



# 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."*

## COLA March 2021 Newsletter

Dear Circle of Life Academy,

After much consultation and deliberation, we have petitioned our Regional COVID Support Team (which includes numerous medical professionals and Interim School Board (also our WERBC), to make a change in our current Learning Model. Case numbers and hospitalizations continue to decline in the area and with some changes in safety protocols in our school building, this leads us to believe we can bring students safely back into the buildings face-to-face. Our Interim School Board in unison the Regional Support Team have granted our request and we will be making the following changes.

**Beginning on Monday, March 8, Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade will change to an In-Person Learning Model (Face to Face Instruction) with an option for parents/guardians to have their children remain in the Virtual Learning Model. COLA highly recommends and encourages parents/guardians select our In-Person Learning Model for both cultural and academic success!**

**Please note that Monday, March 1 – Friday, March 5 will be NO INSTRUCTION days. On these days, teachers will be preparing for the change in learning models taking place the following week, so students will have their coursework to access, but teachers will not be available for support.**

In preparation for this change to a full In-Person Learning Model on March 8 there will be four things we need from you to help us prepare:

1. Bussing will be a limiting factor for the school's ability to operate. If you can provide transportation for your child on a consistent basis, it will help us immensely to serve more children. Please contact the school office and let them know your transportation intentions and needs.
2. Each family will be asked to commit to a waiver of liability and hold harmless for COVID-19, and a signed copy of that commitment must be returned to the school for your child to attend in-person (see bright yellow page three (3)).
3. COLA will provide face shields, facemasks, and all other related COVID-19 PPE to every student (see more details below). We will kindly ask that you send your child to school with one of our proper fitting face coverings. If you need one that fits your child, please contact the school to request a mask.
4. If, due to quarantine needs, our school transitions between different Learning Models, there will be a learning break of two or up to five days that our staff will need to prepare for the change. When this occurs, it will likely be on short notice, and we will effectively need to close school for that frame of time. Multiple 'snow days' if you will. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

With a change in Learning Model approaching, here are all the steps COLA has completed to ensure the safest learning environment possible.

**For the students:**

1. All students will start by receiving two (2) age-appropriate face shields and cloth face masks.
2. All students will receive regular education on age-appropriate COVID-19 best practices.

**For the staff:**

1. All staff will start by receiving two (2) adult face shields and cloth face masks.
2. All staff will start by receiving two (2) boxes of rubber gloves, one (1) box of sanitizing wipes and enough plexiglass plastic barriers for all desks within their classrooms and/or office spaces.
3. All staff have been offered bi-weekly COVID-19 testing (i.e., either saliva or nasal swabbing).
4. All staff were offered COVID-19 vaccination starting on January 20, 2021. Thirty-two percent (32%) of our staff are now fully vaccinated with their second dose.
5. All staff will set-up their classrooms and/or office spaces to meet the social distancing mandate.

**For the school building:**

1. The school has installed and implemented a single point of entry to the school building to ensure proper COVID-19 mitigation check-in procedures are followed.
2. The school has installed and implemented a cutting-edge hands-free thermal imaging temperature screening system.
3. The school has installed and implemented state-of-the-art HALO-LED air purification system, which purifies every cubic centimeter of air throughout the entire school building.
4. The school has installed and implemented a front-line video surveillance system, remotely accessible by White Earth Police Department, throughout the entire school building and grounds.
5. The school has installed and implemented hands-free water fill stations throughout the entire school building.
6. The school has installed and implemented free-standing hand sanitizing units throughout the entire school building.
7. The school is in the process of installing and implementing hands-free plumbing throughout the entire school building.
8. The school has designated a rotation of custodial and maintenance team members to daily sanitize, with current best-practice misting sanitation technology, throughout the entire school building.
9. The school has placed poster reminders of social distancing and masking up throughout the entire school building.
10. The school has placed "6 Feet Apart" floor reminders throughout the entire school building.

COLA will continue to monitor local numbers (county-wide and in our schools) where positive COVID-19 cases are concerned on a weekly basis prior to and after the March 8, 2021. While we are in an improved spot where community COVID-19 cases are concerned, we need to remember that we are not "out of the woods" yet. As a community, we need to continue all safety protocols to ensure that our students and staff can remain in our schools.

In partnership,

Superintendent Jenna Leadbetter

**WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND HOLD HARMLESS FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASES  
INCLUDING COVID-19**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian phone: Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

The novel coronavirus ("COVID-19"), has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. While rules, guidance, and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious illness and death does exist. **Circle of Life Academy ("District") cannot completely mitigate the transfer of communicable diseases like COVID-19 especially when involved in school-related and/or extracurricular activities. Participation in school-related and/or extracurricular activities includes possible exposure to and illness, injury, or death from infectious diseases including COVID-19.**

In consideration for providing my child the opportunity to participate in school-related and/or extracurricular activities and any related transportation to and from school-related and/or extracurricular activities, both my child and I voluntarily agree to waive and discharge any and all claims against District and release it from liability for any exposure to or illness or injury from an infectious disease including COVID-19, including claims for any negligent actions of the District or its employees or agents, to the fullest extent allowed by law, for myself, my child, our estates, our heirs, our administrators, our executors, our assignees, and our successors.

I also agree to release, exonerate, discharge and hold harmless the District, its Board of Directors, the individual members thereof, and all officers, agents, employees, volunteers, and representatives from all liability, claims, causes of action, or demands, including attorney fees, fines, fees, or other costs (e.g. medical costs) arising out of any exposure to or illness or injury from an infectious disease including COVID-19, which may result from or in connection with my child's participation in school-related and/or extracurricular activities.

I further certify and represent that I have the legal authority to waive, discharge, release, and hold harmless the released parties on behalf of myself and the above-named student.

**I certify that I have read this document in its entirety and fully understand its contents. In exchange for the opportunity to participate in the school-related and/or extracurricular activities, the above-named student and I freely and voluntarily assume all risks of such hazards and notwithstanding such, release District from all liability for any loss regardless of cause, and claims arising from the student's participation in school-related and/or extracurricular activities.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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## **ALL COLA Educators and Staff have been offered their complete series of the COVID-19 Vaccination**

This made COLA the **first school in the state of Minnesota**, as of 02/17/2021, to offer the FULL COVID-19 Vaccination (meaning both doses of vaccine) to ALL its school's employees! 32% of our staff agreed to take the COVID-19 vaccination and are now fully vaccinated. A BIG MIIGWECH to the sovereign nation of White Earth for supporting Education personnel as essential.



## **COLA's New Parent Committee**

This past month of February, COLA held its first NEW Parent Committee meeting. This incredible team of parents/guardians will meet once a month on all things COLA. Feel free to reach out to any one of these COLA advocates and they'll be sure to bring your questions/concerns to the COLA round table. The next Parent Committee meeting will be held virtually on Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Ashley Bellanger, Chair

Paula Smith, Vice Chair

Andrea Thomson, Secretary

Rachael Lafriniere, General Member

### **What is a Parent Committee?**

WHAT IS IT? Parents/guardians of current students at COLA come together with school personnel and administration, to work together and provide guidance on what kind of education and learning experiences they want their children to have at our school.



**Each week COLA hosts a Virtual Opening and Closing Ceremony for our students!**

Friendly reminder that COLA's amazing Team of Cultural Educators are hosting a remote virtual ZOOM Opening Ceremony, at the beginning of each week, starting at 8:30 AM and a remote virtual ZOOM Closing Ceremony, at the end of each week, starting at 3:30 PM. We LOVE seeing and hearing from our students!



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**At COLA, we all go above and beyond to cover absent team member's duties. We ensure we meet the needs of our students!**



**March Intersession runs March 22<sup>nd</sup> – March 26<sup>th</sup>!**  
**Please contact the main office at 218-983-4180**  
**to sign-up!**



**March 2021 Intersession  
 Activities Schedule HERE**



Time	Monday 03/22/21	Tuesday 03/23/21	Wednesday 03/24/21	Thursday 03/25/21	Friday 03/26/21
8:30 – 9:00 AM	Circle Opening				
10:00 – 12:00 PM	Alicia - Moccasin	Alicia - Moccasin	Alicia - Moccasin	Alicia - Moccasin	Alicia - Moccasin
10:00 – 12:00 PM	Susie - Bowtie Barrettes	Susie - Bowtie Barrettes	Susie - Bowtie Barrettes	Susie - Bowtie Barrettes	Susie - Bowtie Barrettes
9:00 – 12:00 PM	Sugar Bush with Vince Carving with Steve	Sugar Bush with Vince Carving with Steve	Sugar Bush with Vince Carving with Steve	Sugar Bush with Vince Carving with Steve	Sugar Bush with Vince Carving with Steve
12:00 – 12:30 PM	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
12:30 – 3:00 PM	Sugar Bush with Vince Carving with Steve	Sugar Bush with Vince Carving with Steve	Sugar Bush with Vince Carving with Steve	Sugar Bush with Vince Carving with Steve	Sugar Bush with Vince Carving with Steve
3:00 – 4:00 PM					Circle Closing

## Spring 2021 State and Federal Standardized Testing

As of January 27, the Spring 2021 State and Federal Standardized Testing are still required of all public, charter, tribally controlled and Bureau of Indian Education schools for the 2020-2021 School Year. COLA is as prepared as possible with the following update:



English Language Arts,  
Mathematics and Science  
Standardized Testing

April 12, 14, and 16, 2021

May 4 and 6, 2021

Make-up days on May 11 and 13,  
2021

Mandatory on-site only  
Grades 3-8 and 11th

### **Initial Introduction: Parent(s)/Guardian(s) & Community Perception Questionnaires**

The role that education plays today is more significant than in past generations. Creating and maintaining high quality schools and school systems that prepare students for responsible citizenship as well as college and careers in the 21st Century requires involvement and commitment from all stakeholders – parents, educators, school and district leaders, students, community members, legislators, and governing authorities. Experience and research has taught us that engaging communities and families in our educational institutions is essential to their effectiveness. COLA is asking parents, guardians, and community members to complete and return the attached perception surveys at the end of this newsletter!





## Teachers with Big Hearts

During the past month of February, when hearts were on our mind, we took time to reflect on our big-hearted teachers. Teachers are constantly doing everything they can to help their students. We've seen teachers go that extra mile during this challenging year to make sure their students have what they need to continue learning and be successful. Caring for their students is at the heart of teachers, and we celebrate them and all that they have accomplished. Teachers you're the tops!!

Congratulations to our top three schools in each grade band for Lexile growth from January 1 - January 31! Let's see if COLA can take the lead for March!! We know that **2.0 activities per week** with **75% first-try scores** are key to accelerated Lexile gains. We can do it!

Grades 3-5: Duckwater took the lead, followed by Kickapoo, & St. Francis

Grades 6-8: Duckwater led the group followed by Kickapoo, & Oneida Nation

Grades 9-12: Shoshone was the leader followed by **Circle of Life Academy**



## **Quick Review of a SUPER EXCITING UPDATE on Outstanding School-owned Technology Invoices**

As of January 20, 2021, the White Earth Reservation Business Committee recognized this unprecedented time of hardship and approved with funding the replacement cost of all outstanding school-owned lost, missing, or stolen technology spanning between the specific months of March 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020. This will include reimbursement to families who paid their outstanding invoices between March 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020. Moving forward, as of January 1, 2021, we kindly ask families to work with the school to pay any future invoices for lost, missing or stolen technology.

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## **Quick Review of COLA's K-12 Student Recognition for Consistent Attendance and Completed Work**

COLA's K-12 educators are tracking student attendance and work completed! Every student, regardless of grade, who shows good attendance and/or completes their work is now receiving an additional award via our School Bus home deliveries! The Student Recognition Squad would like to recognize 26 students who received a reward for attending class and completing their work last week.

Thank you, students, for being COLA STRONG!

## **Need Internet Access?**

COLA continues to seek funds and partnerships to positively address the remote Distance Learning needs of our students, families, and staff during this unprecedented time. If you have limited or zero internet connectivity at your home, please let your teacher know as soon as possible or call COLA at 218-983-4180.



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## **Update on COLA School Gear for ALL Students!**

This past February 2021, COLA gave our school gear a much-needed update and we provided each student with a new wardrobe boost to show their #WarriorPride! We learned this wasn't without some hiccups, so this March 2021 all students will receive BOTH a t-shirt and sweatshirt! If you have any questions/concerns or need to exchange for a different size, please contact the following:

Office Coordinator, Heidi Harstad at:  
218-983-4180  
heidi.harstad@col.pvt.k12.mn.us

## **Can YOU spot the Principals or Superintendent in class?**

Make sure you are attending all your classes! Keep your eyes open for the Principals or Superintendent. Catch them in your class and you will win a special prize! Special prizes will be sent home snail mail style to students who spot them in class!

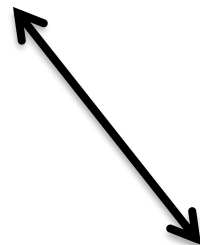


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## **A friendly reminder from your COLA Bus Drivers**

This is friendly reminder to set out your heavy-duty red storage bins every day for our Distance Learner deliveries! With winter weather here, we secured extra heavy-duty red storage bins to drop off food or school items. If you need another heavy-duty red storage bin, please call COLA at 218-983-4180. We ask that you ensure these bins are visible to the bus drivers and placed away from snowplows.

Chi-miigwech,  
Your Bus Drivers



## A message from K-12 Dean of Students, Mike Bunker

aaniin gikinoo'amawaagan dash inawemaagan, giinawind ombendam ziigwaan  
bagami-ayaa wayiiba

Hello Students and Relatives, we are hopeful that spring is coming soon.

When zhaawani-noodin the warming winds come from the south and Biboon Winter loosens its grip on us we will want to get out and see our friends and families again. Remember, just because the COVID-19 numbers are down, doesn't mean we aren't out of the woods just yet.

Please wash your hands, wear your masks, and socially distance yourselves from others when out in public.

Together we will get through this pandemic,  
Mike Bunker

### Wind Sound

Noodin nd'noondaan nanagoodinong *I hear the wind sometimes*

Pii "ziiziigwaa" nagamowaad zhingwag *When the pines sing "ziiziigwaa"*

Pii shkwandamag mawiiwaad *When the doors cry*

Pii baapagishkaawaad waasechiganag *When the windows shake*

Miidash gwekaanimad, boonaanimad nengatch piitaanimad *Then the wind shifts, lets up and slows  
to a new speed*

Noongwa jiiisakinini da shkitoon weweni jiiisakaanke *Now the tent shaker can carefully build a tent*

Miidash maajigaaskanozwaad noodinong *And the wordless whispers begin in the wind*

Gekaajigba wiindamaaiyangidwa bimaadiziig ezhi-wiindeying *The old ones tell us to live as we are  
named*

Miikojiinangidwa debwemigad nikanananig *And we feel their wisdom in our bones*

Giishpin bizindaanmaad *If we listen to the wind*

## **A message from Assistant Dean of Students, Loretta Solmon**

Boozhoo Everyone,

Hope you are all staying safe and enjoying this nice weather. Looking forward to seeing you all soon. Spring is just around the corner that means warmer days and getting out more outdoors and having fun.

Cannot wait to see you,  
Loretta Solmon

## **A message from Assistant Principal, David Perry**

Yay! Warm weather is on the way. I surely hope that the worst of the winter weather is behind us and that Spring is just around the corner. I know that the warm weather will be welcomed by everyone. Spring is a busy time for us here at COLA as we get ready for many spring events that are coming up such as MCA assessments, Spring Intersession, professional development, and graduation. But our biggest hope is that we see our students soon!

Chi-miigwech and be well,  
David Perry

## **A message from K-12 Principal, Lynda Wadena**

Aaniin Students and Families.

I hope everyone is well and healthy. Continue to attend your classes and contact your teachers if you have any questions or concerns. Third quarter ends on March 19, so get your work turned in. March 22 to 26 is Spring Intersession. See the schedule.

Chi-miigwech and excited to see you,  
Lynda Wadena



## Food is Available so Your Kids Can Focus on Learning

The Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT) 2020-21 school year benefits will be coming soon! P-EBT is a temporary food benefit to families with children who would have received free and reduced-price meals if schools were open.

### New!

There is no separate P-EBT application needed this year. To qualify for P-EBT, your child must be:

- Enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)  
OR
- Approved for free or reduced-price school meals or attend a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) school  
AND
- In a hybrid- or distance-learning format for the majority of the month.

### Take action before February 28, 2021

- ✓ If you are already receiving no-cost school meals, call the school to find out if it is a Community Eligibility Provision school.
- ✓ Apply for free and reduced-priced school meals at all schools your children attend by contacting the schools.
- ✓ Make sure the school has your current address and contact information to prevent any delays.
- ✓ If you are on SNAP, MFIP or Tribal TANF and your school has your correct contact information, you do not need to do anything.

Once you have taken these actions, your benefits will be determined by the Minnesota Department of Education based on your school's distance- or hybrid-learning days. Benefits will begin to arrive in late March.

### Have questions?

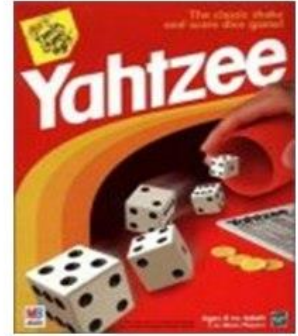
The P-EBT Hotline for 2020-21 will be taking calls in early March!

### Stay informed

Visit the [Minnesota Department of Human Services P-EBT](#) webpage for the latest information and check out the frequently asked questions.



# Yaatzii



gabagaanhs	die		
gabagaanhsak	dice		
Aasna g'nagajitoo.	You're really good. (lucky)		
Ndonagajitoo.	I'm really good. (lucky)		
Maajaan <u>(niizh)</u> !	Come on <u>(two)</u> !		
Aambe <u>(niizh)</u> !	Come on <u>(two)</u> !		
Niintam.	My turn.	Pagish gabagaanhs.	Roll (throw) the die.
Giintam.	Your turn.	Pagish gabagaanhsak.	Roll (throw) the dice.
Wiintam.	Her or his turn.	Pagish miinwa.	Roll (throw) again.
Kiidebinaan.	You got it.	Shkwanan (Shkwash) wa.	Keep that.
Ngiidebinaan.	I got it.	Shkwanan (Shkwash) gewe.	Keep those.
		Ngashkwanaan maaba.	I'll keep this.
		Ngashkwanaak gwanda.	I'll keep these.
		Wenesh waayaamaan?	What do I want?
		Wenesh waayaaman?	What do you want?
		Wenesh waayaamat?	What does she/he want?
		Wenesh meneziaanh?	What do I need?
		Wenesh meneziyin?	What do you need?
		Wenesh menezid?	What does she/he need?
		Wenesh gezhichigeyaanh?	What should I do?
		Wenesh waazhichigeyin?	What will you do?
		Zhaazhigo ndaa'aan _____.	I already have _____.
		Zhaazhigo gdaa'aan _____.	You already have _____.
		Niizhiing nwiigijitoo.	I have two tries (chances).
		Ngodiing nwiigijitoo.	I have one try (chance).
		Geyaabi ngodiing.	Once more.
		Kina gindan. / Kina gim.	Count all of them.
		Gindaasan. / Gim.	Count.
		Aaniish mnik?	How many?
		Giziibii'an gego.	Cross something out.
		Ngagiziibii'aan maanda.	I'll cross this out.



	Bezhik	1
	Niizh	2
	Nswe	3
	Niiwin	4
	Naanan	5
	Ngodwaaswe	6
	Niizhwaaswe	7
	Nishwaaswe	8
	Zhaangsw	9
	Mdaaswe	10
	Mdaaswe shi Bezhik	11
	Mdaaswe shi Niizh	12
	Mdaaswe shi Nswe	13
	Mdaaswe shi Niiwin	14
	Mdaaswe shi Naanan	15
	Mdaaswe shi Ngodwaaswe	16
	Mdaaswe shi Niizhwaaswe	17
	Mdaaswe shi Nishwaaswe	18
	Mdaaswe shi Zhaangsw	19
	Niizhtana	20
	Niizhtana shi Naanan	25
	Nsemtana	30
	Niimtana	40
	Naanmitana	50
	Ngodwaak	100





# ***Yaatzii*** Vocabulary from Score Sheet

noozwin	nooz win	name
shpimiing	shpi miing	upward, top <i>portion</i>
ezhi-gindaasan	e zhi gin daa san	count them
bezhik	be zhik	one
niizh	niizh	two
nswe	n swe	three
niiwin	nii win	four
naanan	naa nan	five
ngodwaaswe	n go dwaaswe	six
kina	ki na	all
kina gim	ki na gim	count them all
giishpin washme	giish pin wash me	If it is more than
kina shpimiing	ki na shpimiing	all from the top <i>portion</i>
dabashish	da ba shish	below, bottom <i>portion</i>
nswe naasaap	n swe naa saap	three of a kind
kina gim	ki na gim	add them all, count them all up
niiwin naasaap	nii win naa saap	four of a kind
kchingwadgamik	k chi n gwad ga mik	full house
niizhtana sha naanan	niizh ta na sha naa nan	twenty-five ( <i>points</i> )
egaachiing	e gaa chiing	small (small <i>straight</i> )
nsemtana	n sem ta na	thirty ( <i>points</i> )
michaak	mi chaak	large (large <i>straight</i> )
niimtana	niim ta na	forty ( <i>points</i> )
naanan naasaap	naa nan naa saap	five of a kind, a Yaatzii
naanmitana	naan mi ta na	fifty ( <i>points</i> )
Naanita	naa ni ta	all five together ( <i>Chance</i> )
naanan naasaap geyaabi	naa nan naa saap ge yaa bi	yet another (yaatzii) five of a kind
ngodwaak	n go dwaak	one hundred ( <i>points</i> )
kina dabashish	ki na da ba shish	all from the bottom <i>portion</i>
kina shpimiing	ki na shpi miing	all from the top <i>portion</i>
kina maamwi	ki na maam wi	all altogether



## Phrases in Ojibwe

Computer - **Mazinibikiwebinigan**

Look here - **Nashke Omaa**

I'm here - **Omaa indayaa**

They or S/he isn't here - **Gaawiin Omaa Ayaasii**

Is everyone here? - **Omaa na ayaa gakina awiya**

They or S/he are coming - **Wii-pi-izhaa**

Thank you for coming - **Miigwech bi-izhaayeg**

We can see you - **Gidaa-waabamigo**

Turn your camera off - **Aatebidoon**

Turn camera on - **Maadatesewebinige**

We can hear you - **Gidaa-noondaago**

Can you hear me? - **Ginoondaw na?**

Yes I hear you - **Eya' Ginoondoan**

I can't hear you - **Gaawiin ginoondoosinoon**

You're muted/not heard - **Ginoondaagoosii/Ganabaj**

Unmute /turn volume up - **Ombwewesidoon**

Your turn - **Giinitam**

Listen up - **Bizindan Daga**

Say it again - **Ikidon miinawaa**

Can you share screen? - **Gidaa-waabanda'iwe na?**

Sharing screen - **Waabanda'iweng**

Can you all see what I'm showing? - **Giwaabandaanaawaa na wayaabanda'inagog?**

I'll schedule a meeting - **Ninga-ozhitoon ganoonidiwin/maawanji'idiwin**

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Translations from Ojibwe Language Table on Facebook - Paswe'aatigook, Giniw Giizhig, Hannah Orié & Peradice Bebaamaash





COLA K-12 Music Teacher (1 Position Available)

COLA Industrial Technology Teacher (1 Position Available)

COLA EBD Special Education Teacher (1 Position Available)

COLA Education Technology Coordinator (1 Position Available)

COLA MARSS and Data Coordinator (1 Position Available)

COLA Maintenance / Custodians (2 Positions Available)

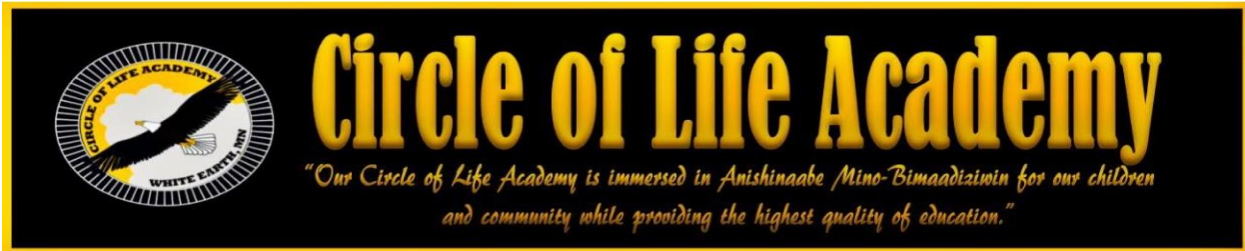
COLA Bus Driver (1 Position Available)

COLA Substitute Bus Drivers (Multiple Positions Available)

COLA Substitute Teachers (Multiple Positions Available)

Please call White Earth Tribal Human Resources at (218) 983-4646 to inquire about open positions!

If you have not signed and returned the following **Student Use of Technology Agreement and Release of Liability Form**, please read through it here, sign the **red outlined "PLEASE RETURN"** page and return to COLA.



## **Student Use of Technology Agreement and Release of Liability Form**

The COLA authorizes students to use technology owned or otherwise provided by the school as necessary for instructional purposes. The use of school technology is a privilege permitted at the school's discretion and is subject to the conditions and restrictions set forth in applicable Board policies, administrative regulations, and this Acceptable Use Agreement.

The school reserves the right to suspend access at any time, without notice, for any reason. The school expects all students to use technology responsibly in order to avoid potential problems and liability. The school may place reasonable restrictions on the sites, material, and/or information that students may access through the system.

Each student who is authorized to use school technology and his/her parent/guardian shall sign this Acceptable Use Agreement as an indication that they have read and understand the agreement.

### **Definitions**

School technology includes, but is not limited to, computers, the school's computer network including servers and wireless computer networking technology (Wi-Fi), the Internet, email, USB drives, wireless access points (routers), tablet computers, smartphones and smart devices, telephones, cellular telephones, personal digital assistants, pagers, MP3 players, wearable technology, any wireless communication device including emergency radios, and/or future technological innovations, whether accessed on or off site or through school-owned or personally owned equipment or devices.

### **Student Obligations and Responsibilities**

Students are expected to use school technology safely, responsibly, and for educational purposes only. The student in whose name school technology is issued is responsible for its proper use at all times. Students shall not share their assigned online services account information, passwords, or other information used for identification and authorization purposes, and shall use the system only under the account to which they have been assigned.

Students are prohibited from using school technology for improper purposes, including, but not limited to, use of school technology to:

1. Access, post, display, or otherwise use material that is discriminatory, libelous, defamatory, obscene, sexually explicit, or disruptive.
2. Bully, harass, intimidate, or threaten other students, staff, or other individuals ("cyberbullying").

3. Disclose, use, or disseminate personal identification information (such as name, address, telephone number, Social Security number, or other personal information) of another student, staff member, or other person with the intent to threaten, intimidate, harass, or ridicule that person.
4. Infringe on copyright, license, trademark, patent, or other intellectual property rights.
5. Intentionally disrupt or harm school technology or other school operations (such as destroying school equipment, placing a virus on school computers, adding or removing a computer program without permission from teacher or other school personnel, changing settings on shared computers).
6. Install unauthorized software.
7. "Hack" into the system to manipulate data of the school or other users.
8. Engage in or promote any practice that is unethical or violates any law or Board policy, administrative regulation, or school practice.

### **Privacy**

Since the use of school technology is intended for educational purposes, students shall not have any expectation of privacy in any use of school technology.

The school reserves the right to monitor and record all use of school technology, including, but not limited to, access to the Internet or social media, communications sent or received from school technology, or other uses. Such monitoring/recording may occur at any time without prior notice for any legal purposes including, but not limited to, record retention and distribution and/or investigation of improper, illegal, or prohibited activity. Students should be aware that, in most instances, their use of school technology (such as web searches and emails) cannot be erased or deleted.

All passwords created for or used on any school technology are the sole property of the school. The creation or use of a password by a student on school technology does not create a reasonable expectation of privacy.

### **Personally Owned Devices**

If a student uses a personally owned device to access school technology, he/she shall abide by all applicable Board policies, administrative regulations, and this Acceptable Use Agreement. Any such use of a personally owned device may subject the contents of the device and any communications sent or received on the device to disclosure pursuant to a lawful subpoena or public records request.

### **Reporting**

If a student becomes aware of any security problem (such as any compromise of the confidentiality of any login or account information) or misuse of school technology, he/she shall immediately report such information to the teacher or other school personnel.

### **Consequences for Violation**

Violations of the law, Board policy, or this agreement may result in revocation of a student's access to school technology and/or discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion. In addition, violations of the law, Board policy, or this agreement may be reported to law enforcement agencies as appropriate.

**PLEASE RETURN**

**Student Acknowledgment**

I have received, read, understand, and agree to abide by this Student Use of Technology Agreement and Release of Liability Form and other applicable laws and school policies and regulations governing the use of school technology. I understand that there is no expectation of privacy when using school technology. I further understand that any violation may result in loss of user privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Parent or Legal Guardian Acknowledgment**

If the student is under 18 years of age, a parent/guardian must also read and sign the agreement. As the parent/guardian of the above-named student, I have read, understand, and agree that my child shall comply with the terms of the Acceptable Use Agreement. By signing this Agreement, I give permission for my child to use school technology and/or to access the school's computer network and the Internet. I understand that, despite the school's best efforts, it is impossible for the school to restrict access to all offensive and controversial materials. I agree to release from liability, indemnify, and hold harmless the school, school, and school personnel against all claims, damages, and costs that may result from my child's use of school technology or the failure of any technology protection measures used by the school. Further, I accept full responsibility for supervision of my child's use of his/her access account if and when such access is not in the school setting.

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you have specific questions or concerns regarding your child's education, please contact one of your building Principals as follows:**

K-12 Principal, Lynda Wadena  
Office: 218-983-4180  
Work Cell: 218-850-8876

Assistant K-12 Principal, David Perry  
Office: 218-983-4180  
Work Cell: 612-578-6141

**If you have specific questions or concerns regarding Circle of Life Academy, please contact the School Superintendent as follows:**

Superintendent, Jenna Leadbetter  
Office: 218-983-4180  
Work Cell: 218-850-8677

**If you have other questions or concerns:**

**K-12 Cultural Coordination**

- Principal, Lynda Wadena
- Teacher of Anishinaabe, Vince Olson
- Teacher of Anishinaabe, Susie Ballot

**K-12 Special Education Coordination**

- Assistant Principal, David Perry

**K-12 Curriculum / Instruction Coordination**

- Principal, Lynda Wadena
- Assistant Principal, David Perry

**K-12 Technology Coordination**

- Superintendent, Jenna Leadbetter
- High School Teacher, John DeJong
- High School Teacher, Wanda Goodwin

**K-12 School Assessment Coordination**

- Principal, Lynda Wadena
- Assistant Principal, David Perry

**K-12 Transcripts / Graduation Coordination**

- Principal, Lynda Wadena
- High School Counselor, Matt Meyer

**K-12 Attendance / Truancy Coordination**

- Principal, Lynda Wadena
- Assistant Principal, David Perry
- Dean of Students, Mike Bunker
- Assistant Dean of Students, Loretta Solmon

**COVID-19 Coordination**

- Dean of Students, Mike Bunker
- Superintendent, Jenna Leadbetter

**K-12 Student Support / Mental Health / Wellness Coordination**

- High School Counselor, Matt Meyer
- K-8 School Counselor, Sheila McLeod
- K-12 Social Worker, WillyAnn Heisler-Hoban
- K-12 Principal, Lynda Wadena

**K-12 Food Service Coordination**

- Head Cook, Grace Jackson
- Business Manager, Carol Zortman

**Transportation Coordinator**

- Transportation Coordinator, Matt Jensen

**Business / Finance Coordination**

- Business Manager, Carol Zortman
- Business Coordinator, Andrea Thompson

**Facilities Coordination**

- Facilities Manager, Darwin Shaugabay

**All Other**

- Superintendent, Jenna Leadbetter

**New information continues to come out as we progress through this school year. Changes and modifications may need to be made to our plans as situations, experiences, and challenges arise.**

**We thank you for your continued trust and support as we navigate these interesting times. Throughout history and into the future, Circle of Life Academy will continue to put children and families first.**



## COLA Community Perception Questionnaire

We are trying to improve our school to ensure students, parents and community members are partners in our school improvement process. The questions that we are going to ask you will help us identify areas that we can improve to be a place you would send your child/niece/nephew or grandchild to be educated. Your answers are anonymous. Thank you for sharing your thoughts.

	<b>strongly disagree</b>	<b>disagree</b>	<b>agree</b>	<b>strongly agree</b>
Our school provides a safe and orderly environment for learning.				
School-sponsored activities are open to members of the community.				
School and community partnerships exist to provide a network of support for our students				
Discipline in the school is administered fairly and appropriately.				
Community members feel welcome at our school.				
School staff (Administrator, teachers, bus drivers, food service, custodians) are courteous?				
The Board of Education members listen to and are responsive to parents and community.				
The school's policies and programs reflect, respect, and value the diversity of the families in the community.				
Teachers and parents work together closely in this school toward mutually accepted educational goals.				
Our school provides sufficient opportunities for community involvement.				
The school's values reflect the values of the community				
The school promotes the social and emotional development of students				
Parents/caregivers in our community feel they can talk to and be supported by the school staff if they have any concerns.				
The school recognizes the indicators for when children may need assistance in meeting their social or emotional needs.				
The school's culture reflects the culture of the community.				

## COLA Parent/Guardian Involvement Feedback Questionnaire

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Our school is a Title I school, and as the parent/guardian of a child attending a Title I school you are an important part of the team. Your input is vital in planning and implementation of the parent involvement program and activities in our school. The focus of all Title I programs is to help students to meet the same high academic achievement standards expected of all children, regardless of their socioeconomic status and background. This feedback is confidential and will be used to assist us with future planning for parental involvement activities and events at our school. We appreciate your feedback and thank you for taking the time to complete this form.

	Yes	No	Unsure
<b>Did your child's school provide parents with opportunities to share feedback and ideas regarding the school's parental involvement program and activities?</b>			
<b>Did you attend a meeting this school year where the goals and activities of the Title I program were discussed with parents?</b>			
<b>Have you been given opportunities to provide input into the school improvement plan?</b>			
<b>Are you aware of what your child is expected to understand in all subject areas?</b>			
<b>Are you aware of opportunities to volunteer at your child's school?</b>			

**Please check the box**

**How would you like to see the parental involvement funds used at your school?** (Check all that apply)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent workshops                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Technology resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational materials for parent use | Other: _____                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent Liaison                       |   |

**What would help you participate more in decision making and the overall academic achievement of your child's school?** (Check all that apply)

- More encouragement from the school to get involved
  - More information on how to get involved
  - More information about school issues to be addressed
  - More opportunities to share my opinion about school issues
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**How would you prefer to receive information from your child's school?** (Check all that apply)

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Letters/flyer, etc. sent home with students | <input type="checkbox"/> Email        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Phone Call                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Text message                                | Other: _____                          |

Which of the following would enable you to participate in parent meetings and school activities? (Check all that apply)

- Morning meetings (9:00am – 12:00 noon)
- Evening meetings (5:30 pm- 8:00 pm)
- Weekend meetings
- Childcare assistance
- Access to information online

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

For each activity listed below, please check the box that best describes your opinion.

Parental Involvement Activity	Not valuable	Little value	Valuable	Very valuable	Did not participate
Culture Night					
Literacy Night					
Math Night					
Open House Night					
Parent- Teacher Conferences					
Science Night					
Technology Night					
Other:					

How often does your teacher communicate with you about your child’s progress?

- Never
- weekly or more
- every few months
- once a year

How often do you meet in person with or communicate with your child’s teacher(s)?

- Never
- weekly or more
- every few months
- once a year

In the past year, how often did you attend a parent meeting or event to help you work with your child to do better in school?

- Never
- weekly or more
- every few months
- once a year

How often do you work with your child on homework?

- Never
- weekly or more
- every few months
- once a year

How well does school leadership foster an environment in which staff, parents and the community work together to improve student achievement?

- Not well
- Minimally well
- Quite well
- Extremely well

How well do you feel the school creates a welcoming environment for parents?

- Not well
- Minimally well
- Quite well
- Extremely well

Please indicate whether you received the following information from your child's school.

	Received and very helpful	Received, but not helpful	Definitely did not receive	Uncertain
Information about what the school teaches your child				
Information on student assessments (PARCC, NWEA MAP, WIDA, etc.)				
What the scores on student assessments means to your child				
How to keep track of your child's academic progress				
Information used to determine whether your child is on track for promotion to the next grade level				
How you can work with teachers to help your child in school				
What programs the school offers for your child				
Information about parent rights, student assistance teams, or academic improvement plans				

How often does school staff report positive achievement about my child's character or academic performance?(circle one)

Never                  weekly or more                  every few months                  once a year

Staff seeks my guidance about how to help my child succeed at school and in the community? (circle one)

Yes                  no                  unsure

School staff are familiar with our community history and culture. (circle one)

Yes                  No                  unsure

I feel I can talk to and be supported by school staff if I have any concerns. (circle one)

Yes                  No                  unsure

The school promotes the social and emotional development of my child. (circle one)

Yes                  No                  unsure

Any other comments you would like to share?

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Thank you for taking the time to complete this very important feedback form to help us improve your child's school.