



**Circle of Life Academy School Board
Regular School Board Meeting
February 18th, 2025 - 5:00 pm-until finished or tabled.**

- 1) **Call to Order: 5:35pm**
- 2) **Roll Call:**
 - a) Board Members Present:
 - i) Mary
 - ii) Patty
 - iii) Lew

(1) Unable to Attend:
 - b) Others Present:
 - i) Seth
 - ii) Carol
 - iii) Landa
 - iv) Chris Hegadorn
 - v) Dave
- 3) **Approval of Meeting Agenda:**
 - a) Motion: Lew
 - b) Second: Patty
 - c) In Favor: All
 - d) Opposed: None
- 4) **Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting:** [Regular School Board Meeting 1/14/25](#)
 - a) Motion: Lew
 - b) Second: Patty
 - c) In Favor: All
 - d) Opposed: None
- 5) **Public Wishing to Address the Board (time limit to speak, 3 minutes):**
 - a) None
- 6) **General reports:**
 - a) **Administrative report(Seth Houglum)**
 - i) **The Culture Piece - Chris Hegadorn to present on time with COLA**
 - (1) [Mr. Hegadorn's](#) Full Report
 - (2) [Mr. Hegadorn's Report to for the board meeting link](#)
 - ii) Per school board: General reports are due to administration by the first Tuesday of each month so that the working agenda can be shared with



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- the school board a week in advance of each regular board meeting. This will commence with the February 2025 Regular School Board Meeting.
- iii) Addressed throughout the agenda
 - b) Student Council Report:
 - i) [Student Council and Counselor Report Link](#)
 - c) HR Report(Carol Zortman):
 - i) [HR February Report link](#)
 - ii)
 - d) Facilities reports(Lindsey Loun - Facilities Manager):
 - i) [February Facilities Report Link](#)
 - ii)
 - e) Fiscal Leadership Team Report (Landa Moore - Financial Coordinator):
 - i) Fiscal Leadership Team reports links:
 - (1) [1/16/25](#)
 - (2) [1/30/25](#)
 - f) Programmatic Leadership Team Report:
 - i) [Leadership Team notes from 1/9/2025](#)
 - ii) In progress: [Leadership Team Bylaws Document](#).
 - g) Athletics reports:
 - i) Spring Athletics
 - (1) Softball
 - (2) Golf
 - (3) Lacrosse
 - h) Culture and Language report:
 - i) Weekly meetings with Randle from BIE - Teacher 101
 - ii) Art and Fashion show work has continued. Date 2/28/25
 - iii) Some middle school students have passed tobacco to receive their names
 - iv) Invite surrounding schools
 - v) Culture team needs to consistently meet. The time has been set aside and should be utilized. This is for clarity for all. School board member to attend.
 - vi) **Culture and language continue to be our driving force moving forward while still adhering to BIE and MDE core requirements for graduation.**



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7) New Business:

a) Wild Rice Electric - STEAM Partnership:

- i) Wild Rice Electric is piloting a STEAM support program partnering with a few schools in the area.
- ii) We are the first school to benefit from this relationship
- iii) \$500 for STEAM Robotics kits to be used with our 6th grade classroom
- iv) If successful, more money and support to follow in upcoming school years.

b) COLA Job Descriptions:

- i) BIE has tasked administration with auditing COLA job descriptions
- ii) This is to provide clarity and tighten up COLA practices
- iii) The process has begun and changes will be rolling out in a timely manner with the projected completion of this task by the beginning of 4th quarter.

c) 2025-2026 School Year Updates:

- i) [25-26 School Calendar Link](#)
- ii) 26-27 School calendar is currently in progress
- iii) Advertisement, Recruitment, interviews etc. to begin ASAP
- iv) Contracts to be offered as early as March
- v) Admin, HR and Finance will have to be thorough, timely and committed
- vi)

d) Possible/Upcoming Distance Learning/PD Days for COLA Staff and Students:

- i) In the Special School Board Meeting held on 11/27/24, the school board approved the use of the Distance Learning Model to afford staff the time to receive intensive training from BIE and internally.
- ii) The first added PD was held on Tuesday, February 11th. Focus on Course Descriptions and Objectives.
- iii) Still waiting on the BIE to determine how this will look for us.
- iv) Programmatic Leadership Team will continue work on this 2/20/25

e) iObservation:

- i) Seth is receiving training
- ii) Observations and Evaluations to tentatively begin the week of February 17th..
- iii) Having technical issues entering new employees. iObservation consultant working with Seth on this as well as further training.

f) Attendance Reports and Issues:

- i) Staff are required to have both hardcopy and electronic attendance recorded. BIE will be checking this.



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- ii) Elementary teachers are doing very well. Some secondary teachers are still not following through with timely attendance taking practices. Official improvement plans for certain individuals may be in order as this is an integral part of their job.
- iii) **Attendance taking will be part of retention bonus!**
- iv) Personal improvement plans
- g) Technology:**
 - i) [One to one devices K-12 policy - link](#) Updated with virtual learning piece requested by BIE.
 - (1) Google Classrooms will be mandatory for all instructional staff beginning Wednesday, February 26th. BIE will be providing training for all staff on that afternoon. PTO will not be approved.
 - (2) Distance learning has come a long way. The training and mandate will support further growth
 - (3) Moving toward 4th-12th grade keeping their devices with them for the remainder of the second semester.
- h) BIE Complete Programmatic and Fiscal Review, Training and Support**
 - i) Presentation of Final Review
 - (1) Shared with school board, staff and tribal administration (January)
 - (2) Initial Pre-visit meeting took place Thursday, January 30th
 - (3) TCS School Pre-visit slides SY24-25 forwarded to all staff and board members
 - (4) Two schools were in this meeting
 - ii) BIE may not be able to be on-site, but will continue with the review remotely
 - (1) This is frustrating for us, but is out of our hands
 - (2) We will need to be ultra focused and committed positive change
 - iii) Parents Right to Know Letters out
 - (1) One staff member still in progress
 - (2)
 - iv) BIE recap from weekly meeting 2/18/25
 - (1) Financials
 - (2) BIE support staff being let go
 - (3) A lot of unknowns
 - (4) Still under review as we should be
- i) COLA Behavior Report:**
 - i) Behavior referrals dropped nearly 50% from Q1 to Q2
 - ii) Behavior Referral summaries link
 - iii) Strict and consistent adherence to the adopted COLA Handbook
- j) MIEA dates and attendance:**



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- i) March 18th through the 21st
- ii) As of 2/11 17 staff want to attend
- iii) In past school calendars MIEA was built into that
- iv) Room reservations need to be made by the 19th
- v) Leadership team to make decisions on 2/13/25

(1) Linda, Alicia and Kris will be attending

- k) Motion to end regular session and enter into Executive:
- l) Second:
- m) Favor:
- n) Opposed:

8) Old Business:

i) Selling COLA Buses and repurposing of the bus garage:

- (1) Working with WE Finance and BIE to sell buses continued...
- (2) School board questioned policy and procedure as tribal finance stated that the school needed approval from the BIE when the buses were purchased with Transportation funds
- (3) Ideas for the bus garage
- (4) Possible generator of funds

9) Other business

- a) Other business 1:
 - i) <https://www.naicouncil.com/>
 - ii)
- b) Other business 2:
 - i)

10) Adjournment:

- a) Motion to adjourn: pm
 - i)
 - ii) Seconded:
- b) Adjourned at:
 - i) pm

Next Regular Board Meeting:

Date: 3/11/2025

Time: 5:00pm

1. Next Meeting Agenda items:

- a.
- b.



Commence Executive Session:

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Link](#)
[Redacted]

Feasance Clause
(1) Tabled - Curtis Rogers

Date: 2/18/25
Begin Time: pm
End Time: pm