



# THE WOLFPACK



LOOMIS PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of Loomis

September 2024 Issue

## SMALL TOWN: BIG DATES

- 9-2 No School - Labor Day
- 9-3 Building, Grounds & Transportation Mtg @ 11:30am
- 9-3 JV Volleyball Triangular in Maywood @ 5:00pm
- 9-4 Sophomore Science Trip Field Day to Holdrege
- 9-4 Senior Pictures in Kearney
- 9-5 Preschool School Pictures
- 9-5 Volleyball Triangular in Overton @ 6:00pm
- 9-6 Football in Axtell @ 7:00am
- 9-9 JH Volleyball vs Southern Valley @ 1:00pm
- 9-9 JH Football vs Southern Valley @ 1:00pm
- 9-9 JV Volleyball vs Southern Valley @ 3:00pm
- 9-9 JV Football vs Southern Valley @ 5:00pm
- 9-9 School Board Meeting @ 7:30pm
- 9-10 Americanism Community Meeting @ 7:30am
- 9-10 2nd and 3rd Grade to Pete's Safari
- 9-10 Volleyball Triangular in Arapahoe @ 6:00pm
- 9-11 FFA Husker Harvest Days
- 9-11 Monthly Booster Club Meeting at 6:20pm
- 9-12 Life Smiles Dental Screenings Grades PK-5 at 8:30am
- 9-12 Cross Country Meet in Imperial @ 4:30pm
- 9-13 Volleyball vs Anselmo-Merna starting @ 4:30pm, V @ 5:30pm
- 9-13 Football vs Anselmo-Merna @ 7:00pm (Parents Night)
- 9-13 Junior Work Auction at half-time of football game
- 9-14 L-Club Volleyball Tournament @ 9:00am
- 9-16 High School Choir Trip to Kearney @ 11:45am
- 9-16 JH Volleyball in Elwood (Hi-Line) @ 3:00pm
- 9-16 JH Football in Elwood (Hi-Line) @ 3:00pm
- 9-16 JV Volleyball in Elwood (Hi-Line) @ 5:00pm
- 9-16 JV Football in Elwood (Hi-Line) @ 5:00pm
- 9-17 Volleyball in Cambridge starting @ 6:00pm, V @ 7:00pm
- 9-18 FFA Area 3 Range Judging
- 9-18 Phelps County Proposed Tax Increase Meeting
- 9-19 Cross Country in Ravenna @ 4:00pm
- 9-19 Volleyball Triangular @ 5:00pm
- 9-19 Recognize 50 Year State Volleyball Qualifying Team @ 5:30pm
- 9-20 Football vs Maywood-Hayes Center @ 7:00pm (Homecoming)
- 9-21 Volleyball Skills for Grades 3-6 @ 9:00am
- 9-23 No School - MTSS/PD
- 9-23 JH Football vs Overton @ 1:00pm
- 9-23 JH Volleyball vs Overton @ 3:00pm
- 9-23 JV Football vs Overton @ 5:00pm
- 9-23 JV Volleyball vs Overton @ 5:00pm
- 9-24 JH Volleyball in Cambridge @ 1:00pm
- 9-24 Cross Country in Franklin @ 4:15pm
- 9-24 Preschool Advisory Meeting @ 6:15pm
- 9-26 Early Dismissal @ 11:50am
- 9-26 Parent/Teacher Conferences from 1:00pm - 8:00pm
- 9-26 Volleyball Triangular in Elm Creek @ 5:00pm
- 9-27 No School
- 9-27 Football in Cambridge @ 3:00pm
- 9-28 Bertrand Volleyball Tournament in Bertrand @ 10:00am
- 9-30 Cross Country UNK Meet
- 9-30 JH Volleyball in SEM @ 1:00pm
- 9-30 JV Football vs Bertrand @ 5:00pm
- 9-30 JV Volleyball vs Bertrand @ 6:00pm

# BACK TO SCHOOL



## Straight from the Wolf's Den



### Nate Weaver

Wow! It is crazy to think that it is already September! Where has the time gone? We are so happy to be back in session with staff and students in the building. I won't argue with anyone about the importance of summer break, but it is always a good feeling to get students back into the halls.

Fall activities have started off with a bang! Our volleyball, football and cross country teams have performed well! I look forward to seeing the students continue to compete!

There are a few new faces at LPS. If you walk in the front door, one of the first faces you'll see would be *Nicki Saint-Albord*. She has done a wonderful job of transitioning into the receptionist position. *Kelsey Bailey* has moved over a room and is the principal secretary and power school guru. She is learning PowerSchool quickly, which isn't the easiest of jobs. *Katie Hohensee* is our new pre-school teacher. She has brought a high energy into the preschool, which is needed with 20 kiddos! *Brooke Edgren* is our new speech pathologist. She has done a great job of getting her schedule out and working with the LPS students. *Jeff Ellsworth* is our new principal. Jeff brings a wealth of knowledge and experience that has already been valuable to LPS. *Rachel Blank* is our new assistant cook. *Marcia Schoff* has returned to help out part time in the kitchen as well. The students at LPS are lucky to have the cook staff as they always make sure our kids are getting a great meal daily! *Kirsten Deakin* is a new elementary Para-educator. She has education experience which helps a great deal. LPS also has a new head of grounds. *Travis Spence* started in July and has worked hard to make our grounds look great!

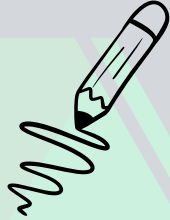
I have also transitioned across the hall into the superintendent's office. When talking with tenured superintendents, they always say the first year is the most difficult. There is a wide array of new things daily. I value the area supe's that have helped me out along the way.

With new faces, or shuffling people, there are bound to be changes. I encourage anyone with questions to please call the school. We are working on a few new things and want everyone involved knowing what is going on. Maps testing is right around the corner. While most of the students know this process, it is important that they are rested and ready. This test is important because we use the data to track growth in subject areas.

I'm sure September will fly by as fast as August! Best of luck to all the organizations as they compete in September. Go Wolves!

# The Head Honcho's Highlight Reel

BACK TO SCHOOL



## Jeff Ellsworth

Greetings to our Loomis School Community! It is my ABSOLUTE pleasure to be the Principal here this year. This is where I began my education career as a paraprofessional thirty-one years ago, and it is where I hope to retire from-not any time soon! After thirteen days of school, I can honestly say we are off to a great start! The students here are very respectful, hard working, and great to be around. I could say the same for the entire staff here, as well. It is just an AWESOME environment to be part of.

### Get to know me:

I was born in Sioux City, Iowa and lived there until I was 12. My parents divorced when I was 10, right after 4th grade. My mom remarried when I was in 6th grade. Between Kindergarten and 7th grade, I attended six different schools including Gothenburg Public School, where I graduated in 1987. I attended Kearney State College/UNK where I graduated with Elementary and Middle School teaching credentials. While at UNK, I met my wife, Sherri (Thorell). We have four children, Christian (wife Cassidy and children Ada and Brooks); Preston (engaged to be married next summer); Jasmine (senior at Loomis); and Ella (freshman at Loomis).

After working for Loomis for the 1993-94 school year, I taught in Franklin for 5 years, Axtell for 8 years, and then began my principal career with Grand Island Northwest at the St. Libory and Chapman campuses for 13 years. The district closed my Chapman School and that is how I landed in Loomis, however, I spent the last four years driving from Loomis to North Platte where I was the principal at Jefferson Elementary. Again, to be here is wonderful for all of the reasons I stated earlier, but it is also FANTASTIC to save the 180 mile round trip every day-trading it for a 10 block round trip...love it!

### School Safety:

With school now in session I would like to remind you to have a watchful eye for our students crossing the streets and getting on and off buses. We would hate to have any accidents happen involving our students or their families. Be aware of your surroundings. Thank you.

### Attendance:

Attendance at school is mandatory by law. If your student(s) will be gone or late on any given day, please call the school (308-876-2111) and let Nicki or Kelsey know why your student is not attending school. If there is no call from an adult, the absence or tardy is recorded as unexcused/truant. By law, attendance has to be reported to the county attorney when absences reach a certain number. We are not out to "get" anybody, but we do have to follow the law. Please pick up the phone and call us to let us know why your student(s) are not in attendance. It saves us all extra work.

### Activities:

Fall activities are underway! Volleyball, Football, Cross Country, Cheerleading, FFA, and Marching Band are in full swing which means students may leave school early and will have to make sure they get their assignments from the classes they will miss and make arrangements to get their homework turned in for credit. For scheduled activities, it is the students' responsibility to get assignments and make arrangements with teachers. Some activities pop up that were not previously scheduled. If that is the case, it is the sponsor's/coach's responsibility to get information out and to make sure students have their make-up slips for the classes they will miss.

We hope to see you all out supporting our students and their coaches/sponsors at activities. It means a lot to our students and it shows pride in our community. Loomis has always had strong support and we want that to continue.

### Testing:

MAPS testing has begun. We ask that you encourage your student(s) to do their best! To ensure this, students should have good sleep habits, eat breakfast, and dress for success-it is proven that if you look good, you feel good, and are typically more successful. Any way you can help us with this we will be grateful.

Through the school year we conduct other testing for various reasons and outcomes. One such test we conducted last week is called the Fastbridge for both Reading and Math. We use this to track our students for program placement in school such as Interventions for students that may need extra help in those areas. As students progress through school testing can become monotonous. However, there are valid reasons why we test. Sometimes students forget that and therefore perform poorly. In that case, they are assigned to an Intervention that they may not truly need. We WILL retest students if we feel they underperformed and we Will assign Interventions. Students can work themselves out of Interventions by working hard, and testing out at the next cycle of testing. For seniors that underperform, it could affect special programs or it could affect graduation requirements. We thank you for your help in advance.

### Chain of Command & Contact Information:

Remember that the chain of command for issues in the classroom or in an activity, we require the student to address the teacher, sponsor, or coach first. The second tier is for the parent and the student to address the teacher, sponsor or coach together. If a resolution to the problem cannot be made then you refer to me for classroom support or Mr. Squiers for activity assistance. We feel it is very important for students to learn how to deal with problems the right way by being responsible and making the right decision to resolve a problem. Thank you for your assistance in making Loomis Public School a great place to learn, teach, and be successful.

If you ever have any questions, please feel free to reach out: [jeff.ellsworth@loomiswolves.org](mailto:jeff.ellsworth@loomiswolves.org); (308) 876-2111. I would love the opportunity to get to know you better and try to help you out the best that I am able.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey W. Ellsworth, Principal  
Loomis Public School

# Volleyball

Carrie Trompke

# 2024 Lady Wolves Volleyball

The Lady Wolves are excited for a great fall! We return a lot of court experience and are ready to get started with match play. We have 20 girls on the roster this season which includes a lot of talent across the board making practices very competitive. We look forward to the leadership of our five Seniors: *Zeigh Booe, Sydney Harris, Jorjanna High, Autumn Holt* and *Marni Terrell*. We have high expectations this season and are working hard every day to work toward our goal of going deep into Post Season play.

## Varsity Schedule

Date	Opponent	Site	Game Time
Thursday, August 29, 2024	Wilcox-Hildreth	Loomis	6:00
Thursday, September 5, 2024	Overton/Pleasanton	Overton	6:00/7:00
Tuesday, September 10, 2024	Arapahoe/Maywood-Hayes Center	Arapahoe	6:00/7:00
Friday, September 13, 2024	Anselmo-Merna	Loomis	5:30
Saturday, September 14, 2024	9/11 Tournament	Loomis	9:00
Tuesday, September 17, 2024	Cambridge	Cambridge	7:00
Thursday, September 19, 2024	Hi-Line/Axtell	Loomis	5:00/7:00
Thursday, September 26, 2024	Elm Creek/SEM	Elm Creek	5:00/6:00
Saturday, September 28, 2024	Bertrand Tournament	Bertrand	10:00
Tuesday, October 1, 2024	Arapahoe (Parents Night)	Loomis	6:30
Thursday, October 3, 2024	Amherst/Wilcox-Hildreth	Amherst	5:00/6:00
Monday, October 7, 2024	Doniphan Trumbull/Bertrand *Pink Out*	Loomis	5:00/7:00
Thursday, October 10, 2024	Overton/Ansley-Litchfield	Overton	5:00/6:00
October 14, 15, 17	FKCTournament	TBA	TBA
Tuesday, October 22, 2024	Blue Hill	Loomis	6:30
October 28-29	Sub-Districts	TBA	TBA
Saturday, November 2, 2024	District Finals	TBA	TBA
November 6-9	State Tournament	Lincoln	TBA

## Junior Varsity Schedule

Date	Opponent	Site	Game Time
Thursday, August 29, 2024	Wilcox-Hildreth (1 set)	Loomis	5:30
Tuesday, September 3, 2024	Arapahoe/Maywood-Hayes Center	Arapahoe	5:00/6:00
Monday, September 9, 2024	Southern Valley	Loomis	5:00
Friday, September 13, 2024	Anselmo/Merna	Loomis	4:30
Monday, September 16, 2024	Hi-Line	Hi-Line	5:00
Tuesday, September 17, 2024	Cambridge	Cambridge	6:00
Monday, September 23, 2024	Overton	Loomis	5:00
Monday, September 30, 2024	Bertrand	Loomis	6:00
Tuesday, October 1, 2024	Arapahoe	Loomis	5:30
Tuesday, October 22, 2024	Blue Hill	Loomis	5:30

## Reserve Schedule

Date	Opponent	Site	Game Time
Thursday, September 5, 2024	Pleasanton/Overton	Overton	6:00/7:00
Tuesday, September 10, 2024	Arapahoe/Maywood-Hayes Center	Arapahoe	6:00/7:00
Thursday, September 19, 2024	Hi-Line/Axtell	Loomis	5:00/7:00
Thursday, September 26, 2024	Elm Creek	Elm Creek	5:00
Thursday, October 3, 2024	Amherst	Amherst	5:00
Monday, October 7, 2024	Doniphan Trumbull	Loomis	5:00/7:00
Thursday, October 10, 2024	Overton/Ansley-Litchfield	Overton	5:00/6:00

## ROSTER

### SENIORS

Zeigh Booe  
 Sydney Harris  
 Jorjanna High  
 Autumn Holt  
 Marni Terrell

### JUNIORS

Abby Beisner  
 Leandra Kaup  
 Clydie Kegley  
 Kinsey Lauby  
 Addison Perry

### SOPHOMORES

Natalie Kegley  
 Sophia Schemper  
 Elli Isaacson

### FRESHMAN

Camry Anderson  
 Ella Ellsworth  
 Jillian Ludeke  
 Rhianna Saint Alabord  
 AJ Thorell  
 Kennedy Wood

### MANAGERS

Natalie Harris  
 Addisyn Norris  
 Kiatalyn Vrbka  
 Kaelynn Prather  
 Tori Trompke  
 Brynley Wood

### COACHES

Carrie Trompke  
 Mikala Vrbka  
 Hannah Gilg



# Football

## Tye Spies

The Loomis football team is excited to get the season underway! We have 24 students on our roster and they have been putting in the work to have a successful season! Our First game was Aug. 30th vs Blue Hill Bobcats! We secured our first victory of the season!

Here are some stats from the game...

**Final Score: 40 - 6**

**Total Yards: 460**

**Passing Yards: 76**

**Rushing Yards: 344**

The team is excited to get into the season and see how it will go! **GO WOLVES!!**

*Reminder!*

The annual Junior Work Auction will be held during the first half of the football game on September 13th. Silent bidding will be accepted until the end of halftime. Each Junior student will provide 8 hours of work. The work should be completed before Christmas break unless other arrangements have been made. Please consider supporting the Junior/Senior prom and let some students help you check off jobs on your to do list!

## Our Roster

### Seniors

Gavin Norris, Kash Schoff

### Juniors

Caden Swanson, Cauly Meyer, Ben Trompke, Tyson Freeman, Phillip Titkemeier, Walter Kenney

### Sophomores

Jace Schukar, Graham Trompke, Jonah Fisher, Grady Reynolds, Dalton Waltemath, Leighton Weaver, Adrianna Perez-Rodriguez

### Freshman

Jaron Schukar, Jed Isaacson, Dayton Billeter, Elijah Johnson, Brendan Booe, Jaxson Sweeney, Grayson Nelson, Hoyt Thorell, and Tyce Wood



# BerMis FFA

*Dear FFA Members, Family, and Friends,*

Welcome parents of the 2024-2025 FFA members! The national FFA program is a skills, leadership, and education program for our youth. Its focus is Ag related but its dimensions reach much further. For example, music, speech, and job interviews may be a place for a child to excel as well as agronomy, livestock judging, range judging or meat judging. Even if you are not involved in an Ag-related industry, there are many areas for students to compete and learn.

The current leadership team for the BerMis FFA Boosters is comprised of Sheila Philips, Carolyn and Kelly Anderson, Kim Ford, and myself. We will be electing new officers at our first meeting on September 8th at 5:30 pm in the Ag classroom at the Bertrand school.

Our local organization helps provide funding, sponsors, support, and assistance to the kids in our FFA chapter. This group is open to community members and businesses as well as parents. We have a couple of fund-raisers each year to support the activities of our local kids and to pay for the end-of-year banquet. **AGAIN, THIS GROUP IS NOT JUST FOR PARENTS.** It is for business owners, grandparents, and local patrons who want to support the program. Please, spread the word!

If you have any questions, please contact our FFA advisor, Mrs. Samantha Lavene, or one of the leadership team listed above. Thank you for supporting this amazing program!

Sincerely,

Amy Schoff

BerMis FFA Booster President

308.627.2272



**BerMis FFA Booster Meeting**

**Date:**  
September 8, at  
5:30pm

**Place:**  
Bertrand Public  
Schools  
Meet in the AG  
room

The poster features a central graphic with a green and white wolf head on the left, a blue and white bulldog head on the right, and a circular FFA emblem in the center. The word "BERMIS" is written vertically in large, bold, black letters across the bottom of the graphic. The background of the poster is a gradient from blue at the top to orange at the bottom, with a silhouette of a sun or moon at the top.

# EF Tours Information

## Shennon Helms

In 2018 I had the amazing opportunity to take three students to Peru through EF Tours. This trip was the first time two of them had ever flown on an airplane, the first time two of them had been out of the country, and the first time any of us had been to South America. To say that the trip was amazing would minimize it. That trip was life-changing for all four of us!

All three former students have traveled extensively internationally since then, the trip giving them confidence and opening new horizons for their futures. One of them is entering graduate school to study Global and International Studies, with plans to become a U.S. Diplomat.

Since then I've been planning another trip, but COVID and other factors put a wrench in those plans. Finally, this trip will come to fruition, and I'm excited to invite 7-12 grade students, parents, and guardians to join me on a trip to Paris, Florence, and Rome in May of 2025! I, myself, am fluent in French and proficient in Italian. Students taking Spanish classes will see how an understanding of any romance language can help one navigate in other countries where romance languages are spoken.

I love EF Tours, because they make safety and education their number one concerns. They also have a local interpreter with us 24/7, keep everyone busy, yet still allow down time and reflection time.

We live in a global community where every future job can be impacted by an introduction to other languages and exposure to new cultures. What a wonderful way to broaden potential for your children, and even yourselves!

Please contact me at [shennon.helms@loomiswolves.org](mailto:shennon.helms@loomiswolves.org) or stop by and talk to me at parent/teacher conferences later this month.

I look forward to traveling with you!

--Señora Helms





# Board Meeting Notes



## 1. Call to Order

### Discussion:

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Holdrege Daily Citizen, the School District's designated method for giving notice, and posting at the Loomis Public Schools, Loomis Village Office and Loomis Post Office, a copy of the Affidavit of Publication being attached to these Minutes. Notice of this meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education, and a copy of their Acknowledgment of Receipt of Notice is attached to these Minutes. Availability of the Agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the members of this meeting. The President publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of such copy in the room where the meeting was being held. All proceedings of the Board were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

## 2. Welcome Guests

Discussion: Gary Regelin, Farren Nelson, Denny Pouk, Jenny Cox, David Squiers, Derek Billeter

## 3. Approval of Absent Board Members

## 4. Consent Agenda

Discussion: Reviewed the Bill Roster.

### 4.1. Agenda

### 4.2. Previous Board Meeting Minutes

### 4.3. Bill Roster

### 4.4. Financial Reports

#### 4.4.1. General Fund

Discussion: Receipts \$88,880.88, expenses \$409,685.25, balance \$1,865,927.08

#### 4.4.2. Investment Fund

Discussion: Depreciation: Receipts \$469.69, Expenses \$161,747.00, balance \$897,292.38

Bond: Receipts \$5,263.69, Expenses \$0, balance \$324,586.13

#### 4.4.3. Activities Fund

Discussion: Receipts \$5,658.36, expenses \$14,007.91, balance \$132,451.57

#### 4.4.4. Nutrition Fund

Discussion: Receipts \$19.55, expenses \$6,379.86, balance \$107,830.83

#### 4.4.5. Building Fund

Discussion: Receipts \$1,108.53, Expenses \$0, balance \$130,344.84

### 4.5. 2024 Census

Discussion: 2023: Ages 0-4 46, ages 5-18 198

2024: Ages 0-4 46, ages 5-18 208

## 5. Introduction of Speakers

Discussion: Jacob Sertich, Wilkins Archetecture presented the preliminary steps necessary to begin a building project.

## 6. Board Committee Reports

### 6.1. Negotiations

Discussion: The Nebraska Labor Conference is on October 2nd and 3rd. October will be the beginning month for negotiations.

### 6.2. Americanism

Discussion: We will have an Americanism meeting on September 10th - open to the public

### 6.3. Policy

Discussion: I plan to work on getting the policies updated on Sparq as soon as the budget is finished. Once it is up-to-date there, we can link it to our web page.

### 6.4. Building, Grounds, and Transportation

Discussion: I would like to find an evening to do a walk through the building and make notes of needed areas of improvement. Can we find a day in August?

### 6.5. Preschool Advisory

Discussion:

We have a tentative meeting set for Sept. 24th.

### 7. Administrative Reports

#### 7.1. Principal

#### 7.2. Superintendent

#### 7.3. A.D. Agenda

### 8. Public Forum

### 9. Recess

Discussion: None taken

### 10. Action Agenda Items

#### 10.1. Update authorized signers on bank accounts

10.2. Vote to Approve the purchase of computers through computer hardware for the elementary school using the remaining reap grant dollars.

#### 10.3. CHS Propane Contract

#### 10.4. Superintendent's Contract for 2024-2025: Disability Insurance

Discussion: The current contract states: "Disability Insurance. The Superintendent shall purchase long-term disability insurance from the District's carrier at the Superintendent's own expense." Previous Superintendent's contracts stated "Disability Insurance. Short-term, Long-term disability, Live Insurance, and Accidental Death & Dismemberment are provided as same as certificated staff."

#### 10.5. Resolution to approve the base growth percentage.

#### 10.6. Accept the resignation of Board Member.

#### 10.7. Appoint replacement board member for the remainder of 2024.

### 11. Closed Session

### 12. Next Meeting Date

Discussion: The next regular meeting will be held September 9, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

### 13. Adjournment

Discussion: Meeting adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

Loomis Public School  
PO Box 250, 101 Bryan St.  
Loomis, NE 68958



## Loomis Public Schools Mission Statement

In partnership with family and community, our mission is to prepare all students to succeed as responsible citizens in a changing world through evolving educational methods.