

Call to Order

Lisa Wolfe called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the high school board room #335. Present board members were Lisa Wolfe, Larry Cyrus, Nathan Brandt, Arlen Dirks, Sarah Ayala, and Wendy Baures. Kevin Kubis was absent. Also present were Troy White, Jenny Brandt, and Tom Hiebert.

Lisa Wolfe attested to the publication of the meeting pursuant to Wisconsin Statute Section 19.84.

Approval of the Agenda

Nathan Brandt made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Larry Cyrus seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Connection with the community

- **District celebrations and recognitions**

Mr. White presented celebrations from the packet including girls' golf, cross country, and football, Lexi, the therapy dog, WASB business honor roll, and a math scavenger hunt. Larry Cyrus presented Lisa Wolfe with her WASB certificate.

Reports and Discussion Items

- **Referendum update**

Mr. White stated the elementary parking lot is completed, with additional fencing still needed. Rooms 313, 315, and 317 will be completed by the end of the week. The library, agriculture, HS art and the engagement lab are still in progress. The adaptive fitness room, fitness center and auto center are scheduled to be completed by winter break.

- **Budget update**

Mr. White explained the state revenue limit worksheet pointing out enrollment is declining, property taxes are estimated to be 15.9% higher, general aid then declines by 8.7%, the estimated tax levy rate would be 6.42 which is 0.16 less than projected during the referendum, and the district's estimate has \$75,000 of the \$125,000 it has in debt services to help lower the tax impact. The estimates will become actual on October 15 and may change these estimates, but the district is confident the tax levy from the district will be less than last year.

- **Board retreat discussion**

- **Goals**

- **Policy 112.1 Strategic Planning**
- **Goals, norms, and collective agreements**

The Board discussed the strategic plan making some edits, including supporting the portrait of a pirate durability skills, engaging classrooms, and using AI as an enhancement not a replacement. They also updated their goals and collective agreements to align with the strategic plan.

- **Bus stop discussion**

The board discussed the safety protocols that have been put in place to have students wait at their property until the bus has controlled the area before crossing the road to board the bus.

- **School resource officer**

Mr. White reported to the board that Alma would not be involved in a partnership and recommended C-FC does not have a large enough need for an SRO to allocate 75-80% of the cost. The option will remain open for future discussion.

- **Superintendent evaluation**

The board chose the evaluation tool and will return individual evaluations to the board president by November 2nd.

- **State education convention attendance – January 20-22, 2027**

The board was informed they need to notify Mr. White by November 2nd if they plan to attend the convention.

- **2027-2028 School Calendar**

The draft copy of the calendar was discussed. Mr. White and the admin team are working with staff on the calendar.

Future Agenda Items

-- Pirate debit card -- WASB feedback

Review Timelines and Items for Future Board Agendas and Meetings.

Wednesday	October 21 st , 2026	Budget & Annual Meeting	6:00 p.m.
		Regular Meeting	Following Annual Meeting
Monday	November 2 nd , 2026	Committee Meeting	6:00 p.m.
Monday	November 16 th , 2026	Regular Meeting	6:00 p.m.

Wendy Baures made a motion to adjourn at 7:47 p.m. Nathan Brandt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Staff Member - Lexi

https://www.news8000.com/news/local-news/fountain-city/therapy-dog-lexi-joins-cochrane-fountain-city-school-district/article_58cd9d01-d219-44cb-89c2-397a5a441c75.html

Bailey Kujak posted a 41 on the back nine, shooting an 86 to win the regional golf meet. Jorja Wolfe took second, shooting an 89. Both will advance to the sectionals at Prairie du Chien.



Rounding Numbers on the Move! **Fourth graders** turned math into a fun classroom scavenger hunt! Students scurried around the room searching for number cards. Once they found a number, they rounded it and recorded their answer on a clipboard. This interactive activity gave students a chance to practice rounding numbers while getting some movement in, too! A fun way to keep learning active in the math classroom!



Cross Country Girls take 21st at Roy Griak Invite, with Paxtyn finishing 9th out of 237 runners.

C-FC XC competes at Roy Griak Invite

by Beth Kraft

The Cochrane-Fountain City girls cross country team competed at the 40th annual Roy Griak Invite at Fort Snelling Golf Course on Saturday, Sept. 19.

The Lady Pirates took 21st place out of 29 teams at the meet.

Out of 237 girls running the course junior Paxtyn Duellman finished in ninth place with a time of 18:42.7 for the 5K distance, receiving a spe-

cial award for finishing in the top 20.

Following Duellman in 27th place was sophomore Kinley Arneson with a time of 19:35.1.

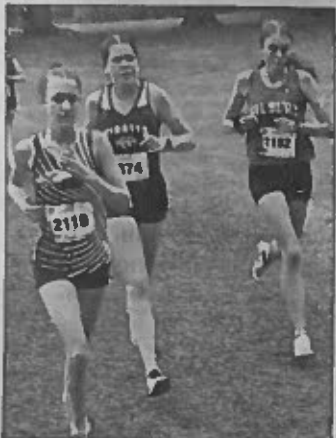
Senior Ashlyn Earney was next with a time of 21:35.8 for 101st place, sophomore Trinity Jilk ran a 23:44.7 for 191st place, junior Sofia Cabezas finished in 26:43.5 for 229th place, and Zoe Tepovich rounded out the C-FC results with a time of 28:50.2.



Members of the C-FC girls cross country team includes (pictured, left to right) Coach Ashley Duellman, Sofia Cabezas, Zoe Tepovich, Trinity Jilk, Ashlyn Earney, Kinley Arneson, and Paxtyn Duellman.



Junior Paxtyn Duellman scored a top 10 finish at the Roy Griak Invite to lead the Pirates.



Trinity Jilk works her way through traffic on the course.



Kinley Arneson contended with wet, muddy conditions on the course during Saturday's race.



The C-FC girls cross country team competed in the annual Roy Griak Invitational last Saturday, hosted by the University of Minnesota.

-Contributed photo.

Cross Country Girls take 2nd place at the Nightfall Classic. Paxtyn took 1st & Kinley placed 13th.

C-FC XC competes at Nightfall Classic

by Beth Kraft

The Cochrane-Fountain City cross country team headed to Marshfield on Friday, Sept. 25, to compete in the Nightfall Classic 715 at River Edge Golf Course.

The girls' team took second place with 13 team points out of 32 teams in the meet, earning a plaque for the trophy race.

Phillips claimed the team

title with 65 points.

C-FC had two girls finish in the top 20, earning medals.

Junior Paxtyn Duellman ran a personal best time of 18:35.2 for the 5,000 meter distance, just edging out Bayceville's Jaycie Oherle at the finish line to take first place out of nearly 200 runners in the Division 3 girls race. Sophomore Kinley Arneson placed 13th with a time of 20:26.4.

Also running personal bests for C-FC were senior Abby Hunger (30th place, 21:29.4), junior Sofia Cabezas (139th, 26:23.5) and Zoe Tepovich (160th, 27:31.4).

Rounding out the results for the Lady Pirates, senior Ashlyn Earney ran a solid time of 22:00.5, good for 45th place, and sophomore Trinity Jilk finished 78th with a time of 23:22.5.



The Lady Pirates were ready to race at the Nightfall Classic—an annual evening cross country race. Pictured, left to right, are Ashlyn Earney, Paxtyn Duellman, Trinity Jilk, Sofia Cabezas, Zoe Tepovich, Kinley Arneson, and Abby Hunger.



Members of the C-FC girls cross country team are pictured with their second place plaque from the Nightfall Classic 715. Kinley Arneson and Paxtyn Duellman (center) also received medals for finishing in the top 20.

C-FC School District honors local business for its support

Submitted article

The Cochrane-Fountain City School Board recently recognized the NorthEnd Pub & Grill in Cochrane for its support of the district's schools.

The business was honored as part of the Wisconsin Association of School Boards' 2026 Business Honor Roll program. The program recognizes local school district business partners that support area schools by providing resources or additional learning opportunities for students.

"The NorthEnd is a strong

supporter of Cochrane-Fountain City Schools," commented C-FC School Board President Lisa Wolfe.

The NorthEnd has been a dedicated supporter of the district through both financial contributions and hands-on involvement in school and alumni activities. NorthEnd Pub caters for faculty meals, organizes alumni events, and hosts community get-togethers that strengthen connections among students, families, alumni and community members.

In addition, the business regularly provides donations

and financial assistance to various C-FC student clubs and organizations, helping expand opportunities and experiences for students.

During the basketball and football state tournament runs, NorthEnd Pub supports the district's fan bus efforts, helping students, families and community members travel to support the Pirates on the state stage. Their willingness to step up during these major events demonstrated a deep investment in C-FC pride and student activities.



NorthEnd Pub & Grill owners Nick and Marie Kuhn received their WASB Business Honor Roll award from C-FC School Board President Lisa Wolfe.

Pirates remain unbeaten with big victory over Blair-Taylor

by Coach Jesse Cyrus

The Cochrane-Fountain City football team continued its winning ways as the Pirates captured their second Daryland Conference win this season—a 47-6 victory over Blair-Taylor on Friday night, Sept. 11.

The undefeated Pirates were led by a strong rushing attack and another great performance from the defense and special teams.

C-FC rushed for just under 300 yards on the ground led by Aidan Lisowski with 191 yards and three scores while quarterback Parker Kujala added 67 yards and two scores on the ground. Kujala also added a passing touchdown to Grant Yapp for another touchdown.

Ethan Holzer added ex-

citement with a punt return for a touchdown on special teams.

The defense was led by

Audi Schwank with four tackles and two tackles for loss while Wesley Gensmer added eight total tackles.

This Friday, Sept. 18, the Pirates will take on Pepin/Alma at C-FC in a match-up of two 4-0 teams.



Ethan Holzer had an open field in front of him for a big C-FC gain.



Junior Grant Yapp caught a pass in the end zone for a C-FC touchdown.



Seniors Aidan Lisowski (14) and Gabe Blass (74) worked to take down Blair-Taylor ball carrier Anthony Haas.

Contributed photos

C-FC football continues win streak with dominant victory over E-S

by Brett Apley

The Cochrane-Fountain City football team extended its win streak to six games, remaining undefeated on the season with a 35-6 Daryland Conference victory at Elmira-Strom on Friday, Sept. 25.

The Pirates, ranked No. 1 in Division 7, dominated on the ground and through the air against the Comets.

Senior Parker Kujala threw a 9-4-18 game, good for 111 yards and a tidy touchdown pass under pressure to junior Ethan Holzer in the end zone in the second quarter. He also logged out 44 yards and two

score TDs in the game. Senior Aidan Lisowski proved difficult for the Comets to bring down, running wild for 119 yards on just seven carries for two touchdowns. Sophomore Nash Nordner also added a rushing TD, and junior Audi Schwank had a 1-6-6 shortly before halftime to put the game out of reach, 35-0.

C-FC continued to rack up scoring plays with two more touchdowns in the third quarter for the 48-0 lead. T-S got on the board in the fourth quarter, and the Pirates added one more scoring play for the final result.

Kujala hit six of 11 pass receivers in the game, led by Holzer with two catches for 34 yards and a TD and junior Maxey Anderson with three catches for 28 yards.

The C-FC offense is labeled with a commanding total of 349 yards in the game.

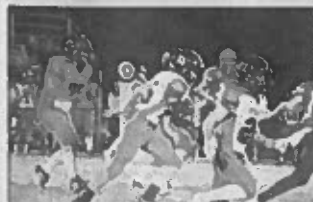
Defensively, Nordner led the way with seven total tackles, including three solo stops, while Schwank added

six tackles, two solo. The Pirates' defense has allowed opponents just 26 points through six games so far this season, including two shutout victories.

C-FC will continue Daryland Conference play this week, hosting Independence/Uniontown for Homecoming this Friday night, Oct. 2.



C-FC quarterback Parker Kujala makes a pass vs Elmira-Strom last Friday night. The junior has completed nearly 65% of his passes for 530 yards and seven TDs so far this season.



Junior Brayden Kulbs finds running room for C-FC.



Ethan Holzer looks for extra yards after making a catch.



C-FC senior Aidan Lisowski ran for over 100 yards and two TDs vs E-S last week.



Senior Nate Stoppelmoore (52) and Nash Nordner bring down Elmira-Strom's Brock Stendahl on the run.



Parker Kujala knocks away a pass intended for Elmira-Strom's Keshawn Kull in the end zone, saving a touchdown.



Junior Ethan Holzer (5) celebrates with teammate Maxey Anderson (22) after coming down with a catch for a touchdown.



Cochrane-Fountain City School District

The Pirate Code: Respectful, Responsible, Ready to Learn

Strategic Plan 2023 - 2028

The Board of Education approved the Strategic Plan of the C-FC School District. The plan includes five focus areas.

Student Academic Achievement and Success

- All students will be career and life-ready, demonstrating the Portrait of a Pirate durability skills / achieving 2 or more readiness indicators.
 - [Profile of Pirate Readiness Indicators](#)
- Every student in grades K-8 will master the essential learning outcomes identified in Math and English Language Arts annually.
- Improve average standardized exam scores in both Math & English Language Arts to above the state average.
- Expand classes and program offerings for students.

School Culture

- Ensure a safe physical environment.
- Create a safe social & emotional environment.
- Teach and support positive behavior.
- Support engaging classrooms using AI as an enhancement not a replacement.

Staff & Personnel

- Maintain a trusting environment that empowers staff.
- Provide continuous staff development for all employee groups.
- Continue to enhance the compensation model to remain competitive with local market.

Fiscal Responsibility

- Effectively communicate the financial state of the district.
- Maintain a balanced budget reflective of the district's strategic plan.
- Forecast future district needs.

Communication and Community Engagement

- Continue to explore mutually beneficial relationships in the community.
- Increase purposeful engagement of stakeholders.
- Clear, honest, and timely communication that informs, celebrates, and tells the District's story.

Vision

C-FC empowers all students to discover their passions, develop their talents, and be responsible, impactful citizens.

Mission

In partnership with families and community, C-FC provides a safe and supportive environment for all students. By providing a high-quality education that promotes academic and emotional growth, we empower students to be life-long learners and productive, responsible community citizens.

C-FC School Board

Purpose

Strive to achieve identified goals while advocating for students and representing the community's diverse beliefs and values.

Board Focus: 2026 – 2027

- ~~Referendum communication and fiscal responsibility.~~ Understanding and supporting why education needs to change
- Retainment of staff through helping with stress management, balancing workload, and supporting students.
- Increase connections with the community through transparency and engagement.

Norms

- Respect everyone's opinions and viewpoints
- Maintain open communication.
- Focus on quality education for all children.
- Align our efforts to achieve our purpose.
- Committed to our mission, vision, and goals.

- Set the District goals and policies

Goals

- Enhance the culture and climate of the C-FC School District by ~~providing~~ promoting:
 - Engagement, expectations, and student ownership of their learning through
 - ~~LIFTtoFFS—Learning Innovations For the Teaching of Future Ready Students~~
 - Attainment of grade-level proficiency.
 - Positive staff and student mental well-being.
- Endorse and support the “portrait of a pirate” indicators.
- Maintain fiscal responsibility & communicate the district's financial state.
- Communicate and connect with all stakeholders.

Superintendent Roles

Board Roles

- Listen & inquire
- Students focused
- Policy adherence
- Superintendent support, oversight, and evaluation

- Manages day-to-day operation
- Engages the community
- Communicates with the Board
- Student-centered
- Provides the “why”

Superintendent focus

- **Culture and Climate** – “Foster supportive, positive, and effective district-wide environment.”
- **Systems for student achievement** – “Focus organizational efforts to fuel student achievement.”
- **Communication** – “Open, honest dialogue to cultivate trusting, positive, collaborative relationships.”

2027-28 Cochrane Fountain City School Calendar

July	August	September	October
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	2 3 4	1 2
4 5 6 7 8 9 10	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	3 4 5 6 7 8 9
11 12 13 14 15 16 17	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	10 11 12 13 14 15 16
18 19 20 21 22 23 24	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	17 18 19 20 21 22 23
25 26 27 28 29 30 31	29 30	26 27 28 29 30	24 25 26 27 28 29 30
			31
November	December	January	February
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4	1	1 2 3 4 5
7 8 9 10 11 12 13	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	6 7 8 9 10 11 12
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	13 14 15 16 17 18 19
21 22 23 24 25 26 27	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	20 21 22 23 24 25 26
28 29 30	26 27 28 29 30 31	23 24 25 26 27 28 29	27 28 29
		30 31	
March	April	May	June
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4	1	1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	4 5 6 7 8 9 10
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	14 15 16 17 18 19 20	11 12 13 14 15 16 17
19 20 21 22 23 24 25	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	21 22 23 24 25 26 27	18 19 20 21 22 23 24
26 27 28 29 30 31	23 24 25 26 27 28 29	28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30
	30		

- August 23 – New Teacher & Staff Float Day
- August 24 - 26 – Staff Development / **No Students**
- August 27 & 30 – **No School**
- August 31 – **Kickoff Days for Students**
- September 1 – **First Required Day of School**
- September 6 – Labor Day / **No School**
- September 8 – Open House 2:00-6:00 pm
- Homecoming
- October 8 – Staff Development / **No Students**
- October 21 – P / T Conferences 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm
- October 22 – P / T Conferences 8:30 am - 12:30 pm
- November 22-23 – Staff Development / **No Students**
- November 24-26 – Thanksgiving Break / **No School**

- Dec 23-31 – Winter Break / **No School**
- January 14 – **No School (Snow Day)**
- January 17 – Staff Development / **No Students (Snow Day)**
- February 18 – Staff Development / **No Students (Snow Day)**
- February 21 – **No School (Snow Day)**
- March 23 – P / T Conferences 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm
- March 24 – P / T Conferences 8:30 am - 12:30 pm
- March 27 – **No School (Snow Day)**
- April 14 – **No School (Snow Day)**
- April 17 – Staff Development / **No Students (Snow Day)**
- May 26 – Last Day of School (Graduation 6:30 pm)
- May 29 – Memorial Day / **No School**

School Day (Mon - Fri) 8:00 – 3:14

Parent / Teacher Conference 3:30 - 7:30 pm

- First / Last Day of School
- Teacher Professional Development - No Students
- No School / Holiday
- Parent / Teacher Conferences

* The calendar may be revised depending on emergency days missed or other circumstances.

* Inclement weather days: The first 3 days will not be made up. The next 3 will be made up in person on January 15th, January 19th, and April 23rd. Any additional days will be conducted as virtual learning days.