

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 21, 2026 BOARD OF EDUCATION
CABOT SCHOOL BOARD

The Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence were led by Cabot High School student Fallon Cockrell.

Board President James Hertzog called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Those in attendance were school board members Sally Beebe, Sarah Owen, Joe Trusty, Pam Clem, and Blake Lively. Also, in attendance were Michael Byrd, Aaron Randolph, Dr. Ben Darley, directors, and community members. Board member Kevin Tipton was absent.

RECOGNITION

All-State Choir - Choir Director Maggie Ashburn recognized the following students for making the Arkansas All-State Choir:

Asharae Anderson	Fallon Cockrell
Nathan Inman	Presley Leonard
Ava Massie	Brittany Weever
Keyara Wright	

National Merit Finalists – Aaron Randolph recognized the following students for being named National Merit Finalists:

Hudson Merrick	Aidan Patten
Nathanael Reedy	Shelby Smith

Student Spotlight – Pre-K Director Suzie Kelley recognized Kendal Hackler from Pre-K North for being kind, caring, and a friend to everyone. Kendal is the highlight of the day, and her favorite pre-k activity is the playground.

Pre-K Director Suzie Kelley recognized Rhenley Maude from Pre-K South for being a hard worker, kind, and helping teachers. Rhenley is known for great hugs, and her favorite pre-k activity is art.

PLC Building Recognition – Pre-K Director Suzie Kelley recognized Doug Spencer, custodian at Pre-K North, for his hard work and dedication. Pre-K North has the cleanest windows, and Mr. Doug is always full of joy throughout the work day.

Pre-K Director Suzie Kelley recognized Angela Hughes, custodian from Pre-K South, for her hard work and commitment to the team. Ms. Angela is the person who teachers seek to put things together in the building.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes from the regular March 17th meeting were approved as presented. March financials were approved as presented.

Motion by Joe Trusty, second by Sally Beebe; passed 6-0.

CURRICULUM REPORT

Mental Health Awareness Week – Emily Taylor presented information on services school counselors offer to help students and mental health awareness. Counselors meet with students regarding mental health, college and career guidance, registration and scheduling, and Go Guardian alerts. Mental Health Awareness Week is May 4th – 8th.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Buildings and Grounds Report – Michael Byrd reported the steel is going up for the press box, and they are pouring concrete as well. Completion is still expected for early August.

Free and Reduced Lunch Percentage - For information.

Current Enrollment – For information.

Upcoming Events – For information.

SUPERINTENDENT PRE-ACTION REPORTS

Employee Disclosures – Michael Byrd presented amended disclosures for Dawn Peeples and Brooke Carter and their relationship with Peeples Brothers Supply. The amendment to increase the approved amount from \$2,000 to \$5,000.

School Board Policies – Michael Byrd presented policy updates for Sections 3, 5 and 8 of school board policies. Sections 1, 2, 6, 7 and 9 did not have any recommended updates for the 2026-2027 school year.

2026-2027 Student Handbook – Michael Byrd presented the recommended changes to the 2026-2027 Student Handbook for approval.

Student Drug Testing Policy – Michael Byrd presented a recommendation to change the student drug testing frequency from a minimum of three (3) times a semester to up to three (3) times a semester due to delays in receiving results for Delta 8 and Delta 9 testing.

International Student Exchange Guidelines – Michael Byrd presented recommended changes to the International Student Exchange Guidelines to include F-1 and J-1 visas.

ACTION

The board voted to approve the amended disclosure for the following employees:

Employee	Business	Previous Amount	New Amount
Dawn Peeples	Peeples Brothers Supply	\$2,000	\$5,000
Brooke Carter	Peeples Brothers Supply	\$2,000	\$5,000

Motion by Joe Trusty, second by Sarah Owen, passed 6-0.

The board voted to approve the proposed changes for the 2026-2027 board policies in Section 3: Licensed Personnel, Section 5: Curriculum and Instruction, and Section 8: Classified Personnel. There are no changes in Sections 1, 2, 6, 7 and 9.

Motion by Sarah Owen, second by Sally Beebe; passed 6-0.

The board voted to approve the proposed changes to the 2026-2027 Student Handbook (Section 4) as presented.

Motion by Sally Beebe, second by Pam Clem; passed 6-0.

The board voted to approve the proposed changes to the Student Drug Testing Policy as presented.

Motion by Sarah Owen; second by Blake Lively; passed 6-0.

The board voted to approve the proposed changes to the International Exchange Student Guidelines as presented.

Motion by Sally Beebe, second by Pam Clem; passed 6-0.

The board voted to approve personnel as presented.

Motion by Sarah Owen, second by Sally Beebe; passed 6-0

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.



President



Secretary



CABOT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

602 North Lincoln Street CABOT, ARKANSAS 72023 (501) 843-3363

CABOT SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS 4-21-26

CERTIFIED RETIREMENTS

NAME	LOCATION	POSITION	DATE
Wesley Davis	High School	Math Teacher	06/30/2026
Connie Reed	Mt. Springs	Principal	06/30/2026
Ricardo Souza	High School	Math Teacher	06/30/2026
Tammy Stumbaugh	Westside	Teacher	06/30/2026
Sherry Voegele	Northside	Interventionist	06/30/2026

CERTIFIED RESIGNATIONS

NAME	LOCATION	POSITION	DATE
Cylee Drake	High School	Math Teacher	05/29/2026
Jasmine Dysmas	Junior High South	Forensics Teacher	05/29/2026
Emily Evans	Central	Teacher	05/29/2026
Allison Haile	Central	Teacher	05/29/2026
Morgan Haught	Stagecoach	Teacher	05/29/2026
Nicole Holmes	Ward Central	Special Education Teacher	05/29/2026
Stacy Jarrett	Middle School North	Special Education Teacher	05/29/2026
Jessica Jones	Eastside	Special Education Teacher	05/29/2026
Stacey Morrison	Northside	Special Education Teacher	05/29/2026
Sheila Nguyen	High School	English Teacher	05/29/2026
John Panter	ALE	Math Teacher/Asst. High School Football Coach	05/29/2026
Leah Panter	Middle School South	Special Education Teacher	05/29/2026
Deanna Prestella	Magness Creek	Teacher	05/29/2026
Carol Skiba	Stagecoach	Principal	05/29/2026

Natalia Slaughter	Northside	Teacher	05/29/2026
Meagan Snyder Stewart	Southside	Teacher	05/29/2026
Jenica Swenson	Westside	School Counselor	05/29/2026
Susan Toboy	Ward Central	Special Education Teacher	05/29/2026
Emily Wheat	High School	Computer Science Teacher	05/29/2026

CERTIFIED TRANSFERS/ REASSIGNMENTS

NAME	LOCATION	POSITION
Austin Able	Junior High North	Head Junior High Football Coach/ Asst. High School Wrestling (2026/2027)
Ellie Barbour	Southside	Teacher (2026/2027)
Josh Bemus	Junior High South	Assistant Junior High Basketball Coach/ Assistant Junior High Football Coach (2026/2027)
Jessica Benson	Northside	Special Education Teacher (2026/2027)
Jenny Blackwell	Central	Principal (2026/2027)
Lindsay Brockinton	Stagecoach	Special Education Teacher (2026/2027)
Amy Butler	Middle School South	Principal (2026/2027)
Chris Cope	Junior High South/ Junior High North	Physical Education & Health Teacher/ Head Softball Coach (2026/2027)
Ben Ford	Junior High South	Head Junior High Football Coach & Head Junior High Track Coach (2026/2027)
Gary Ford	Junior High North	Assistant Junior High Football Coach / Head Junior High Track Coach (2026/2027)
Mandy Green	Junior High North	Principal (2026/2027)
Melanie Hamilton	Freshman Academy	Special Education Teacher (2026/2027)
Hunter Jackson	High School/ Junior High North	Single Sport Asst. Junior High Football (2026/2027)

Barbara Lacefield	Junior High South	Math Teacher (2026/2027)
Heather Mattera	Northside	Interventionist (2026/2027)
Alexis Owens	Middle School North	Special Education Teacher (2026/2027)
Michael Reitz	Junior High South	Head Boys Soccer Coach/ Asst. Junior High Football (2026/2027)
Ryan Smith	Junior High North	Assistant Junior High Basketball Coach/ Assistant Junior High Football Coach (2026/2027)
Sydney Smith	Panther Academy- Hybrid Elementary	Teacher (2026/2027)
Danny Spencer	Junior High North/ Freshman Academy	Head Tennis Coach (2026/2027)
Courtney Swilley	Westside	Teacher (2026/2027)
Kara Taylor	Middle School North	Teacher (2026/2027)
Julia Treadway	Stagecoach	Principal (2026/2027)
Jayne Todd	High School	Math Teacher (2026/2027)
Macy Welch	Mt. Springs	Principal (2026/2027)

CERTIFIED NEW HIRES

NAME	LOCATION	POSITION
Angela Alderson	Magness Creek	Speech Language Pathologist (2026/2027)
Melissa Bailey	TBD	Speech Language Pathologist (2026/2027)
Tonia Brunson	High School	Math Teacher (2026/2027)
Elizabeth Butera	Westside	School Counselor (2026/2027)
Kathryn Cason	Ward Central	Teacher (2026/2027)
Tharon Davis	Junior High North/ Cabot Learning Academy	Special Education Teacher/ Asst. Junior High Football & Track Coach (2026/2027)

Mindi Disterdick	Middle School South	Special Education Teacher (2026/2027)
Daphne Evans	Junior High North	Science Teacher (2026/2027)
Ethan Gasaway	Freshman Academy	Health Teacher/ Asst. High School Football Coach (2026/2027)
Jennifer Griffin	Eastside	Special Education Teacher (2026/2027)
Savannah Hall	Magness Creek	Teacher (2026/2027)
Kelsey Henson	Ward Central	Interventionist (2026/2027)
Erica Jewell	Southside	School Counselor (2026/2027)
Alexia Lamb	Freshman Academy	Science Teacher (2026/2027)
Wendy Lentz	Central	Teacher (2026/2027)
Joseph McDaniel	High School	Social Studies Teacher (2026/2027)
Sara Kristen McGregor	Ward Central	Special Education Teacher (2026/2027)
Hunter McMurray	High School	English Teacher (2026/2027)
Callie Moore	Junior High North	English Teacher (2026/2027)
Julia Ray	Southside	Teacher (2026/2027)
Emily Rickner	Stagecoach	Teacher (2026/2027)
Megan Smith	Southside	Teacher (2026/2027)
Brandon Toombs	Junior High South/ Freshman Academy	Math Teacher/Asst. Junior High Football & Track Coach (2026/2027)
Jacob Tucker	High School	Automotive Technology Instructor (2026/2027)
Jastyn Vickers	Freshman Academy/ Junior High South	Physical Education & Health Teacher/ Assistant Jr. High Volleyball Coach (2026/2027)

Kristin Wilcoxson Junior High North English Teacher
(2026/2027)

Mallie Williams Ward Central Special Education Teacher
(2026/2027)

All recommendations and hiring of licensed certified personnel are contingent on applicants completing all licensure requirements, as well as clearing their criminal background check and child maltreatment registry.



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CABOT SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS 4-21-26

CLASSIFIED RETIREMENTS

Brenda Stephens	Stagecoach	Custodian	7/20/26
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CLASSIFIED RESIGNATIONS

NAME	LOCATION	POSITION	DATE
Chassity Carrier	Child Development Center	Daycare Worker - Lead	4/20/26
Jessica Dickerson	Westside	Special Education Paraprofessional	5/29/26
Kirsty Haynes	Pre-K South	Pre-K Paraprofessional	4/10/26
JoAnn Ruffner	Middle School North	Custodian - Custodial Response Team I	5/29/26
Johnie Smith	Jr. High South	Custodian - Building Reset Team II	4/10/26
Robby West	Transportation	Bus Aide	4/2/26

CLASSIFIED TRANSFERS/ REASSIGNMENTS

NAME	LOCATION	POSITION
Brittney Bogard	Pre-K South	Pre-K Paraprofessional (2026 - 2027)
Christopher Bolls	High School	Custodian - Building Reset Team II Night Shift (2026 - 2027)
Allyson Caruthers	High School	Interpreter (2026 - 2027)

John Counts	Middle School North	Custodian - Building Reset Team II Night Shift (2026 - 2027)
Levi Dillard	High School	Custodian - Building Reset Team II Night Shift (2026 - 2027)
Angela Hughes	Pre-K South	Custodian II (2026 - 2027)
Oleksandr Lebedev	Middle School South	Custodian - Building Reset Team II Night Shift (2026 - 2027)
Myra Medlin	Freshman Academy	Academic Acceleration Paraprofessional
Michelle Mitchell	Southside	Special Education Paraprofessional
Deric Pinales	Southside	Duty/Instructional Paraprofessional

CLASSIFIED NEW HIRES

NAME	LOCATION	POSITION
Brandon Chandler	Transportation	Bus Driver (2026-2027)
Patricia Oxford	Transportation	Bus Driver (2026-2027)
Patrick Raper	Transportation	Director of Transportation
Amy Ringgold	District	Occupational Therapist (2026 - 2027)

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