 J/R/C
BOARD AGENDA FACT SHEET**

MEETING DATE: 10-19-2026

AGENDA ITEM #: 27

AGENDA TITLE: Fall Drivers' Education

SUMMARY: Mr. Solem would like to teach a fall course of Drivers' Education. I recommend approval for this fall course.

BOARD ACTION

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Petersen					
Newbill					
L. Steppler					
Fox					
V. Steppler					

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