

Must Sign out Official Petition from School

American Horse School Board Candidate Petition Packet--2026

Petitioners must pick up and return their own petition at the AHS Business Office. Petitioners are required to pay for their own background checks and drug tests. Phone number listed are best estimates at the time this petition was completed. It is the responsibility of the petitioner to contact and complete all backgrounds checks and alcohol/drug tests.

1. Enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe.
2. Resident and voting member of Pas Creek District.
3. Twenty-one (21) years of age or older (at the time of the election).
4. High School Diploma or G.E.D. certificate of completion.
5. Successfully pass an Oglala Sioux Tribe Public Safety background check and State of South Dakota and FBI background check, also must submit results of a Drug/Alcohol test.
6. Interested in the purposes of the American Horse School Board
7. Willing to uphold the board's requirements for conduct.
8. Willing to support the board's by-laws.

MISSION STATEMENT

American Horse School will stand together so that our children will recognize and embrace education for the future.

VISION STATEMENT

We will stand together to create a healthy learning environment so that our children at American Horse School have the opportunities to acquire leadership competencies for building a better future by achieving a level of greatness experienced by our people carrying on the values that are uniquely and beautifully Lakota.

SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

The American Horse School believes that every child has an inherent right to lifelong learning. We believe that ALL children have the potential and ability to learn. In partnership, we can help to facilitate the achievement of personal goals and embrace and retain Lakota values. American Horse School embraces the seven Lakota values and virtues:

Waohola-Respect
Wahwala- Humility
Wawokiye-Generosity

Woksape-Wisdom
Waonsila-Compassion

Wocekiya-Prayer
Wawijake-Honesty

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American Horse School Board Members and Other American Horse School Committee Members
Disciplinary Procedures:

Should any American Horse School board members/school committee members be suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or drugs during a board/committee meeting, the board/Committee shall immediately go into executive session to discuss the situation with the members and the rules of the American Horse School Drug and Alcohol policy will apply. A policy officer shall be summoned to do a PBT (breath test) or a UA and should the test results prove positive, such Board member/Committee member shall be required to automatically submit his/her resignation.

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**OFFICIAL TIME FRAME
FOR FIVE (5) SCHOOL BOARD POSITIONS.**

The two (2) candidates from the Pass Creek District that receive the highest vote totals will each serve four (4) year school board terms. The candidate from the LaCreek District that receives the highest vote totals will serve a four (4) year term. These three seats will be up for elections for four (4) year terms again in 2030.

The next two (2) candidates from the Pass Creek District that receive the highest vote totals will each serve a two (2) year terms that will expire in 2028. These two board member positions will be up for elections for four (4) year terms in 2028. After the 2028 election, these two positions will be eligible for elections for these two board positions in 2032.

AMERICAN HORSE SCHOOL POLLING SITES WILL BE OPEN FROM 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

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Nominating petitions available for issuance at the Business Office of American Horse School. Petitioner must have signatures of at least (15) persons that are qualified to vote in the Pass Creek District. Candidates running from the LaCreek District for the American Horse School must have signatures of at least (15) persons that are qualified to vote in the LaCreek District

Candidates must successfully complete and pass an Oglala Sioux Tribe Public Safety background check (\$20) and State of South Dakota background check (\$30 and \$5 fees), and an FBI background check (completed by school during 8 am to 3 PM on days school is in session). Candidates must also submit results of a Drug/Alcohol test.

Candidates should initiate background checks as soon as possible in order to submit completed petition packet by the deadline. One (1) money order for \$20.00 to Oglala Sioux Tribal Courts along with background release form (attached) will need to go to clerk of courts at the Justice Center. OST Court number is (605) 867-5151.

Finger printing can be done at the Pine Ridge Correctional Facility with a \$5.00 money order. Leave the money order blank as the Correctional Facility will let you how they want the money order filled out. Candidates will be issued two (2) finger print cards. The Correctional Facility will instruct you as to how they want you to complete finger print cards. The Correctional Facility will return the completed finger print cards back to you and you must return both fingerprint cards with your petition packet. OST Correctional Facility number is (605) 867-1234.

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Alcohol breath test and urine analysis (U)A testing will be completed at the OST Clinical Laboratory. This test requires (1) money order in the amount of \$35.00. You may want to call them to make an appointment 605- 867-2204. Completing these tests are the candidate's responsibility. You will need to take your photo ID when you go to complete this test.

Candidates must return all receipts, finger print cards, and applicable test results with your candidate petition packet.

SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

Petitions issued at AHS Business Office. Petitions can be picked up before 3 PM each day the school is in operation.

OCTOBER 15, 2026

Petitions must be returned to the AHS Business Office by 4:30 PM. (MST)

OCTOBER 16, 2026

Certified candidates list posted in the election service area.

OCTOBER 21, 2026

Deadline to file notarized challenge of certified candidates list no later than 4:30 PM. (MST)

OCTOBER 22, 2026

**AHS election committee answers challenge to candidates list.
Lots drawn for position on the ballot.**

OCTOBER 23, 2026

**Post Sample Ballots in the AHS election service areas.
Absentee voting begins.**

NOVEMBER 2, 2026

Deadline to cast absentee ballots at AHS Business Office no later than 3:00 PM (MST).

Mandatory mini workshop for Judges and Tellers at American Horse School.

NOVEMBER 3, 2026

ELECTION DAY--POLLING SITES OPEN FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM ON ELECTION DAY.

NOVEMBER 3, 2026

ELECTION RESULTS COUNTED AND CERTIFIED BY AHS ELECTION COMMISSION.

NOT AN OFFICIAL PETITION—MUST SIGN OUT OFFICIAL PETITION FROM SCHOOL

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NOVEMBER 4, 2026

Official results announced and posted in election service areas.

NOVEMBER 10, 2026

DEADLINE TO FILE NOTARIZED CHALLENGE TO THE ELECTION RESULTS MUST BE FILED, NO LATER THEN 4:30 PM DAY AT THE BUSINESS OFFICE OF AMERICAN HORSE SCHOOL BY NOVEMBER 10, 2026.

NOVEMBER 17, 2026

AHS ELECTION COMMISSION ANSWERS NOTORIZED CHALLENGES TO THE ELECTION RESULTS.

For more information or questions, please call one of American Horse School Election Committee member: JEANETTE LAYS HARD (605) 455-1209.

POLICY CHANGES

The two (2) candidates from the Pass Creek District that receive the highest vote totals will each serve four (4) year school board terms. The candidate from the LaCreek District that receives the highest vote totals will serve a four (4) year term. These three seats will be up for elections for four (4) year terms again in 2030.

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American Horse School Board 2026 School Board Election Nominating Petition

I, _____ a voting member of the Pass Creek District, am 21 years of age or older, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, have completed my high school diploma or G.E.D. and physically reside within the boundaries of the Pass Creek District, the carrier of this petition, am a candidate for the School Board at the American Horse School, Allen, South Dakota.

We, the below undersigned are members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, 18 years of age or older, and being registered Pass Creek District voters, do support, the carrier of this nominating petition to represent us on the School Board at the American Horse School, Allen, South Dakota.

REQUIRED: Minimum of (15) Signatures of eligible, registered voters from Pass Creek District.

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