

Academy Board Report - November 2025

Culture & Climate Update

1. Academic Support Program Launch

In November we successfully implemented our new **Academic Support Program**, held every Tuesday after school. Students sign up in advance and indicate the specific classes or assignments they need support with. Teachers have been enthusiastic in offering targeted help, and transportation is provided to ensure full access for all students. We anticipate the program to grow as students recognize its value.

2. Parent–Teacher Conferences – A Huge Success

On Thursday, November 13, COSSA Academy hosted one of the most successful Parent–Teacher Conference nights to date (for Q2). We had over 46 sign-ins, not including all attending family members and students. The building was filled with positive energy, meaningful conversations, and a strong sense of community.

A special highlight was the **Culinary Program's rolling service carts**, offering an impressive variety of food—sliders, pastries, espresso drinks, quesadillas, chili, tacos, and much more. Parents repeatedly expressed their appreciation for the effort and hospitality. A big thank you to Chef and the Culinary students for bringing so much joy and professionalism to the event, and to Kesley for her leadership and innovation to make events like this happen.







3. 2025 Veteran's Day Ceremony

COSSA Academy held a deeply meaningful Veteran's Day Ceremony to honor the veterans in attendance and recognize their service. The program began with the presentation of the colors by the Student Council, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a warm welcome and speech from Student Council President Trampis Watts.

A standout moment was an outstanding guitar performance of the Star-Spangled Banner by Student Council member Isaac Castellon. Our guest speaker shared powerful stories from his Vietnam service and offered heartfelt life advice to our students. The ceremony concluded with an inspirational video and branch-by-branch recognition of all who have served.

Student behavior was exemplary—they were respectful, attentive, and engaged throughout the program.





4. Clubs, Student Store & New Hoodies

Student clubs continue to be a positive force in our school culture, giving students opportunities to explore interests, build community, and have fun. The **Cruisers Rollin' Store** remains extremely popular, especially with the arrival of the **new hoodies**, which students have been excited to purchase and wear proudly. These opportunities have strengthened student engagement and school spirit.

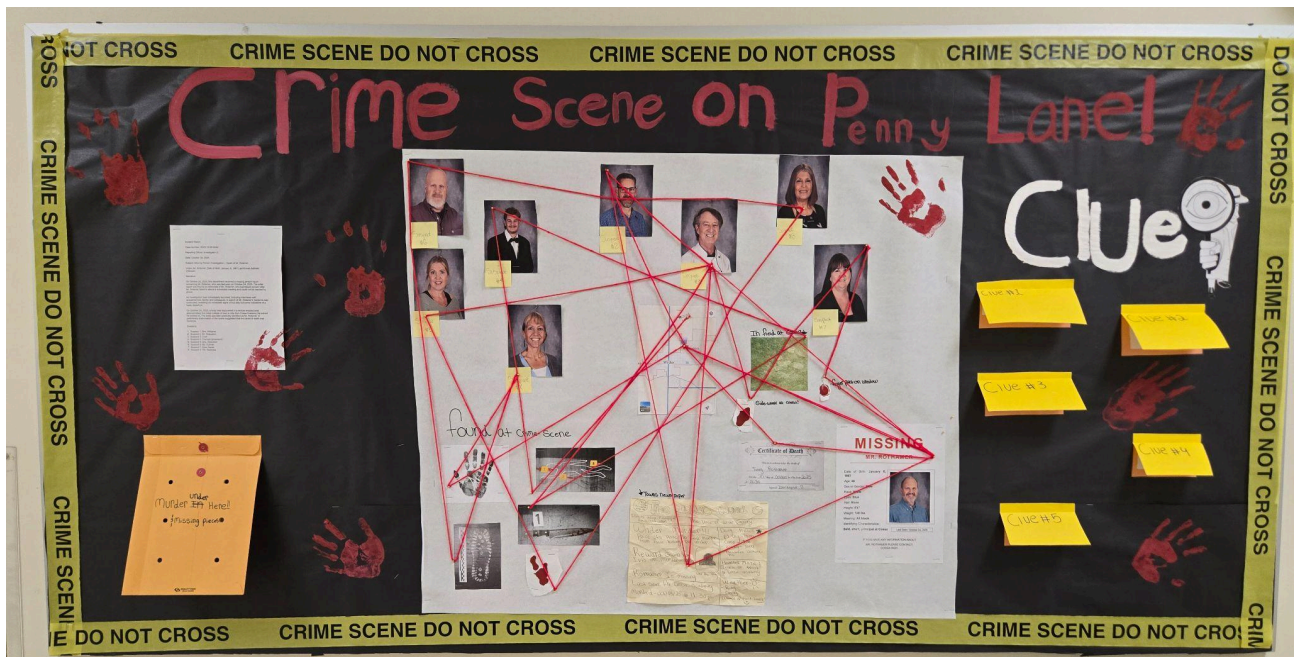
5. Red Ribbon Week—Schoolwide Success

COSSA Academy celebrated **Red Ribbon Week** with strong participation from students and staff. Each themed day brought creativity and enthusiasm, with messaging focused on healthy choices and drug-free living.

- Monday – Pajama Day: *“Give Drugs a Rest.”*
- Tuesday – Camo Day: *“You’ll Never See Me Doing Drugs.”*
- Wednesday – Wacky Wear: *“Way Too Cool to Be Whacked Out.”*
- Thursday – Costume Day: *“Say Boo to Drugs.”*

Thursday’s costume day brought especially high energy, with students arriving in school-appropriate costumes and competing in fun categories voted on by peers. Prior to that, Advisory classes participated in a bulletin board competition for October called “Nightmare on Penny Lane.” The winning bulletin board was extremely well done, albeit a little sad given the missing and eventual demise of the Academy principal (it was Chef, please take appropriate action).

Additionally, our school counselor has led meaningful November initiatives including a **Gratitude Tree** and **Turkey Grams**, adding positivity and culture-building activities throughout the building.





The ALL AROUND winning costume (Mermaid Man)



SRO Cart in on the fun



The Gratitude Tree

Challenges & Responsive Measures

As enrollment continues to climb and COSSA Academy functions with a relatively new staff team, we have experienced some behavioral challenges, primarily tied to disruptive behavior. While these issues represent a small subset of our population, they do impact classrooms, and we are actively addressing them.

We have utilized lunch detentions and Friday School (held for three Fridays so far) to address repeat behaviors. More importantly, we are working toward proactive, individualized solutions for students who struggle to make behavioral changes. These include:

- Alternative placements within the school
- Online learning options for selected classes
- Blended schedules, allowing students to work partly in general education classrooms and partly in alternative settings
- Close collaboration with parents and guardians to ensure supportive follow-through

Although these challenges can be difficult—especially for newer teachers—our team continues to respond with professionalism and a desire to support students.

Though growth remains ahead of us, we are confident in our trajectory. With continued support, COSSA Academy will become not only a more structured and effective school, but a place defined by quality education, meaningful opportunities, and a shared sense of pride among students and staff.