



Todd County School Board Election

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

MISSION—The Todd County School Board election is scheduled for Tuesday, June 3, 2025. You may cast your vote at your regular polling place.

The Todd County School Board members include Melissa Whipple (President), Tim Cournoyer (Vice-President), Deb Boyd, Michelle Allen and Amanda Riley.

Incumbents Debra Boyd and Melissa Whipple are seeking re-election. Other candidates are Shawn Bordeaux, Steve Her Many Horses, Scott Herman, Chris Rahn, Mark Iyotte Jr., Heather Frederick and Linda Bordeaux.

If you have questions about your eligibility to vote or to find out where your polling place is please call the Todd County Auditor at (605) 842-3727. Your vote will make a difference for our students.

Please make an effort to get out and vote for the future of our schools!



The Effects of Chronic Absenteeism

By Bill Carlson
Assistant Principal,
Hutchinson Middle School,
Minnesota

Learning builds from day to day. Lesson plans are built around a progression in mastering concepts and information. It is not possible for a student to do his/her best if they are not in school to manage class work, take notes and to interact with educators and student peers regarding course curriculum.

When a student misses multiple days of school it is called chronic absenteeism. Chronic absenteeism is defined as missing 10% of the school year. In practical terms that translates to 6 days in a trimester or 18 days in a school year; this includes both excused and unexcused absences. It is a routine practice for parents/guardians to receive a cautionary letter or phone call when their student's absenteeism approaches 10%. Often times these same parents/guardians question the validity of these notifications if their student has been absent due to chronic illness, vacation, or family emergency. However, it is not why a student is absent, but how much a student is absent that really matters. Chronic absenteeism not only affects student

achievement, it can affect a students' attitude and behavior at school. When a student has attendance issues, achievement issues and behavior issues it increases their risk of dropping out of school.

It is helpful for schools to have clear policies and procedures on how to respond to chronic absenteeism and to practice consistent communication with students, parents and county agencies when concerns arise. Through the data that schools are required to collect on absenteeism we are able to assist students and their families improving chronic absenteeism by promptly addressing it. Schools can also help students improve attendance through education about the effect of chronic absenteeism and individualized goal setting.

Parents can help improve their child's attendance by working with the school to identify why their child is missing school, to address underlying concerns and to establish concrete expectations of attending school and not to negotiate away from these expectations. Satisfying the basic needs of a good night's sleep, a proper breakfast and getting to school on time can greatly

impact a child's attendance. Whenever possible, non-urgent medical appointments should be scheduled when school is not in session.

Students with good homework habits are less likely to miss school and if they do miss school, they are more likely to complete makeup work in a timely fashion. Students who are disorganized; unsure of their assignment responsibilities and or have numerous outstanding assignments are more likely to become causality to chronic absenteeism.

Helping students understand that consistently attending school improves achievement and gives those increased opportunities and choices when they graduate falls squarely on all of our shoulders. Attending school on a regular basis does matter. Attendance is a key driver in a student's achievement in the classroom, standardized test scores, high school graduation, and college entrance. Chronic absenteeism is a problem that can be remedied if addressed by all responsible parties: the student, the parent/guardian, the school, and the community.
<https://tinyurl.com/r7trchv9>



2025 Summer Food Program

JUNE 9 - JULY 25

BREAKFAST 9-10AM

LUNCH 12-1PM

LOCATIONS

AGES

1-18

- **Todd County Middle School**
- **Rosebud Elementary**
- **Spring Creek Elementary**
- **He Dog Elementary**

All children from 1-18 years old are invited to participate in the Summer Food Service Program at no charge. Just show up to a site, sign-in and eat!

TCSD Summer Food Service Program Rules:

- Be respectful of staff and building
- Participants must take all meal components offered. This is to include milk.
- No outside food will be permitted
- Participants must sign-in each day, for both breakfast and lunch to receive a meal
- No adult meals (with the exception of disabled adults 19 years or older)
- No seconds.
- Food served must be consumed on-site. No exceptions.

**THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL
OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.**

School Board Election August 21, 2025



Sicangu Oyate Ho, Inc.

St. Francis Indian School

PO BOX 379 • 502 E. WARRIOR DRIVE • ST. FRANCIS, SOUTH DAKOTA 57572

NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD VACANCIES

Two (2) vacancies, Two (2) Three-year terms open

In accordance with applicable Sicangu Oyate Ho, Inc., (SOH), Bylaws and the Rosebud Sioux Tribal Resolution 07-126 as amended, notice is hereby given that a tribal school board election will be held on August 21, 2025, in conjunction with the RST General Elections in all communities of the Rosebud Sioux Reservation. Two (2) vacancies, two (2) three-year terms, on its Board of Directors, which serves as a Board of Education for St. Francis Indian School (SFIS), St. Francis, SD, are open for nomination.

Eligible candidates must file a nominating affidavit for vacancies for school board membership at St. Francis Indian School in the office of the Executive Assistant, located in the Grueter Hall Building between the hours of 8:00 a.m., and 4:00 p.m., CST, beginning June 2, 2025, and not later than the 27th day of June, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. The nominating affidavit must be accompanied by a Bureau of Indian Affairs Census or Abstract signed by the appropriate government official or Tribal Certificate of Enrollment signed by the appropriate tribal official.

All candidates for the Board of Directors shall be eligible as a candidate for the board of directors and to serve as a member of the board of directors if the candidate meets the following criteria:

- a. The nominating affidavit must be accompanied by a Bureau of Indian Affairs Census or Abstract signed by the appropriate government official or Tribal Certificate of Enrollment signed by the appropriate tribal official.;
- b. The candidate is at minimum eighteen (18) years of age on or before the filing deadline. No student is eligible for the Board of Directors other than the student body representative.;
- c. Is a resident of the Rosebud Sioux Indian Reservation and has been for a minimum of one (1) year prior to the filing deadline.;
- d. Submit to a Federal, State, and Local background check conducted by Saint Francis Indian School or their designee and the background investigation showing no major crimes, which shall be considered any crime with a potential penalty of one (1) year or more incarceration in any jurisdiction, no criminal history of child abuse/neglect or sexual misconduct, and no criminal history of any crime involving embezzlement or dishonesty.;
- e. Submit to a drug test by St. Francis Indian School and that it shall report no drugs or intoxicants in system (other than those prescribed by a medical provider).;
- f. Payment of the filing fee which includes expenses for drug testing and background investigations and adjudicator, the filing fee is \$150.00, and must accompany the affidavit and must be paid by a cashier's check or money order payable to Sicangu Oyate Ho, Inc., St. Francis Indian School.;
- g. Has no outstanding balances or money owed to Saint Francis Indian School by the filing deadline.

Tenure Of Office: two (2) three-year terms.

Publ. May 21, 28, and June 4, 11, and 18, 2025



Lakota Tiwahe Center



The Lakota Tiwahe Center provides Child Find for early identification, parent training and developmental screening for all children born on the Rosebud reservation. Screening for physical and/or developmental delays is provided for children who are at least one month old.

The Lakota Tiwahe Center also provides early intervention services to families of infants and toddlers with developmental delays and/or disabilities. Our primary goal is to provide community education which may decrease the number of children born with developmental delays and/or disabilities.

The Lakota Tiwahe Center also advocates to decrease the number of children born to teenage mothers. We understand that teenagers are at a greater risk of having babies born with defects and developmental delays due to consumption of alcohol and/or drugs, as well as the lack of prenatal care.

We are located on the Soldier Creek Road at the Rosebud Sicangu Tribal Education Department, 521 BIA 9 in Rosebud, SD. Please call the Lakota Tiwahe Center at 605-747-4145.

2025 Summer Food

June 2, 2025 - August 1, 2025



Ages 1 year old - 18 years old eat for Free
Breakfast 8:00am - 9:00am
Lunch 12 Noon - 1:00pm
Monday - Friday

Any Questions call: Karin Kills In Water 747-2297

Over 18 years old can purchase breakfast for \$4.00 and Lunch for \$5.50

Any person with a disability maybe allowed meals at no charge.

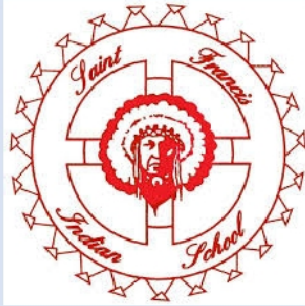


50 Phrases to say to your children

I love you.
I'm proud of you.
You are enough.
You make me happy.
I believe in you.
Thank you.
I'm here for you.
You are brave.
You are kind.
Mistakes are okay.
I trust you.
You can do hard things.
You're so creative.
You're unique.
I forgive you.
Let's figure it out together.
Your feelings matter.
I hear you.
You make a difference.
I'm sorry.
You are strong.
You're important.
You can ask for help.
I enjoy spending time with you.
You're thoughtful.

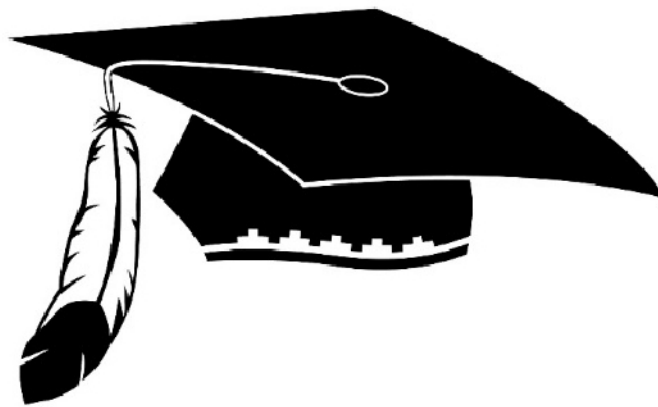
Never give up.
You're growing every day.
Your ideas are great.
You're fun to be around.
You are capable.
It's okay to rest.
You're a great friend.
You're a good listener,
I'm learning from you.
You're adventurous.
You brighten my day.
You're so helpful.
You can achieve great things.
I admire your curiosity.
You're generous.
I respect you.
You're a great problem-solver.
You are thoughtful.
You can always come to me.
You're making progress.
I'm lucky to have you.
Your dreams matter.
I love how you think.
You are worthy.
You're my favorite part of the day.





**The Rosebud Sioux Tribe Education Department
extends our congratulations to all Senior and 8th
grade graduates. We encourage you to continue
your education.**

***St. Francis Indian School
Todd County High School
White River High School
Winner High School***



**The Rosebud Sioux Tribe Education Department
also commends our college graduates for your
academic achievements. Our Sicangu students
are the pride of our nation!**

988 | SUICIDE & CRISIS
LIFELINE



Rosebud Sicangu Tribe Education Department
521 BIA 9—PO Box 40
Rosebud SD 57570-0040
Fax: 605-747-5479

<https://www.rst-education-department.com/>

Email: rsted.mediaspecialist@rst-nsn.gov

RST Education Building
605-747-2833

Higher Education Program
605-747-2375

Lakota Tiwahe Center
605-747-4145

