

CALICO ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING

OCTOBER 28, 2025

5:30 P.M.

**U.S. Pledge of Allegiance, Opening
Remarks, and Superintendent's Report**

Rick Green

HS Counselor/Testing Program Report

Stephanie King

Elementary Counselor

LaDonna Franks

Gifted and Talented

Abbey Orf

Parent Center Facilitator

Renee Lindsey

Technology/Federal Programs Report

Mike Mason

Safety Report

Jaden Whitfield

Secondary School Report

Anita Nordrum

Elementary School Report

Bailey Whiteaker

Preschool Report

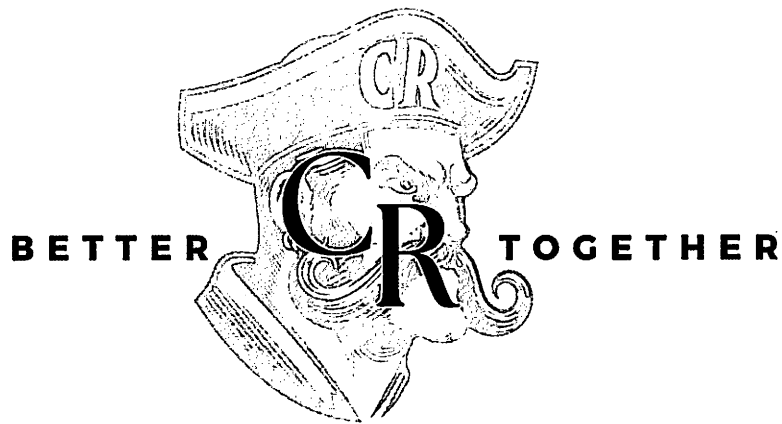
Charlee Eichler

Questions

All

Dismissal

Rick Green



Annual Report to the Public October 28, 2025

The Calico Rock School District meets the standards set forth by the Arkansas Department of Education including certification of faculty, either by traditional methods or Alternative Licensure Plans (ALP) or ARPEP.

The board of directors consist of Chris Brandon, Buster Branscum, Kelley Killian, Jennifer Brickell, and Sharon Lane. First year board members are required to obtain 9 hours of professional development in the first year including the New Board Member Institute and all others are required to receive 6 hours each year of their service.

The superintendent is fully certified and has a lifetime teaching license from the Arkansas Department of Education and receives 60 hours of professional development each year.

The district is a member of the Arkansas School Boards Association, North Central Arkansas Educational Service Center, and the Arkansas Activities Association.

We have groups that support the district in wellness, behavioral health, parental involvement, athletics, nutrition, and safety.

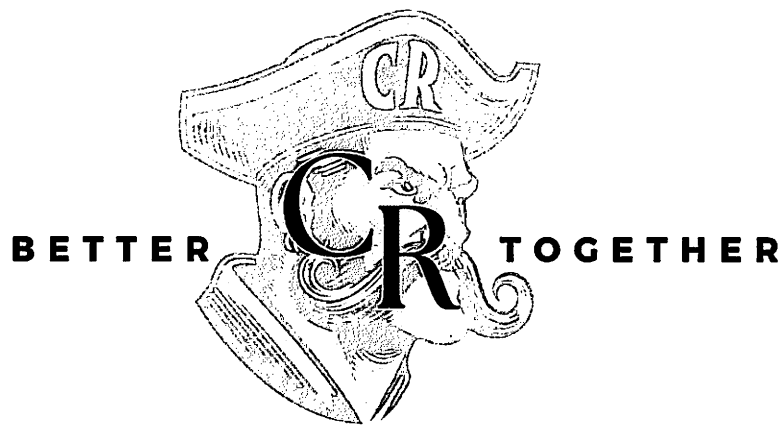
We are a Provision II school district that provides meals at no charge to all students this year.

Food service is provided by Opaa!, a food service management company that contracts with many schools in this area.

The facilities are inspected by the Facilities Division of DESE yearly and locally by the Calico Rock Fire Department. The buildings are maintained by a very capable staff who are very proud of the work they do.

The transportation department maintains buses and safely transports our students over some challenging terrain with equipment that has many miles on them.

I have spent a considerable amount of time observing and assessing the abilities of our district to survive and in doing so have developed a set of goals for myself as Superintendent.



Superintendent Goals:

1. Develop an environment conducive to success
 - a. Improve look and efficiency of physical plant
 - b. Increase the presence of administrators
 - c. Improve the atmosphere inside the classrooms by providing a challenging curriculum with highly effective delivery
2. Create a culture of trust and opportunity
 - a. Students will excel if they feel cared for, protected, and motivated
 - b. Provide opportunities for students to experience the various pathways that are available to them
 - c. Provide support to student needs at all levels
 - d. Improve the overall educational experiences of all students
3. Obtain growth in Financial Assets and student population
 - a. Explore non-traditional avenues of obtaining funds
 - Conversion charter with career focus
 - Alternative schedules
 - 21st Century community learning
 - New Program Development and Start-up
4. Develop relationships with business, industry, and educational entities
 - a. Create mentoring and internship opportunities
 - b. Teach the soft skills that business seeks
 - c. Emphasize concurrent credit college classes
 - d. Develop a "Grow Your Own" program for students who are interested in becoming teachers
 - e. Develop additional avenues for career ready pathways
5. Build strong collective ownership with integrity and transparency
 - a. Establish open and effective communication
 - b. Promote transparent and honest communication
 - c. Ensure that everyone has a voice
 - d. Build high standards of integrity
 - e. Create a culture of openness and accountability

Stephanie King- District Test Coordinator and High School Counselor
Report to the Public
10-28-25

We have now moved fully to the ATLAS system for Kindergarten through 10th grade. Our parents have access to all of their child's testing results through the parent portal. We provided those access codes at parent teacher conferences. The kindergarten through 2nd grade took a reading and math screener at the beginning of the year while 3rd grade took just a reading screener. We have gotten screener results back this month and in response to those scores, our teachers are working on interventions and individual reading plans to target each student's individual needs.

The 3rd-10th grade have already taken their first interim for the year. These tests help us track progress with our students throughout the year. Kindergarten through 10th grade will take an interim in February followed by the summative in April.

In the spring of 2025, we took the ATLAS summative assessments for the 2nd time for 3rd-10th grades. With it being the 2nd time, this is the first year within the new system that we were able to see and evaluate growth of students. Compared to other elementary schools in the state, our elementary ranked in the 32nd percentile for combined growth with a strength being the 67th percentile in growth for ELA. Our high school ranked in the 46th percentile for combined growth with a strength being the 57th percentile in math compared to other high schools in the state.

Looking at proficiency, we were slightly above state average in each subject area. Overall as a district in math we had 38.75% proficiency compared to the state at 35.38%. High points on the math front were the 4th grade class with a 50% proficiency and the 8th grade class with a 60% proficiency. Overall as a district in ELA, we had 36.5% proficiency compared to the state at 34.88% proficiency. High points for ELA were the 4th grade class at 50% proficiency and the 6th grade class at 48% proficiency. Lastly, overall as a district in science we had a 40.43% proficiency compared to the state at 38.43% proficiency. High points for science were the 6th grade class at 48% proficiency and the 8th grade class at 47% proficiency.

Moving forward, our teachers will be diligently working on strategies and collaborating to ensure that each student is receiving the interventions and support necessary to succeed.

Report to the Public
LaDonna Franks, Elementary School Counselor, October 28, 2025

Comprehensive School Counseling Plan Goals and Outcomes

2024-2025 School Counseling Plan Goal

- **Goal:** Achieve 95% attendance at the elementary level.
- **Outcome:** Achieved an average daily attendance of 97.27% at the elementary campus, indicating success in fostering good attendance habits among students.

2025-2026 School Counseling Plan Goal

- **Goal:** Increase ATLAS summative scores in English Language Arts (ELA) by 5 points for identified 4th to 10th-grade students.
- **Target Group:** Focus on 4th-9th grade students at Level 2 in ELA on ATLAS assessments needing extra social and behavioral support.
- **Support Structure:** Implementation of a 'champion' system where faculty members check in on targeted students without their awareness, ensuring they have reliable support.

Community Outreach Initiatives

- **Expansion of Community Outreach Elective:** Increased from two classes to four classes, growing participation from 24 to 49 students.
- **Student Activities:**
 - Daily trash collection and campus cleanup.
 - Assistance in the Bridges room for organization and cleanup.
 - Creation of invitations and cards for events (Grandparents Day, appreciation for janitors and principals).
 - Planning and presenting for events like See You At the Pole.
 - Supporting clothing drives and aiding preschool students.

Counseling and Support Services

- **Continued Initiatives:** Counselors will use the Guide for Life to promote:
 - Social and emotional learning.
 - Career awareness.
 - Bullying prevention and awareness.
 - Suicide prevention.
- **Counseling Support:** Ongoing individual and small group sessions, alongside referrals to school-based mental health services.

These initiatives reflect a commitment to holistic student development, emphasizing both attendance and academic performance while fostering community engagement and mental well-being.

Gifted and Talented (GT) Report

October 2025

The Calico Rock School District currently serves 50 students in grades 4–12 through the Gifted and Talented (GT) program.

Now that ATLAS testing has concluded, GT identification testing for 3rd grade will begin soon to determine next year's qualifying students.

At the elementary level, GT students have been exploring how the human brain works—studying its major parts and how each one controls different functions, thoughts, and emotions. Students have researched, created 3D models, and presented their findings to teachers and peers.

At the secondary level, high school GT students recently joined the Art Club on a field trip to the Ponca Nature Center, where they learned about Arkansas's natural environment, wildlife conservation, and the importance of protecting our state's natural resources.

Overall, GT students across grade levels continue to engage in creative, hands-on learning that builds both critical thinking and real-world connections.

Dyslexia / Characteristics of Dyslexia (COD) Report October

2025

The Calico Rock School District currently serves 44 students identified with Characteristics of Dyslexia (COD).

I recently received new draft guidance for Dyslexia Law from the Arkansas Department of Education. As always, the state continues to update and refine requirements to ensure that students with dyslexia receive appropriate support..

Each student with COD receives targeted intervention using materials and programs that meet state-approved Science of Reading standards. These interventions are designed to strengthen foundational reading skills in phonemic awareness, decoding, fluency, and comprehension.

In addition, each student with COD will have an Individualized Reading Plan (IRP), a working document required under the ATLAS assessment guidelines. This document will follow students throughout their educational journey, ensuring continuity of support. Interventionists, classroom teachers, and parents all have access to these plans to promote collaboration and ongoing progress monitoring.

The district remains committed to providing evidence-based interventions and maintaining compliance with all state dyslexia requirements to help every student grow as a reader.

October 28, 2025 Annual Public Meeting
Renee Lindsey – Parent Center Facilitator

Pirate Nation Parent Group is defined as a volunteer organization of parents, teachers, and staff that work to support the school community and students' educational success. This group raises funds for school programs and supplies, organize family events and advocate for students by improving communication between parents and the school.

All PNPG meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 pm. All parents/guardians (PreK-12) are encouraged to attend.

The Parent Center is located in the elementary school. The Parent Center was rearranged and organized last fall. The center has multiple games to build math, literacy, science and social studies skills for multiple grade levels. Materials are current, clean, and age appropriate and ready for families to check out by signing items out in the book provided. The center also has books, pamphlets, videos, DVDs and computer/internet access for parents.

Information and activities for families and the community can be found by following the Calico Rock school district or Pirate Nation Parent Group Facebook page or by signing up for text and email alerts at pirates.k12.ar.us.

The Pirate Nation Parent Group will be hosting its second annual Trunk or Treat on Halloween, Friday October 31 from 6-8! Last year's turnout was tremendous. We estimated over 250 people in attendance. We are anticipating an even bigger crowd this year for this community event! Trunk or Treat will be held at the High School Parking Lot. People who have reserved a space will be able to set up at 4:00 PM.

We will have cash prizes for school clubs; 1st \$100, 2nd \$50 and 3rd \$25.

Mrs. Stephanie King and I have discussed students helping out with trunk set up, passing out candy, and cleaning up to help reach their required community service hours for graduation.

The Pirate Nation Parent group will once again be hosting the Pirate Patch Holiday Shoppe December 9-13. This is one of the Pirate Nation Parent Groups three fundraisers that they do throughout the year and the kids enjoy buying for their families. This fundraiser is a great tool for students to exercise financial responsibility, decision making and independence. We will be utilizing the Parent Center space for this fundraiser. We will be setting up the Holiday shop during the December meeting on Monday (instead of Tuesday) December 8 at 5:30. We need Parent volunteers to help set up, run the register, help students and clean up the 4 day event.

A "Pirate Fun Run" will be held in the spring. We will be discussing details at an upcoming meeting.

Mayor Greg Hamby and the Calico Rock City employees continue to support the elementary school in the car line every morning and afternoon. The support we receive from the city every year in keeping our kids safe is much appreciated.

Pirate Nation Parent Group completed a playground walk through during the October 21st meeting to see if we can sponsor any repairs or new equipment to go with the \$500 Playground grant from Twin Lakes Community Foundation.

Questions?

Next meeting will be Tuesday November 18 at 5:30pm.

**Technology/Federal Funds
2025-2026
Mike Mason**

TECHNOLOGY

All classrooms at the elementary (K-6) have a cart of Chromebooks in each room for the students to use each day. Those students who have a Chromebook at home, will return those when they graduate the sixth grade. These Chromebooks were sent home for students to use when we had AMI days and we do not have those anymore so there is no need for students to have Chromebooks at home.

High school has assigned a Chromebook to each student in grades 7-12 that they carry with them.

Future Plans

We will continue to replace teacher workstations, Chromebooks and other technology as needed. Most of the Windows 10 machines have been updated to Windows 11 for security measures since Windows 10 is no longer supported. We have a few more that we will update before the end of the year.

The district has been replacing projectors with interactive display boards in the classrooms. Most classrooms on both campuses now have interactive display boards.

New Agri Classroom at the elementary campus has been updated with WIFI and video cameras.

Additional cameras have been installed at the Pre-K building for additional security coverage.

The school will continue to use OpenDns web filter which is a cloud based Cisco filtering system for the network while on campus. The district will also use GoGuardian which will filter the Chromebooks that are off campus.

In an effort to keep the community informed of school activities, the district will use:

- The district will use the school's website (pirates.k12.ar.us) which is hosted by Brooks Jeffery Marketing in Mountain Home to send out mass text alerts and emails. Those who would like to sign up for these alerts can click on the sign up logo in the top right corner and sign up for text or email alerts.
- The digital sign will also be used to keep the community up to date on events
- Both campuses will also continue to use Facebook

FEDERAL/STATE FUNDING

We are now using AR APP which the state has approved for an easier application process. The AR APP will also be the new district support plan and will be on the school website.

Federal and State funding is down about \$55,000 from last year largely in part because of the decrease in our student population.

Students receive free meals at the district because we are a Provision 2 school.

State Funding

ESA (Enhanced Student Achievement Funding) was \$266,926 vs \$278,684 last year

PD was \$14,161 vs \$13,707 last year

ALE was \$0 vs \$19,144 last year.

Federal Funding:

Title I was \$128,548 vs \$144,301

Title II was \$16,876 vs \$18,854 which \$14,000 will be transferred into our Title I with the rest paying for some PD for teachers.

Title IV funding was \$10,565 vs \$11,432 and will be used to upgrade vape detectors to record audio in locker rooms and purchase cameras as needed with the remainder transferred into our Title I.

Title VI was \$22,972 vs \$28,583 and will be used to replace teacher and student computers for the district that are not Windows 11 compatible as well as updating Chromebooks as needed.

Total of \$460,048 from these federal and state funds, of which, around \$320,000 will be used for salaries. The remaining funds will be used primarily for technology, professional development and supplemental learning programs for the district.

School Resource Officer
Criminal Justice Program
Safety Report
2025/26

As the School Resource Officer I am on duty at the school for all school activities on campus. I am also a Captain of the Calico Rock Fire Department and High School Criminal Justice Program Instructor. I am also a certified CPR instructor with the American Heart Association CPR/AED/Basic Life Support. As an instructor I am able to teach CPR to teachers, staff and students. Senior students receive CPR training prior to graduation. Administrators and Coaches maintain current CPR/AED certifications and the training is available for all school district Employees.

Officer Hellums and I have completed all of the School Resource Officer certifications needed to be in compliance with the state. We also attended the Arkansas Safe Schools Conference in Little Rock where we gained more knowledge on crisis management and reunification plans to implement in our school. We have named three sites where reunification will take place in the event of an emergency and are currently working on the reunification process. The sites include Calico Rock High School, Calico Rock Elementary School and the First Baptist Church of Calico Rock.

Officer Hellums and I inspect and service all school district AEDs yearly to ensure they are in good working order. We conduct Fire drills, Tornado drills, Active Shooter/Killer drills, Lockdown drills and Earthquake Drills. We also implement a student Fire Marshal Program for the High School and assist at the Elementary School as well. Officer Hellums and I have also reviewed and updated the Calico Rock School District Emergency Action Plan and Emergency Operation Plan. We have updated the "Go Bags" in every classroom and cafeteria on all campuses. These "Go Bags" include the crisis plan manual, portable first aid kit and a portable bleed control kit for each bag. They shall also include an updated classroom roster for each class and will be taken with the teacher in the event of an emergency or any safety drill that is being conducted. We collaborated with our East team who 3D printed hangers for faster access to the Night Lock Door Locks.

Numerous times throughout the school year we will bring Calico Rock Fire Department's equipment and firetrucks to each of the campuses to educate the students in fire safety.

This year the school has continued making improvements on school safety by obtaining radio communication between all campuses and school buses.

We have also updated our vape detectors in compliance with state law to have audio recording in the locker rooms and restrooms.

With the help from the Melbourne Co-op, I was able to obtain a \$40,000 innovations grant where we were able to purchase the MILO training system. The MILO Range M-SATS (Mobile-Situational Awareness Training System) offers the most advanced feature set available for a portable use of force and tactical judgment training system. The M-SATS provides fully interactive video scenarios, graphics-based firearms drills, and industry-leading features in a compact, all-inclusive design that is easy to transport and set up in less than 10 minutes.

We are constantly working with outside agencies for crisis response for all emergencies and safety education: - IZARD County Sheriff's Dept - Calico Rock Fire Dept - Pineville Fire Department - Arkansas State Police - Arkansas Game and Fish - Calico Rock Medical Center - Arkansas Forestry Commission - Arkansas Dept of Health - IZARD County Office of Emergency Management (OEM).

Deputy Jaden Whitfield IC-25

Annual Public Meeting
October 28th, 2025
High School Principal Report

We have had a great start to the school year. I feel like I have a lot of good things to tell you. We have an enrollment of 162 in grades 7-12, with a total of 334 in the district.

I am excited to tell you that we moved up a letter grade at the high school to a B rating. It definitely isn't where we want to be but we are making progress. There was only one high school in our coop that had an A rating. We want to be in that position next year and I believe we will be.

We have 18 certified faculty, 5 paraprofessionals, a counselor plus one part time vision teacher. This means our students get a great deal of individual attention.

We encourage students to do what they are good at. We have students who got their basic training done between their junior and senior year this summer. They are back to finish their senior year and then serve our country. No matter their path, if it be workforce, trade school, college or military, we strive to help our students be the best they can be.

Coach Jason Hughes is new to us this year. He coaches girl's basketball, golf and track. He also teaches PE, Health and Driver's Education. He has already helped with having a peewee camp this summer. He had a very successful golf season, with both teams making it to state and we hosted the boys state golf tournament, which is a first for our school. He is in his 25th year of coaching. We are happy to have his experience here at Calico.

Mrs. Leisha McCoy has joined us at High School this year. This is her 10th year in teaching. Has been a 5th-6th grade social studies teacher and literacy teacher and an Elementary Librarian. This year she teaches 9th and 10th grade English and 7th social studies and AR History, along with 7th and 8th remediation. She is also our chess coach.

Ashley Lewis is our new science teacher. She teaches 7th grade Science, Anatomy, Biology, and 7th grade remediation. Mrs. Lewis is a 2016 Calico Rock Graduate. She says she learned her love of teaching from her teachers here at Calico.

Mrs. Deanna Klaus joined our crew this year. She has been an educator for over 30 years doing everything from coaching, to teaching to administration. She teaches 7th grade math, geometry, quantitative literacy and Intro to computer science. She has started a 7th and 8th grade fishing club since school started with the financial help from First National Bank of Izard County.

Mr. Raygan Adamson joined us as our new Music teacher. Mr. Adamson graduated from Lyon college with his Bachelor of Arts in Music and Evangel University with a Master of Leadership and Ministry. He is doing a wonderful job with the Band and Choir. His 7th grade music sang the national anthem over the intercom for us. The Band now plays the national anthem at ballgames. This is the first time I can remember that our band has played it so I am excited for this. He has upcoming competitions for his students.

Mrs. Erika Watson, our Art teacher, also takes care of our social media posts. She is doing a wonderful job with that. I have had many compliments on our social media this year. She is keeping everyone updated on what's going on around the school.

We have a distance learning lab. Students come to the distance learning lab to take college classes or high school classes through Virtual AR that aren't offered on campus or don't fit in their schedule. They can take the classes virtually. We offer a number of college classes through our distance learning lab and through local colleges. Students are able to earn college and high school credit concurrently. This allows students to get college credit for free or at a greatly discounted rate. We have many students taking advantage of this and can have the majority, if not all, of their freshman year or an associate's degree completed when they leave high school. We have an Ozarka Math Teacher coming to our campus to teach college courses as she did last year. Our kids like having the college experience while staying on our campus.

We offer our Career and Technical bound students many opportunities also. Each area of our CTE programs offer certificates that can be earned to help get jobs while they are going through their trade school or while attending college, or at a beginner's level in the workforce.

We had 3 teachers in our district to receive Merit pay from the state. They were recognized for growth in academics in the classroom. Amy Cowgill, Melva Brannon and Savannah Harber were the recipients. This the second year the state has distributed merit pay. Our district is fortunate to have this many recipients.

I want to thank our faculty for the many grants we have applied for and received this past year. To name just a few

- Raspberry PI Grant \$5000
- Safety Grant \$60,000
- CPR Graduation Training Grant \$2500
- Farm Bureau \$2500
- Arkansas Farm Bureau Grant \$2500
- TRAP grant \$ 4933
- NEXT donated \$1000 for lunches and supplies
- Beef in the Classroom grant \$100
- Izard County Conservation District Grant \$250

Cross Curricular Work

We're so excited for these new tables CRHS designed and painted for the CRES art classroom. Throughout the last part of this semester, Mr. Fountain's Ag class built the picnic table and benches and Mrs. Erika's high school art students brought it to life with this fun ocean design. These students have worked SO hard to get these done before the end of the school year and I couldn't be more proud of them!

Students must have 75 community service hours to graduate starting with the Class of 2026. Ways we give back to the community and gain some of those needed hours are the following.

- Trunk or Treat
- Students helping at thrift store
- Cleaning cemeteries
- Clothing Drive
- Trout in the Classroom (giving back to our river)
- Scenic Byway sign refurbished in a joint effort between Calico Rock School Agri department, Art Department, CRHS Senior Beta and The US Forest service.
- Angel Tree
- Harvest Supper
- Teddy Bear Toss sponsored by Sr Beta for Operation Christmas Child
- Veterans Assembly
- High school EAST students are working alongside museum staff to develop motion-activated sound effects for exhibits, as well as incorporating new technology into the museum's immersive galleries.

Since last year we have had a lot of times we needed to do "Send Offs" for State competition since this time last year. That is incredible!

1. Bowling girls
2. Bowling boys (with one boy and one girl making it to ALL STATE COMPETITION)
3. Golf Girls
4. Golf Boys (one making it into the top 10 in the state)
5. Softball
6. TRACK girls (boys and girls 10 athletes competed in 11 events) Haven't had track in over 30 years.
7. Track boys: **State champion in high jump** (first year of having track)
8. Senior High Quiz Bowl
9. Cross Country Boys and Girls

We offer a variety of clubs and sports, so there is something for everyone.

Many of our clubs participate in competitions on the District and State and even National level. We coined the term "A Little School Doing Big Things" a few years back. I'd like to tell you some of the things we have done in the last year.

Little School Doing Big Things

- Addy Lemon took First Place in the Arkansas Braille Challenge-Junior Varsity Division.
- Students performed with Small School Honor Choir.
- 3rd place in Senior High Regional Quiz bowl and state qualifier.
- FBLA went to District conference 11 out of 16 who competed went to State!!!
- Junior Beta : Over 20 students went to National Beta competition.
- Senior Beta National Qualifier,
- Hosted our First EVER Rumble in the Rock basketball tournament.
- First time to ever host a State Golf Tournament.
- Coach Hoskinds being named Coach of the Year for our Region and Alumni of the year at Ozarka College.
- Reward trip for students earning 3 or 4 on ATLAS Tests, consisting of 65 students.
- 2 Cheerleaders got to be in the Thanksgiving Day Parade in Orlando, FL
- FFA went to National Convention in Indianapolis, IN
- We have students we support who compete in events outside of school such as Rodeo and stock car racing.
- Junior Beta went to National Competition in Orlando, Florida
- Our school's EAST program has earned the prestigious PROGRAM OF INFLUENCE LEVEL 2 AWARD for 2025!
- The Beta Club has earned a School of Merit Distinction from the National Beta Club.

- Our Retail Management Class owns and operates a Pirate Gear store where they offer sales online and on site.



Calico Rock Elementary Public Meeting

Welcome

- I would first like to thank families, staff, board members, and community partners for attending tonight. It is always an honor to see our community come together in support of Calico Rock School District. Last year we started quoting that we are "Better Together" and that still rings true today. This year we have added to that quote because not only are we better together, we are "One School. One Team. Making a World of Difference."

School Overview

- **Enrollment & Demographics**
 - Total student enrollment (K-6): 173
 - Staff Composition: 1 principal, 1 counselor, 11 certified classroom teachers in K-6, 2 special education teachers, 1 certified teacher as GT Teacher and Dyslexia Coordinator, 1 certified PE & Peewee Coach, 1 certified High Impact Tutor and Reading Coach, 1 interventionist in computer lab and 1st grade, 1 interventionist in the library and 3rd & 4th grades, 2 classroom interventionists, 3 special education paraprofessionals, 1 SRO, and 2 custodians. We share 2 teachers and a temporary nurse with the HS.
 - The elementary houses grades K-6. We have by far the greatest staff anywhere if you ask me!! Our faculty and staff work tirelessly to make sure our students have everything they need not just academically, but physically and emotionally as well. We have some new faces here at the elementary that I would like to mention: Coach David Eichler is our new PE Teacher & Peewee Basketball Coach, and Haley Lester is our new special education paraprofessional. Renee Lindsey was moved from special education paraprofessional to a special education teacher.

Academic Achievement & Growth

- **State Assessment Results:**
 - Overview of growth in ELA, Math, and Science (Calico Rock vs. State averages). ◦ Highlight areas of improvement or celebration.
- **Curriculum & Instruction:**
 - The Arkansas State Standards, which we follow at CRES are designed to prepare students to succeed in education. The Science Standards promote a three-dimensional approach to classroom instruction that is student-centered and progresses coherently from grades K-12. With students, parents, and teachers all working together for shared goals, we can help ensure students make progress each year to build a strong future for themselves.
 - The school board has supported the purchase of our HQIM, or highly qualified instructional materials. We had adopted the reading curriculum of *Benchmark Workshop* by Benchmark Education for our K-5 Reading, however, that curriculum was removed from the HQIM last summer. DESE has been in communication with Benchmark



Education to come up with a solution. In the meantime, the suggestion was to continue *Benchmark Workshop* as is for grades 3-5 and continue to use *Benchmark Workshop* in grades K-2 with an additional approved phonics program as support. The program we are using to support phonics is Connections. The Reading HQIM used at CRES for 6th Grade is *Into Literature*. This program continues into Jr. High. The Mathematics curriculum purchased for grades K-6 is *Reveal Mathematics* by McGraw Hill. This curriculum is also continued into the Jr. High.

- **State Assessment Results:**

- For the 2025–2026 school year, ATLAS will serve as the district's summative assessment for grades K–6. In the 2024–2025 school year, the assessment was administered to grades K–6. We received testing results for grades 3-6 at the end of July, however we have yet to receive K-2 results. Full implementation across all grade levels allows for consistent data collection, improved progress monitoring, and alignment with state standards.
- Summative assessment results will be utilized to identify students demonstrating the need for additional support, including the development of Math Intervention Plans (MIP) based on student performance data.
- In addition, Calico Rock Elementary has used the ATLAS K–3 Reading Screener to provide early identification of students who may require targeted reading interventions. This proactive approach ensures that instructional decisions are data-driven and timely. Individualized Reading Plans (IRP) will be created based on student performance data.

- **Test Results and Data Interpretation:**

Mrs. Stephanie King will lead a comprehensive review and analysis of ATLAS data. Findings from this review will guide instructional planning, intervention design, and progress monitoring throughout the remainder of the academic year.

- **Letter Grade:**

- CRES Scored a Letter Grade of a C
- Under the new formula, schools are evaluated on achievement (proficiency in assessments), growth (student progress year-to-year), and for the lowest-performing students in particular, how well they are growing. This means that a “C” reflects moderate performance across these dimensions.
- Having a “C” means there’s a foundation in place: curriculum, instruction, assessment are working together to a certain extent. However, the grade signals an opportunity and necessity to grow.
- The actions we will be taking focuses on raising achievement levels, fostering higher student growth, and increasing support for students who are struggling. For this we will use our data driven practices.
 - Data teams/PLCs analyze progress.
 - The data will then be used to drive instruction and interventions.

- **Extra Curricular:**

- After school activities include; Intramural basketball, Little Dribblers, Peewee Basketball, Little Pirates Cheer, 4H, and tutoring.
- We also have activities and clubs such as Elementary Beta, Elementary Agriculture, GT, Quiz Bowl, Chess Team, and Spelling Bee.



Student Supports & Programs

- **Response to Intervention (RTI):**

- Our RTI program includes a multitude of supports for our students. i-Ready, a digital intervention program was renewed by CRSD. iReady is used to assess and monitor student growth and as an RTI resource to ensure that all students are learning to their fullest potential. The program also helps pinpoint lost learning and allows opportunity for an individualized plan of growth for each student. In addition to this program we also have designated times that RTI can be completed in and that is small groups within the classroom, Pirate Success Time, or High Impact Tutoring time, which are all built into the school day.

- **Pirate Success Time (PST):**

- We have an RTI time built into our school day, called Pirate Success Time. During Pirate Success Time, students receive the intervention, or enrichment they need.
- Connections and Susan Barton are the approved Dyslexia programs that we use at CRES, which are both Orton Gillingham programs. Students qualifying for this service will receive it during Pirate Success Time.

- **High Impact Tutoring (HIT):**

- We are implementing High-Impact Tutoring (HIT) using our current staff to maximize student support and sustainability. Lisa Mason serves as our HIT Lead Tutor, coordinating the program with excellence. In addition to providing direct tutoring to students, she organizes schedules, supports classroom teachers, and ensures instructional consistency across grade levels.
- We have submitted an application for the **2025 HIT Grant** to further enhance and expand these efforts. While we have not yet received notification of our award status, our team remains committed to continuing this valuable program to accelerate student growth and success

- **Social-Emotional Learning:**

- Each K-6 classroom is provided a morning meeting time within their schedule. This is a time for check-ins, motivation, and class discussions. Our hope is this built in time to meet will build positive relationships.
- Our counselor meets with students and does monthly classes to support our students' social-emotional health.
- We will also be tracking behavior/attendance trends.

School Culture & Community Engagement

- **Pirate Pride Initiatives**

- *Drop Everything and Read (DEAR)* is a powerful way to build lifelong readers. When our students stop everything to read each day, they learn that reading is not just an assignment—it's a habit, a joy, and a key to lifelong learning. This dedicated time allows children to practice stamina, fluency, and comprehension in a calm, focused environment. It also fosters independence and choice, letting students explore books that match their interests and reading levels. Consistent, intentional reading time nurtures curiosity, empathy, and imagination—skills that reach far beyond the classroom. At Calico Rock



Elementary, DEAR time reminds every Pirate that reading opens the door to making a world of difference!

- **The Porch Goose**

- At Calico Rock Elementary the porch goose activities do more than just make us laugh; it brings our staff together. Each month's costume contest sparks creativity, friendly competition, and a shared sense of joy across the building. This simple, lighthearted tradition keeps morale high and reminds us that having fun together is part of what makes our school family strong.

- **Pirate Pride Staff Champion--Celebrating Excellence**

- The monthly *Pirate Pride Champion* recognition shines a spotlight on teachers who go above and beyond for their students and colleagues. Honoring one educator each month builds a culture of appreciation and encouragement. We do this in celebrating the hard work, positivity, and teamwork that make our school thrive. Recognizing and celebrating success fuels motivation, strengthens relationships, and keeps our "One School. One Team. Making a World of Difference!" spirit alive. So far we have recognized Coach David Eichler and Mrs. Kitty Dockins.

- **Family & Community Partnerships: Building Pirate Pride**

- Our community continues to make a huge difference—organizing events, supporting classrooms, and keeping our school spirit strong.
- The book fair has filled our school with excitement and helped put new books in the hands of our students. Local business partnerships continue to show our community's pride in supporting education and student success.
- This year's Open House was a tremendous success, bringing families, teachers, and students together to celebrate learning and connection. And with the rollout of Yondr pouches, classrooms are calmer and more focused than ever—helping students stay engaged and ready to learn.

Grants:

- **High Impact Tutoring Grant- \$53,000.00**

- CRSD was awarded \$53,000.00 to use to pay tutors during the school day. High-Impact Tutoring provides small-group, targeted instruction, designed to accelerate learning in reading and math. Working closely with teachers, HIT tutors use data to plan lessons, reinforce essential skills, and support students who need extra help. Their focused, consistent work helps close learning gaps and build student confidence—making a measurable difference in academic growth.

- **JJ Watt Grant- \$5,629.02**

- Coach Eichler applied for a grant through the JJ Watt Foundation in August. We were recently awarded the grant that will help pay for new uniforms and basketballs for our Pee Wee program. The dollar amount for the jerseys was \$4,943.40. The dollar amount for the basketballs was \$685.62, for a total of \$5,629.02 awarded to the district. We will get 20 sets of girls tops and bottoms reversible jerseys, 20 sets of boys tops and bottom reversible jerseys and 6 NFHS regulation basketballs to be used in the upcoming season.



- **Twin Lakes Foundation Grant- \$500.00**
 - We received a \$500 playground grant from The Twin Lakes Foundation. We will be utilizing that grant and partnering with Pirate Nation Parent Group to put a gaga ball pit on the playground.
- **The School Youth Tennis Initiative (SYTI) Grant:**
 - Coach Eichler applied for this grant. It was available to schools or organizations to support tennis initiatives outside of physical education classes. We are currently unsure of the grant amount, but very excited to bring this opportunity to PE.

Goals for the 2025–2026 School Year

- **Academic Goals**
 - Increase reading proficiency through writing integration.
 - Strengthen math fluency and problem-solving.
- **Student Support Goals**
 - Maintain strong attendance; reduce chronic absenteeism.
 - Expand positive social emotional health through morning meeting consistency.
- **Community Goals**
 - Continue partnerships that support learning beyond the classroom.
 - Encourage more parent participation in volunteer and event opportunities.

What is new?

- **Elementary Agriculture Class:**
 - The Calico Rock Elementary Agriculture Program is providing students with hands-on and experienced based learning in plant science, sustainability, and environmental stewardship. Utilizing the Ag building and our outdoor spaces, students engage in hands-on projects that reinforce academic concepts, promote problem-solving, and encourage curiosity about the world around them. This program builds foundational agricultural knowledge while fostering responsibility, teamwork, and pride in Arkansas's agricultural traditions.
- **3rd Grade Retention and Promotion**
 - The Arkansas LEARNS Act now requires that 3rd grade students demonstrate reading proficiency before being promoted to 4th grade, unless they meet specific good cause exemption criteria.
 - The DESE website has more information regarding the good cause exemption criteria.

Celebrations:

- Jr. Beta traveled to Orlando, FL this summer to compete at the National Beta Convention. We had several students compete and represent Calico Rock Elementary School. They are already gearing up for the state convention this year in January.
- Coach Eichler, Coach Hoskinds, and Coach Hughes hosted a Peewee Basketball camp this summer for our students.
- We were chosen to participate in the Elementary Agriculture Pilot Program this school year. We had teachers go to a conference this summer to be ready to kick this program off at the beginning of the school year!



- First National Bank of Izard County provided and grilled hot dogs for Open House and our board members served them! This made for a great start to the school year.
- The book fair was a huge success this year during Grandparent's Day celebrations.
- We had a lot of students participating in intramural basketball and then our kickoff to the peewee season started with a game against Rural Special.

Closing:

- Again, I am so thankful for the support that Calico Rock Elementary receives from the board, the community, and all partners. We continue to be committed to student success and community partnership.

We are better together and are truly making a world of difference!

Preschool Board Report for October

Charlee Eichler

Preschool Overview and Curriculum

In small groups, we've been focusing on phonemic awareness, letter and sound identification for letters A-M, counting, and fine motor skills like cutting and tracing or writing names. The kids had a great time on our recent field trip and are really looking forward to our Halloween party and Costume day. We also just started practicing our songs for the Christmas program, and they're already so excited!

Our curriculum continues to be rooted in developmentally appropriate practice, emphasizing play-based learning, early literacy, numeracy, and social-emotional growth. This month, our themes include fall changes to leaves and trees, pumpkins and bats, and community helpers. Teachers are embedding foundational academic skills through hands-on activities, songs, read-alouds, and small-group instruction.

Assessments and observations guide our planning to meet individual developmental goals.

Staffing Updates

We are currently seeking qualified candidates for a paraprofessional position to join our preschool team. The role is essential in supporting classroom instruction, supervising, and enhancing daily routines for our students. We invite interested applicants to submit their resumes as soon as possible. Until the position is filled, we continue to maintain student support through collaboration among our existing staff and substitutes.

New Student Routines and Support

We successfully welcomed two new students this term. To ensure a smooth transition, we've implemented personalized orientation routines and enhanced communication with families. Staff members are providing additional social-emotional support as students adjust to daily schedules, classroom expectations, and peer interactions. Visual schedules, routine prompts, and consistent transitions have been key in helping students feel safe and confident.

Next Steps

Looking ahead, we are:

- Continuing our recruitment for the paraprofessional position.
 - Preparing for the Christmas Program
- Integrating seasonal and cultural celebrations into our curriculum.
- Expanding professional development in early childhood best practices.

Closing

At the heart of everything we do is a commitment to providing a safe, nurturing, and loving environment where our students can grow, explore, and thrive. We thank the school board and our community for their continued support of early childhood education and the important foundation it lays for lifelong learning.