

	Regular School Board Meeting	
	Date: May 11, 2026	
	Location: Circle of Life Academy	Time: 5:00pm

1. CALL TO ORDER: Time: <u>5:08</u> PM ▾
2. MISSION STATEMENT: Our Circle of Life Academy is immersed in Anishinaabe Mino-Bimaadiziwin for our children and community while providing the highest quality of education.
3. ROLL CALL: a. Board Members Present: Yes ▾ Trista Ayers, Chair Yes ▾ Loretta Solmon, Vice Chair Yes ▾ Chris VanWert, Secretary Yes ▾ Dorothy Zima No ▾ Fawn Roy b. Others Present i. Seth Hougum c. Quorum Present? Yes ▾
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA a. Motion: Chris VanWert ▾ b. Second: Dorothy Zima ▾ c. In Favor:3 d. Opposed:0
5. RECOGNITIONS - STAFF OR STUDENT a. Darin and Heidi for Fun in the Sun Day b. Rachelle and Jen M for the Spring Program and auction c. Officer Drift for DARE Graduation and Mock Crash

6. COMMENTS OR REQUESTS FROM VISITORS *(limit of 5 minutes per person)*

- a. Nothing submitted

7. PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

- a. Transportation Coordinator - update on bus quotes and funding - Email packet will be sent out this week with info.

8. **CONSENT AGENDA:** Action is requested on the following items of the consent agenda. Consent agenda items are typically adopted without discussion of the individual items because they are routine or ordinary in action. Board members are asked to preview documents prior to the scheduled meeting. Any consent agenda item may be removed for further discussion and deliberation by any member of the board.

- a. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** -
i. Regular Meeting - [April 13, 2026](#)
- b. **HR / New Hires Report:**
i. April Bement - Financial Coordinator
- c. **Facilities Report**
i. [Report Link](#)
1. Any update on the lightning rod situation?
- d. **NASIS and Transportation Report**
i. [Report Link](#)
ii.

Approval of Consent Agenda

- iii. Motion: Chris VanWert ▾
- iv. Second: Loretta Solmon ▾
- v. In Favor:3
- vi. Opposed:0

9. STUDENT DATA & ACHIEVEMENT**a. Student Enrollment Update**

As of 5/11/26	Currently Enrolled	Wait List	Transferred Out
KG	2	0	0
1st	8	0	1
2nd	7	0	1
3rd	3	0	2
4th	3	1	4
5th	8	0	1
6th	9	2	1

7th	6	0	4
8th	5	2	1
9th	9	1	8
10th	5	0	7
11th	0	0	4
12th	5	2	7
TOTAL	70	8	41
Apr 13, 2026			70
Mar 9, 2026			72
Feb 10, 2026			71
Jan 7, 2026			72
Dec 9, 2025			72
Nov 10, 2025			81
Oct 8, 2025			83
Sep 16, 2025			72

Discussion: Enrollment continues to fluctuate. Students are leaving the district due to personal reasons and need for alternative/flexible programs. COLA continues to receive student applications and is staying vigilant with reviewing and accepting applicants thoroughly.

COLA is receiving more student applications and continues meeting with families. Applications are being held for the 2026-27 school year.

b. SPED Report

i. [Report Link](#)

1.

c. Student Data & Assessment Report

1. EOY Testing this week. Results at June meeting.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

a. Principal Report

i. [Report Link](#)

1.

b. Culture & Language Dept Report

i. [Link](#)

c. Finance Report

i. To resume at the June meeting

11. **ACTION ITEMS:** Action items receive individual attention because of the nature of the issues, the need to discuss or review the information prior to taking action, or the specific kind of action required for the action.

OLD BUSINESS

i. **None -**

NEW BUSINESS

1. Draft: [Board Goals](#)

Discussion: Reviewed proposed Board Goals. Will not make a motion to accept at this time.

- ii. Motion: None ▾
- iii. Second: None ▾
- iv. In Favor:
- v. Opposed:

2. School Values

Discussion: Approve and recognize the Seven Grandfather Teachings as the Official School Values of Circle of Life Academy.

- Debwewin: Truth
- Dabasendizowin: Humility
- Manaaji'idiwin: Respect
- Zaagi'idiwin: Love
- Zoongide'ewin: Bravery, Courage
- Gwayakwaadiziwin: Honesty
- Nibwaakaawin: Wisdom, Intelligence

- vi. Motion: Chris VanWert ▾
- vii. Second: Dorothy Zima ▾
- viii. In Favor:3
- ix. Opposed:0

12. DISCUSSION TOPICS, EVENTS, AND ACTIVITIES

- a. **Book Study:** *Great on Their Behalf: Why School Boards Fail, How Yours Can Become Effective*
 - i. Draft Goals (3-5): Bring suggestions...
- b. **Update: IT meeting** with Monte Bellanger - Still no update on the social media issue.
- c. **Graduation & Awards Banquet:**
 - i. Graduation is May 21st at 5pm
 - ii. Senior Honors Night is May 13th at 5pm
- d. **COLA Powwow:** May 15th 12:30 - 3:30pm
- e. **Ojibwe Language Camp:** Planned for June 9-10 from 10am - 6pm. Will be a family-focused event with multiple activities happening simultaneously at various stations. Click [here](#) for flyer.
- f. **KG Round-up/Open Houses-** Wed., May 27th, Wed., June 24th, Wed., July 29th, Wed., August 26th.
 - i. Kari and Seth will team up to cover KG classroom during Round-Up
- g. Drafting proposed **Vision Statement and school values**. Bring your drafts of proposed Vision Statements.

Empowering students, through Anishinaabe ways of knowing and being, to learn, lead, and live without boundaries.

13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS

- a. Agenda Items
 - i. Principal's Eval due in April
 - 1. Seth submitted his packet via Google
 - 2. The Board will begin review and Eval
- b. Meeting Schedule: **Moved to the 2nd Monday of each month**
 - i. June: June 8th - do we want to do a full-day work session/retreat?
 - ii. Summer Board Retreat: TBD

14. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Motion: Chris VanWert ▾
- b. Second: Dorothy Zima ▾
- c. In Favor:3
- d. Opposed:0

Time: 7:46_____ PM ▾

