

Dear Crazy Horse School Families, Community Members and Staff,

It's hard to believe that our summer is more than half over and the 2024-25 school year will begin in 4 weeks. The first day for staff is Monday, August 5 and the first day for students is Monday, August 12.

Concerns about students losing ground academically during summer break has long been discussed and studied. This year, rather than starting our normal 3-week summer school immediately after the 2023-24 school year ended, we opted to wait until mid-summer to provide our students with an academic "jump start" shortly before the new school year begins. Summer classes started Monday, July 8 and will continue until Thursday, July 25. Classes run from 9:00-2:00, Monday through Thursday, providing academic learning opportunities in the morning and activity-based events in the afternoon. High school students are able to use this time to complete Credit Recovery assignments to help them stay on track to graduate with their peers.

Our 2024-25 school calendar has just recently been approved by the OST Tribal Education Committee. I have attached a copy of the calendar with this letter. Students will attend full days of instruction on Monday-Thursday. At least two Fridays per month, students will attend a half-day of school, similar to prior Friday schedules. The afternoon of these ½ day Fridays are dedicated to professional development and training days for staff. The other Fridays per month there will be no school for students or instructaional staff. If there is a holiday during the week, we will have a full day of school on Friday. We are required by the BIE to have 970 hours of instructional time each year. This calendar provides us with 1081 hours of instructional time, which far exceeds the BIE requirement. We will use these "extra hours" to compensate for any administrative leave or weather-related time when school is not in session. We have also set aside three days for Parent-Teacher Conferences and eight monthly Parent Nights.

This has been a busy summer for all of our staff. Our maintenance crew has been busy updating and repairing areas of the school, the grounds, and housing. Custodial staff continues to work on summer projects and preparing the school for the new year. Food service staff has worked throughout the summer during the three-week staff training and now during summer school. There is additional work in the kitchen that also needs to be completed by outside constructors. Project AWARE and NYCP staff were on board until the end of June and were busy teaching classes and transporting students to multiple educational activities, field trips, and visits to various sacred sites. Business office staff have been busy with all of the fiscal year close-out requirements and preparing for the new year. The strategic planning committee has been working on finalizing a document to be distributed to parents, guardians and community members for additional input. The school board will be reviewing and updating policies. Your input in these two endeavors is greatly encouraged and appreciated. We also hosted a three-week "boot camp" for all instructional staff in June where staff were able to earn four college credit hours or CEUs. Many staff members have also attended other trainings throughout the summer. Perhaps the best part has been helping with the 4th of July activities and that the swimming pool is open again. We have children and adults enjoying it every day that it is open!

Planning for the upcoming year continues to be high on our priority list. We will be hosting Student Enrollment Days and a Back-to-School Bash in the near future. Watch for our flyers and announcements! As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I'll help in any way I can. Take care and I hope you all enjoy the remainder of this summer break,

TASUNKE WITKO OWAYAWA 2024 - 2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR

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YEAR END GRADUATIONS			
20-May	Kindergarten		
21-May	Middle School (8th)		
22-May High School (12th)			

PARENT NIGHTS (8)		
23-Jan		
27-Feb		
27-Mar		
24-Apr		

INSTRUCTION	AL DAYS (8:1	5AM - 3:45PM)		
August		12.5		
September		18		
October		19.5		
November		15		
December		10		
January		16.5		
February		17		
March		17.5		
April		18.5		
May		14		
TOTAL		159		
INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS/MINUTES				
Instructional Days		159		
Total Hours		1081		
Daily Minutes		406		
Wolakota Friday (min.)		240		
Total Minut	tes	64, 860		
PROFESSIONAL DEV	ELOPMENT	WOLKOTA FRIDAYS		
Aug 5 - 9 & 30		28-Feb		
Sept 13 &27	Mar 7 & 21			
Oct 4 & 25	11-Apr			
Nov 1 & 22	May 2 & 16			
Jan 3 & 31	Wolakota - AM / Prof Dev - PM			
TOTAL	18			
PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES (3)				
25-Oct	8:15 am - 3:30 pm			
31-Jan	8:15 am - 3:30 pm			
21-Mar	8:15 am - 3:30 pm			
HOLIDAYS (11)				
2-Sep	Labor Day			
14-Oct	Native American Day			
11-Nov	Veteran's Day			
Nov 27 - 29	Thanksgiving			
25-Dec	Christmas			
1-Jan	New Years			
20-Jan	Mr. Luther King			
17-Feb	President's Day			
Apr 18 - 21	Easter Break			
26-May	Memorial Day			
19-Jun	Juneteenth			
4-Jul	Independence Day			
NON-CONTRACT DAYS (23)				
Aug 16 & 23	Jan 2 & 10			
20-Sep	14-Feb			
11-Oct	Mar 14 & 28			
8-Nov	4-Apr			
Dec 16 - 24 & 26 - 31	9-May			
QUARTERS 1st Quarter Aug 12 - Oct 18				
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Oct 21 - Jan 17

Jan 21 - Mar 13

Mar 17 - May 22

190

2nd Quarter

3rd Quarter

4th Quarter

CONTRACTUAL DAYS