



Circle of Life Academy

"Our Circle of Life Academy is immersed in Anishinaabe Mino-Bimaadiziwin for our children and community while providing the highest quality of education."

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

- 1) Call to Order: 5:36 pm
- 2) Roll Call:
 - a) Board Members Present:
 - i) Mary
 - ii) Patty
 - iii) Lew

(1) Unable to Attend:
 - b) Others Present:
 - i) Seth
 - ii) Landa
 - iii) Dustin (WE PD)
- 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 2/18/25](#)
 - 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) Dustin (WE PD)
 - i) WE PD would like to get a SRO back at COLA.
 - ii) Some schools compensate for $\frac{2}{3}$ while the department $\frac{1}{3}$
 - iii) Building positive relationships
 - iv) Continue to increase security and safety
 - b) Parent letters were shared for two students
- 6) General reports:
 - a) Administrative report (Seth Houglum)
 - i) Addressed throughout the agenda
 - ii)



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- b) Student Council Report:
 - i) [Student Council and Counselor Report Link](#)

- c) HR Report(Carol Zortman):
 - i) HR February Report link
 - ii) Resignations: B. KH
 - iii) New Hires:TBA
 - iv) Applicants:TBA
 - v) Job Fairs / Recruitment
 - vi)

- 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: N/A
 - (1) Landa to present
 - (2) Carry Over Funds
 - (3)

- f) Programmatic Leadership Team Report:
 - i) Current meetings are focused on 25-26 school year
 - ii) Staffing, room assignments
 - iii) Curriculum reviews
 - iv) Wednesday Trainings with the BIE - Randall Joe

- g) Athletics reports:
 - i) Spring Athletics
 - (1) Softball
 - (2) Golf
 - (3) Lacrosse

- h) Culture and Language report:.
 - i) Sugar Bush
 - ii) Round Dance
 - iii) Language and culture Lead
 - iv) Integrating Language and culture into the handbook and discipline

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.



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- 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 Administrative 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.
 - iv) Reductions in positions and spreading responsibilities
- 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 the end of March, but no later than May
 - v) Admin, HR and Finance will have to be thorough, timely and committed
- d) Technology:**
- i) [One to one devices K-12 policy - link](#) Updated with virtual learning piece requested by BIE.
 - (1) Google Classrooms are now mandatory
 - (2) Moving toward 4th-12th grade keeping their devices with them for the remainder of the second semester.
- e) North American Indigenous Games:**
- i) [Link](#)
 - ii) Mary
- f) BIE Complete Programmatic and Fiscal Review, Training and Support**
- i) Weekly trainings with BIE
 - (1) First meeting on 2/26/25
 - (a) Staff met R. Hightower and R. Joe from the BIE
 - (b) Hightower lead training on Google Classroom setup and support.
 - (c) All instructional staff have Google Classrooms set up K-12.
 - (2) Subsequent training will take place on Wednesdays from 3:45-4:15 on a weekly basis.
 - (3) Classroom management part 1 was last week. Part two this week.
 - (4) Certificates will be awarded for PD tracking, but these trainings do not constitute CEUs.



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- ii) BIE will 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) Letter sent on 2/27/25 for S.S.

g) COLA Safety Report:

- i) [Link to stakeholder letter](#)
- ii) Front entrance procedures and metal detector
- iii) Environmental quality detectors
- iv) Instructional periods and hall passess

h) Playground and exterior basketball court:

- i) Working with COLA finance/Maximo, tribal entities and tribal council for funding

- i) Motion to end regular session and enter into Executive:
- j) Second:
- k) Favor:
- l) 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.naigcouncil.com/>
 - ii)
- b) Other business 2:
 - i)

10) Adjournment:

- a) Motion to adjourn: pm
 - i) Patty
 - ii) Seconded:Lew



- b) Adjourned at:
 - i) 9:24pm

Next Regular Board Meeting:

Date: 4/8/2025

Time: 5:00pm

- 1. Next Meeting Agenda items:
 - a.
 - b.

Commence Executive Session:

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Feasance Clause

[Redacted] - Curtis Rogers

Date: 3/18/25

Begin Time: 8:07 pm

End Time: 9:14pm