



# THE WOLFPACK



LOOMIS PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of Loomis

December 2024 Issue

## SMALL TOWN: BIG DATES

- 12-2 NHS Food Drive  
One Act School Performance
- 12-3 District One Act in Wilcox  
NHS Food Drive  
Grades 7/8 Boys Basketball Practice at 6:30AM  
Building, Grounds, and Transportation Meeting at 11:30AM  
JH Wrestling in Southern Valley at 1:00PM  
Grades 5/6 Boys Basketball Practice at 6:00PM  
FFA Meeting/Caroling at 6:30PM
- 12-4 NHS Food Drive
- 12-5 NHS Food Drive  
Grades 7/8 Boys Basketball Practice at 6:30AM  
Basketball in SEM at 4:30PM, 6:00PM, 7:45PM  
Boys Wrestling Triangular in Gibbon at 5:00PM
- 12-6 NHS Food Drive  
Boys Wrestling in Ravenna at 11:00AM  
Girls Wrestling in Southwest at 11:00AM  
Basketball vs Overton at 4:30PM, 6:00PM, 7:45PM
- 12-7 NHS Food Drive  
Preschool - 2nd Grade Basketball Skills at 11:00AM
- 12-8 NHS Food Drive
- 12-9 NHS Food Drive  
School Nurse - Height/Weights PK-10th Grade Students  
JH Wrestling in Arapahoe at 1:00PM  
School Board: Training at 5:00PM, Meeting at 6:00PM
- 12-10 NHS Food Drive  
School Nurse - Height/Weights PK-10th Grade Students  
School Board Workshop with Architect at 7:00AM  
FFA District Leadership Skills Event #2 in Curtis at 9:00AM  
Girls Basketball vs Kenesaw at 5:30PM, 7:00PM
- 12-11 NHS Food Drive  
State Play Production in Norfolk  
Monthly Booster Club Meeting at 6:20PM
- 12-12 NHS Food Drive  
FKC JH Wrestling in Amherst at 10:00AM  
Grades 5/6 Boys Basketball Practice at 6:00PM
- 12-13 NHS Food Drive  
Boys Wrestling in Southern Valley at 9:30AM  
Basketball vs Amherst at 4:30PM, 6:00PM, 7:45PM
- 12-14 Preschool-2nd Grade Basketball Skills at 11:00AM  
Basketball in Bertrand at 1:30PM, 3:00PM, 4:45PM
- 12-16 K-12 Christmas Concert at 7:00PM
- 12-17 Basketball vs Cambridge at 4:30PM, 6:00PM, 7:45PM
- 12-18 Semester Tests  
School Dismisses at 1:50PM
- 12-19 Semester Tests  
School Dismisses at 1:50PM  
Boys Wrestling Triangular in Kenesaw at 5:00PM
- 12-20 Teacher Workday  
Safety Committee Meeting at 9:00AM  
Basketball vs Ansley-Litchfield at 4:30PM, 6:00PM, 7:45PM
- 12-21 Boys and Girls Wrestling in Cambridge at 10:00AM  
Preschool-2nd Grade Basketball Skills at 11:00AM  
Basketball in Southern Valley at 1:30PM, 3:00PM, 4:45PM
- 12-27 Basketball Holiday Tournament in O'Neil
- 12-28 Basketball Holiday Tournament in O'Neil  
Girls Wrestling in SEM at 10:00AM  
  
12-22 til 12-26 NSAA Moratorium  
12-23 til 1-3 No School - Winter Break

## Straight from the Wolf's Den

### Nate Weaver



December is here! It always seems like a mad rush between Thanksgiving break and Christmas break. Winter activities are in full swing. Kids are excited for Christmas break and excited for time with their families.

This time of the year is a great time for reflection. I think of all the positive things that happen at the school. All the student accomplishments, life lessons and growth made over the school year is something that helps students build their futures. Our overall goal is to have the students ready for the next level of their life, whatever that may be. Life presents many avenues along the way, and if there happens to be a bump in the road, we hope that our students can make the correct decisions to fix the issue. Kids make mistakes; every student will make a mistake sometime while they are in school. It is our job, as a whole, to show them the correct way, and then hope that they have learned a lesson and that will not repeat itself. If it does happen again, it gives us an opportunity to re-teach the expected outcome. The great thing about LPS, is that we have many people that care and influence students to make good decisions daily.

I also want to thank the LPS School Board for the opportunity to be the Superintendent. While the job hasn't been easy, I enjoy the challenges and the opportunity to help make LPS a better place for students and staff. I also always keep my door open for visitors. I would like to welcome any patrons to feel free to come in and see what we have to offer. I would love to give tours for anyone that would like to see the building.

The 14 days that we have in December are busy, busy! We have something going on almost every day we are in session which with thanksgiving being later than usual, only has us having 14 days in December and it seems like we try and fill it full.

With December coming to an end and January right around the corner, Mr. Ellsworth and I will be pulling test scores for Academic Awards night. The criteria are listed below. Our students always do a wonderful job and it is only right that we recognize them for their achievements with testing.

Have a great Christmas and my hope for all is that you get to share the time with your loved ones!

- Top 25% on the MAP math assessment
- Top 25% on the MAP reading assessment
- Top 25% on the MAP science assessment
- Exceeded Standards on the Nebraska State math assessment (3 rd - 8 th )
- Exceeded Standards on the Nebraska State reading assessment (3 rd - 8 th )
- Exceeded Standards on the Nebraska State science assessment (5 th , 8 th )
- ACT (Juniors only) 24 or above
- Perfect Attendance

# The Head Honcho's Highlight Reel

Jeff Ellsworth

DECEMBER

## Season's Greetings!

I hope everyone had a Tremendous Turkey Day!  
AND NOW.....It is DECEMBER! Ho! Ho! Here we go!!!

### Winter Sports

Basketball and Wrestling are underway. That means home games and expectations! Please keep your students in the bleachers until there are breaks in the game such as time outs and quarter breaks. Students may be in the concession stand/cafeteria area and the gym. If there is a game being played in the old gym they can be in there. If there is not a game they cannot be in there.

### Attendance

With winter comes cold and flu season. It is important for students to be in school, however, if your child is sick (throwing up, Strep Throat; etc.), keep them home. If they are sent home from school they will need to be 24 hour fever free or have a doctor's note to return. If they are gone and there is an activity the next day, they do need a doctor's note to be cleared to participate in the activity. Kids don't like to miss practice or games, however, if there is a chance of them being contagious it could affect their entire team.

Attendance is mandatory and we have to keep records on EVERY absence. We send out reminders at 5 days, 10 days, 15 days, and 20 days. We also have regular contact with the county attorney's office about absences. It is a state statute that students who have accumulated 20 absences are automatically reviewed by the County Attorney. Any time you acquire a doctor's note for an absence, that absence will not count against you. For example: if I have 22 absences and have 15 doctor's notes (medical, dentist, eye, counselor, PT, etc.) those 15 absences will not count. Partial day absences will add up, though. We look at 20 total days and above. Get doctor's notes whenever possible.

If you have questions on absences please don't hesitate to call and talk to Nikki, Kelsey, Mr. Weaver, or myself-Mr. Ellsworth. (308) 876-2111.

# Counselor's Corner

Dana Meyer



As the year winds down, December brings exciting opportunities to make a difference and spread holiday cheer!! Here's what's happening:

## National Honor Society

From December 2nd to December 13th, we're coming together to help those in need with our annual National Honor Society Food Drive. Each class or group has a set goal for items to donate. A letter was sent home with the elementary students that designates what each class needs to bring and what classroom we are collecting items in. Let's crush those goals and show the power of generosity and teamwork!!

## Pizza Party Drawing

Every qualifying group that meets its goal for the NHS food drive will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win a class pizza party.

## Candy Cane Candy Gram Fundraiser

The National Honor Society will be selling candy canes to spread joy this season!! Be sure to participate and send a sweet message to friends or loved ones. Further details will be provided regarding this fundraiser.

## ATTENTION SENIORS

### PCCF SCHOLARSHIP

The Phelps County Community Foundation Scholarship application opens on December 1st!! This is a fantastic chance to secure funding for your future education. Don't miss out—mark your calendars and start your application as soon as it opens!!

### \$ FAFSA

Parents of senior students, please take some time to fill out the application for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Filling out the FAFSA is an essential step in preparing for college!! You will need to make sure that you have your tax information, W-2s, bank statements, and your FSA IDs (for both the parent and the student). To start the application go to [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov) for details.

Mrs. Meyer



## THANK YOU!

With this month being all about thanks, we wanted to thank the people that have helped our chapter this semester!

BerMis FFA Boosters

Viking Booster Club

Wolfpack Boosters

Bertrand Staff

Loomis Staff

FFA Parents & Families

And Countless Others!

Thank you for everything!

*BerMis Officer Team*



## Calendar of Events:

- 12/3 - FFA Meeting and Christmas Caroling @ Bertrand Nursing Home
- 12/10 - LDE #2
- 12/14 - Basketball Concessions @ Bertrand
- 1/20 - Officer Meeting
- 1/29 - CDE #1
- 2/5 - State Degree and Proficiency Reviews
- 2/9 - Labor Auction
- 2/10 - Chapter Meeting

## Fruit Sales

Fruit and other items will be delivered on the week on December 9th.

Members will have items delivered as soon as they can! Thank you all for your support!

# UPCOMING COMPETITIONS

## Communications:

- Monthly/weekly newsletters sent out on Sports You and Facebook.
- Sports You code:
  - UQQ3WBH6
  - Please join!
- All FFA events are on the school's calendars!
- Signup Genius links will be sent out when we need help with events.

## Official Dress:

- FFA Jacket w/ FFA Tie/Scarf
- White button-up long-sleeve collared shirt
- Black dress pants (not leggings or jeans)
- Black shoes (all black)
  - Boots are allowed

## Leadership Development Events #2

- Sr. Parli Pro
- Conduct of Chapter Meetings
- Creed Speaking
- Ag Demo
- Employment Skills

Career Development Events will begin January 29th. Practices will begin soon. **YOU MUST HAVE 5 HOURS TO COMPETE!**



# NATIONAL CONVENTION

National FFA is a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and the BerMis FFA chapter was lucky enough to have six members attend. Members included Marie Ford, Nate Mayfield, Logan Schutz, Alyssa Bradley, Ryker Schroder, and Clydie Kegley. These FFA members could attend sessions and hear from guest speakers and National FFA officers, view Churchill Downs and the Louisville Slugger Museum, explore colleges and careers at the expo, and meet many FFA members from around the nation.



**Join Us For the 2025**

**BERMIS FFA  
LABOR  
AUCTION**

**FEBRUARY 9, 2025**

**Dinner served at 5:30 with auction to  
follow**

**At the Loomis Community Building.**

**FFA members are required to work 8  
hours. Help us raise money for state  
convention and other events our  
chapter is involved in!**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

It all began with the letter J.

In preschool, we learn by doing. Each week a new letter is introduced to the class to explore and experience. We trace it. We write it. We paint it. We build it. And sometimes, we even taste it.

We did all of the typical activities that 'J week' brings. We colored jaguars, we swam like jellyfish, we jumped, we told jokes, we even made our own peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. But we needed something more: joy.

The concept of joy can be tricky to teach. We often think of happiness and what brings us happiness. And if you ask three, four and five year olds, they'll tell you Joy is a girl with blue hair in the movie Inside Out. But joy is much more than that. Joy is the kind of happiness that doesn't depend on what happens. Try teaching that to preschoolers!

The hardest part was explaining how to have joy even when things don't go our way. We focused on the importance of joy and sharing joy with others. This was a fun, energetic way to experience joy by using "happy spots" the preschoolers dispersed among their peers as fast as possible. We looked like jaguars, contagious with joy.

We explored many ways to find, share and have joy. Preschool realized that it was the simplest of acts of joy that made the biggest impact. Each preschooler chose one person in school to receive a yellow balloon. The smiles were instant. Hugs were shared and hearts were touched. Each recipient could choose to keep their joy, or to pass it along. Before they would share, they must sign the card that accompanied the balloon. We hoped others would follow suit and were delighted each time we caught a glimpse of a yellow balloon being delivered. Some even found their way back to our class before they went again to bring joy to someone else.

445 people found joy today because of these yellow balloons, and it all began with the letter 'J'.



# Board Meeting Notes

Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Loomis School, Media Center, Rm 117  
101 Bryan St  
Loomis, NE 68958-0250

Monday, November 11, 2024 7:30 PM

Holdrege Daily Citizen Posted Date: 11-4-2024

Loomis Post Office, Loomis Village Office, Loomis Public School Posted Date: 10-29-2024

Kelly Anderson: Present, Gary Regelin: Present, Duane Schoff: Present, Scott Schukar: Present, Mike Szekely: Present, Luke Thorell: Present.

## 1. Call to Order

Motion to approve the meeting open at 7:30 pm and properly posted by advanced notice.  
Passed with a motion by Mike Szekely and a second by Luke Thorell.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Gary Regelin: Yea, Duane Schoff: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

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

## 3. Approval of Absent Board Members

## 4. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda and the bills, and authorize the Board President and Treasurer to sign and validate all the checks and warrants as presented

Passed with a motion by Duane Schoff and a second by Gary Regelin.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Gary Regelin: Yea, Duane Schoff: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

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

Receipts \$311,797.66, expenses \$348,265.13, balance \$1,644,500.15

#### 4.4.2. Investment Fund

Depreciation: Receipts \$320.81, expenses \$0, balance \$1,035,236.38

Bond: Receipts \$11,787.50, expenses \$227,277.50, balance \$151,265.11

#### 4.4.3. Activities Fund

Receipts \$23,442.37, expenses \$14,678.68, balance \$123,341.90

#### 4.4.4. Nutrition Fund

Receipts \$9,350.74, expenses \$26,722.15, balance \$65,757.33

#### 4.4.5. Building Fund

Receipts \$2,710.14, expenses \$1,471.48, balance \$140,932.18

### 5. Introduction of Speakers

Marcy Luth with AMG&L explained the annual audit via phone call at 7:45-8:00 pm

Wolfpack Booster Club -Lindsey Hays: The tv will be installed before Thanksgiving to replace the honor roll board. Give to Grow is beginning this week. Social media posts will be going out to promote the track facility project. They would like the community to be surveyed to see how they feel about funding a track facility project.

### 6. Board Committee Reports

#### 6.1. Negotiations

Negotiations have begun with certified staff. Next meeting is Nov. 18.

##### 6.1.1. Discussion on adding a new sub-group.

Discuss the cost and benefits that could be offered to the non-certified staff that currently does not receive health insurance benefits.

#### 6.2. Americanism

Veteran's Program was today.

#### 6.3. Policy

#### 6.4. Building, Grounds, and Transportation

Roof bids, dump trailer bids to replace the lawn Debbie trailer.

#### 6.5. Preschool Advisory

Hoping to have an application ready for approval in December.

### 7. Administrative Reports

AD - listed the coaches for winter activities and the numbers of participants, doing evaluations of fall activities, working on the 2025 schedules. District NSAA meeting was held last week. NSIAAA meeting today state dress code, no punishment for activity participants. Also discussion was held about the new marijuana laws, etc.

## 7.1. Principal

Fastbridge testing last week of November  
MAPS testing all of December  
Winter Sports/Activities are underway  
One Act competitions begin tomorrow  
Sports Conditioning began today  
Veterans program this morning....  
Turkey Days on the 24th  
The next six weeks are going to go fast!  
Also discussed Mental Health funding



## 7.2. Superintendent

State Ed Conference and New Board Member workshop coming up. Jacob Sertich would like to meet with the Board again in Dec. Possibly have the January Goals & Planning meeting at UNK. Sup. evaluation. Dec. Sparq training at 5:00 meeting at 6:00. Gave a bus update.

## 8. Public Forum

### 9. Recess

Recess taken 8:40-8:45

## 10. Action Agenda Items

### 10.1. Vote to approve verbiage changes in Policies 2010 and 6018

Vote to approve policy changes in policies 2010 and 6018.

Passed with a motion by Mike Szekely and a second by Scott Schukar.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Gary Regelin: Yea, Duane Schoff: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

Policy 2010 will be changed from Board Packets to Sparq for board information before meetings. We will be going digital.

Policy 6018 - Standards based grading is added to the policy.

### 10.2. We will repeal policies 3056, 5026, and 5027.

Vote to repeal policies 3056, 5026, and 5027.

Passed with a motion by Duane Schoff and a second by Kelly Anderson.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Gary Regelin: Yea, Duane Schoff: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

We are repealing policy 3056 - Procurement, Suspension and Debarment Governed by Federal Procurment Regulations due to KSB advising it is no longer needed.

Policies 5026 - Sex Equality in the Education Program and Policy 5027 - Sexual harassment of students by other students are both covered by the Title IX policy.

### 10.3. Policy 4040

Vote to approve policy 4040 and add the insurance coverage for the assistant cook position.

Passed with a motion by Scott Schukar and a second by Gary Regelin.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Gary Regelin: Yea, Duane Schoff: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

**DECEMBER**

Policy 4067 - Coaches Clinic will need to be changed to policy 3075.1 in order to not have 2 policies that are the same.

#### 10.5. Policy 3040.1

Vote to approve policy 3040.1, School Emergency Response Mapping.

Passed with a motion by Gary Regelin and a second by Luke Thorell.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Gary Regelin: Yea, Duane Schoff: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

Policy 3040.1 will be added in order to apply for grant funding to provide safety mapping of the school facilities.

#### 10.6. Discussion of a dump trailer.

Vote to purchase the 2025 PJ 14 foot dump trailer from Kohler Trailer Sales.

Passed with a motion by Duane Schoff and a second by Luke Thorell.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Gary Regelin: Yea, Duane Schoff: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

#### 10.7. Staff Christmas gift

Discuss and take appropriate action on Staff Christmas Gift Card \$35 to Fritz's Meats

Passed with a motion by Kelly Anderson and a second by Gary Regelin.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Gary Regelin: Yea, Duane Schoff: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

#### 11. Closed Session

#### 12. Next Meeting Date

Sparq Data will hold a training session with the Board on December 9 at 5:00 p.m. The Regular Meeting will follow on December 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

#### 13. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm

**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.