GREAT FALLS HIGH SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

TREAT OTHERS THE WAY YOU WANT TO BE TREATED ✳ DO WHAT'S RIGHT ✳ DO THE BEST YOU CAN

OFFICE INFORMATION

✳ Important phone numbers:

Attendance: 406-268-6251
Counseling: 406-268-6330
Finance: 406-268-6317
Main Office: 406-268-6250
Records: 406-268-6315
Nurse: 406-268-6332

✳ Important To-Do's:

- **Update PowerSchool Information:**
  - Please remember to update phone numbers and addresses that may have changed over the summer.
  - Call or email Debbie at:
    - 406-268-6337 or
    - Debbie_Munson@gfps.k12.mt.us

Click here to read handbook:

- **Activity Participation Forms:**
  - If you do not want your student to participate in certain GFHS clubs and/or organizations, you need to complete the ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION form.

✳ GFHS FEDERAL CARDS

- **Federal Cards sent home need to be returned to your student's 2nd period Teacher promptly.**
- **if your student doesn't have a 2nd period class, please have them return it to the main office.**
- **A Federal card must be returned to the school by every enrolled GFHS student.**

✳ Attendance Notifications:

GFHS Parents/Guardians

In order to receive attendance notifications regarding your student, you must be signed up with PowerSchool!
Call attendance for support!

REGULAR			PLCT			EARLY OUT			ASSEMBLY (40 MIN)		
PERIOD	START	END	PERIOD	START	END	PERIOD	START	END	PERIOD	START	END
0	7:00	7:54	0	7:07	7:54	0	7:24	7:55	0	7:05	7:55
1	8:00	8:53	1	8:00	8:47	1	8:00	8:31	1	8:00	8:48
2	8:59	9:52	2	8:53	9:40	2	8:36	9:07	2	8:53	9:41
3	9:58	10:51	3	9:46	10:43	3	9:12	9:43	ASSEMBLY	9:46	10:26
4	10:56	11:49	4	10:49	11:36	4	9:48	10:19	3	10:31	11:18
LUNCH	11:49	12:19	LUNCH	11:36	12:06	5	10:24	10:56	4	11:23	12:10
5	12:25	1:18	5	12:12	12:59	6	11:01	11:33	LUNCH	12:10	12:40
6	1:24	2:17	6	1:05	1:52	7	11:38	12:10	5	12:45	1:32
7	2:23	3:15	7	1:58	2:45				6	1:37	2:24
									7	2:29	3:15

Principal's Message:

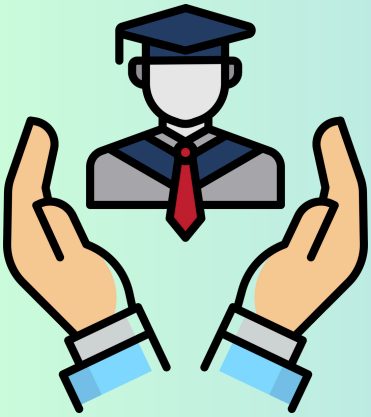
Dear Bison Family,
Welcome back from the Thanksgiving break! I hope you were able to spend time with family and loved ones and refresh a little bit. This week we have Parent/Teacher Conferences on Thursday from 3:30-7:00pm. Also, almost 500 students will be attending our Winter Formal on Saturday (Dec. 6th) from 7pm-10pm at the Newberry.
We begin our winter sports season on Saturday as well, with our GFHS Wrestlers taking on both Flathead and Glacier at the GFHS Fieldhouse.
Parents and students, check our our new Career Exploration classes we will be offering for the 2nd semester this year. A ParentSquare message was sent detailing the classes. They are designed for students who may not know what they're doing after graduating from GFHS.

Go Bison!
Geoffry Habel

✳ Parent/Teacher Conferences this week!

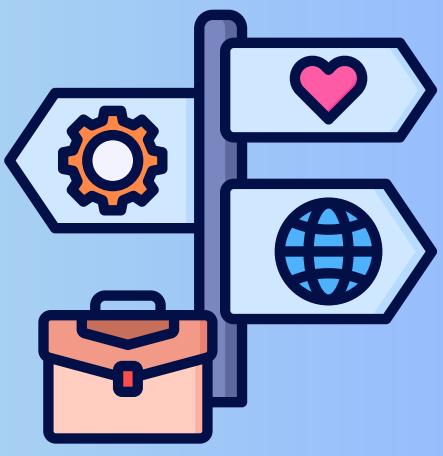
Thursday, December 4th, from 3:30-7:00pm

Great Falls High School Counselor Corner



USE THE QR CODE OR CLICK HERE FOR SENIOR CLASS NEWS

USE THE QR CODE OR CLICK HERE FOR COUNSELOR NEWS



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GFHS Fine Arts At A Glance

10/13	Fall Choir	Davidson Auditorium
10/15-17	All-State	Great Falls
10/20	Fall Instrumental 1	Davidson Auditorium
10/21	Fall Instrumental 2	Davidson Auditorium
11/10-11	AA Choir	Billings
11/20-22	Fall Drama	Davidson Auditorium
12/8	Holiday Concert 1	Davidson Auditorium
12/9	Holiday Concert 2	Davidson Auditorium
12/11	Fruit Delivery	Fairgrounds

Current Student Exhibit Schedule:

11/07-12/09/2025, ERGON Exhibit, GFC-MSU, GFPS K-12 Show, Open to the Public
11/25/25-1/20/26, Dahl Gallery GFH Student Exhibit, Reception December 18th, 2025, 3:30-5:00
12/10/2025-01/13/2026, GFHS @ the District Office Building (DOB), No Reception, Open to the Public

¡Alebrijes!

Check out the Spanish & Sculpture Collaboration on the 2nd floor!

Winter Wonderland Market

Great Falls High HUB
Multiple Club & Student Booths
Before the Holiday Music Programs
Dec. 8th & 9th, 2025

This Week in Extra-Curriculars

SPORT	DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	LEVEL	VARSITY	JV	SOPH	FROSH

GFHS Wrestling: Saturday 12/6/25

GFHS Fieldhouse:

- 12:30pm - v. Flathead HS
- 2:30pm - v. Glacier HS

GFHS PROFILE OF A LEARNER

LEARNER TRAITS, SKILLS AND CHARACTERISTICS (9TH – 12TH GRADE) THAT WE BELIEVE WILL MAKE EVERY STUDENT BETTER:

GREAT FALLS HIGH SCHOOL IS COMMITTED TO TAKING STEPS EVERY DAY TO INSTILL THESE QUALITIES INTO OUR STUDENTS:

CRITICAL THINKER

- Investigate a question with an open mind
- Evaluate sources of information for reliability
- Integrate different viewpoints
- Synthesize information to take action

STRONG COMMUNICATION SKILLS

- Articulate ideas to a targeted audience effectively
- Use conflict resolution strategies effectively
- Actively listen for understanding
- Collaborate with others
- Reflect on their communication with others

WORK ETHIC

- Persevere to complete difficult tasks
- Understand how to balance time and priorities
- Use intrepersonal skills and seek resources to help complete tasks
- Complete activities to the set standard and show pride in work
- Integrate academic skills with workplace skills to demonstrate readiness for life beyond high school

PROBLEM SOLVER

- Integrate other points of view into the problem-solving process to generate an optimal solution
- Evaluate information and compromise to reach a solution
- Identify healthy risks and take them when needed

INTEGRITY

- Behave empathetically to others
- Self regulate
- Follow through
- Consider the good of the whole and act accordingly
- Self-regulate
- Do the right thing while demonstrating grace, pride, and kindness, even when it is difficult
- Apply talents to better their community

GFHS TITLE I STATUS

Great Falls High is a Title I high school, which means we receive federal support to help ensure every student has access to a high-quality education.

- Our goal is to improve academic outcomes for all students by providing the resources and support they need to succeed.
- If you ever have questions or concerns about your student's progress, please don't hesitate to reach out to their counselor or associate principal.
- We are here to partner with you and problem-solve together.

Paul Culbertson, Associate Principal	406-268-6322	Students A-G
Tami Faulkner, Associate Principal	406-268-6313	Students H-N
Shianne Currey, Associate Principal	406-268-6314	Students O-Z
Chad Getten, Guidance Counselor	406-268-6334	Students A-C
Amy Schoenen, Guidance Counselor	406-268-6338	Students D-G
Clint Houston, Guidance Counselor	406-268-6336	Students H-L
Rosie Rossberg, Guidance Counselor	406-268-6333	Students M-R
Dana Freshly, Guidance Counselor	406-268-6335	Students S-Z

MORE STUDENT SUPPORTS:

- **Saturday School This Week**
  - **12/6/25**
  - **8:30-11:30am**
- **After School Support - 12/1/25**
  - **Math 3:20-5:10pm in South Campus 108**
  - **English 3:45-5:10 in Main Campus 211**

***Watch here for weekly updated information**

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GFHS TITLE I STATUS

WE WANT ALL FAMILIES TO KNOW

- **We Care Deeply About Your Child's Success:**
  - **Our teachers and staff are committed to your child's academic achievement, personal growth, and well-being, striving to help them become confident, capable, and responsible individuals.**
- **We Foster Growth Beyond Grades:**
  - **We focus on developing lifelong skills like problem-solving, self-advocacy, responsibility, and work ethic, preparing students for future success in and out of the classroom.**
- **We Challenge and Support:**
  - **We hold high expectations, pushing students to grow while providing compassion, encouragement, and individualized support to meet their unique needs.**
- **We Build Relationships:**
  - **Our staff strives to be trusted mentors, creating a safe and welcoming space where students feel valued, heard, and motivated to succeed.**
- **We Invest Time and Heart:**
  - **We work with many students daily and pour our energy, compassion, and resources into helping each child progress, even when faced with challenges.**
- **We Work as a Team:**
  - **Your child's success is a collaborative effort. We need your support to reinforce expectations for your child to be in class every day so we create an environment where learning thrives.**

We are a Second Home: Our school is more than a place for learning—it's a community. We are here for our students and families from 7:00 a.m. until late in the evening, offering support, connection, and care.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

GFH - Winter Formal Ticket Sales	12/01-12/03	Mon-Tue	HUB	3:15-4:30pm	Ringler/Mora
GFH - Holiday Concert Rehearsals	12/02-12/05	Tue-Fri	AUD	8am-4pm	Ryan
GFH - Parent Teacher Conferences	12/04/25	Thu	GFH	3:30pm-7:00pm	
GFH - Winter Formal	12/06/25	Sat	Newberry	7:00-10:00pm	Ringler/Mora
GFH - SAT Administration	12/06/25	Sat	GFH SC 105	8:00am-11:00pm	Rosales

PARENTSQUARE INFORMATION:

ParentSquare is the new district communication tool.
Click on the links below for more information:
GFPS District Letter
Getting Started Guide

Free and Reduced paperwork makes a HUGE difference FOR EVERYONE connected with GFH.
Please CLICK HERE to apply!

CONNECT WITH US!

Social Media

- GFH Website: https://gfhs.gfps.k12.mt.us/
- Instagram: @greatfallshighbison
- Facebook: @GFHBISON

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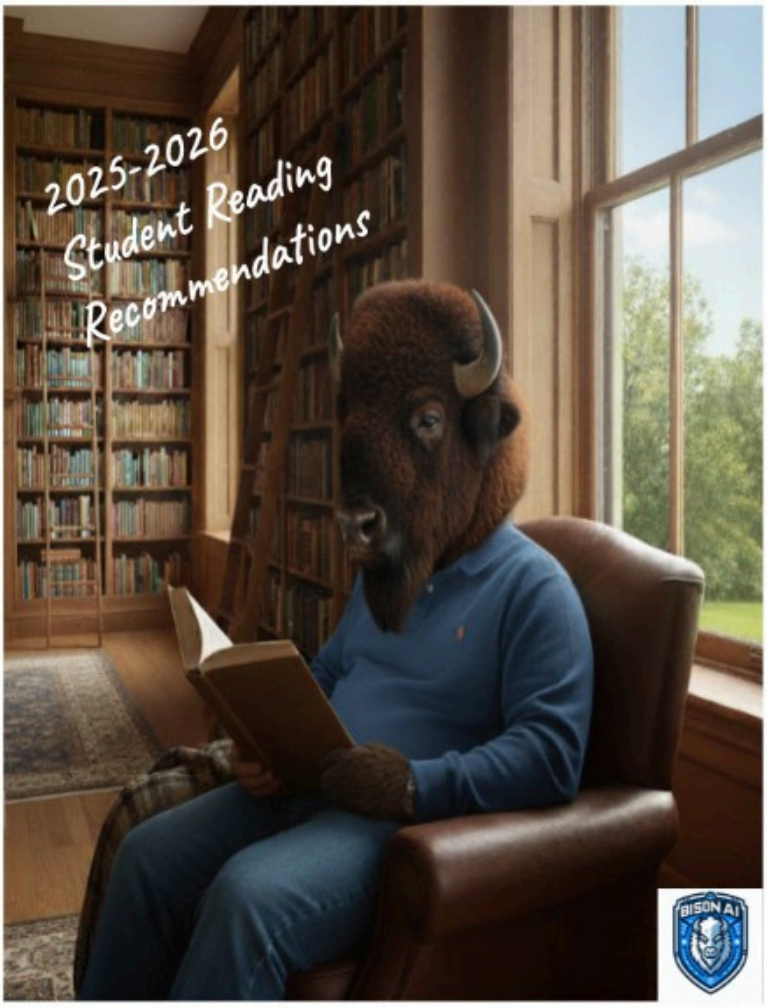

Have you finished a book from the Great Falls High Library this month that you want to share with the school?

Complete a "Student Recommendation" card to be placed by the book you read.

Include:

- Author
- Title
- A brief description of the book (we have examples)
- Why you recommend this book

On the Back:

- Your Name
- ID Number

When you complete the card, your name is put in a drawing to win a $10 gift card from Big Dipper Ice Cream, a $10 gift card to MacKenzie River Pizza, and a $20 gift card from Cassiopea Books. The drawing will be at the end of each month.

Great Falls High School Historical Article Of The Week

- **Tribune thoughts about workplace attire thirty years ago:**
  - **January 1st , 1995**

Dressing down is up

But Wall Street, others still tied to fashion formalities

Tribune photo by James E. Larcombe

Attorney Gary Zadick, who prefers blue jeans and cowboy boots to coat and tie, says casual clothes are the norm at his law firm and some others in Great Falls, as well.

Local office workers don't feel pressed to dress to impress

By JAMES E. LARCOMBE
Tribune Staff Writer

With a western shirt, blue jeans and boots, Gary Zadick often dresses as if his work involves a saddle and four-legged critters.

But in reality, he pushes paper, not cows and knows far more about litigation than irrigation.

Zadick is an attorney with the firm of Ugrin Alexander Zadick & Higgins in Great Falls. But instead of the usual coat and tie often worn by a male attorney, he prefers more casual clothing. And he's not alone.

"As far as lawyers in office practice go, I definitely see a trend of dressing more casually," he said. "It's becoming more accepted."

When Zadick heads to court, he opts for more formal attire. But when he's in the office doing research or meeting with clients, the tie and coat are gone.

"I work five days a week and five nights a week," Zadick said. "I'd better be comfortable."

While most folks agree that Montana is a more casual place than most urban areas, when it comes to work, there is no upward trend in dressing down, local retailers say.

"It depends on the business," said Ike Kaufman, owner of Kaufmans Menswear Centre in Great Falls. "Some businesses are more casual than others.

A number of local firms have adopted the idea of "casual Fridays," where workers dress down as the work week winds down. Kaufman says the demand for casual wear appropriate for work has increased in recent years. In fact, he says, the term "Friday wear" has become part of the clothing industry jargon.

At Dale Stapp Fashions, a women's clothing store in Great Falls, Sally Seeberger says the casual wave is barely a ripple in local professional circles.

"I don't think its catching on," Seeberger said. "I think people see it as a diversion for their employees."

The value of casual dress in the workplace is debatable. While some say it boosts morale, "I've heard productivity goes down on those days," Seeberger said.

At Wendt Advertising, Fridays are definitely for dressing down.

"I was very concerned about casual day when it was first suggested," said Mary Tietjen, Wendt's chief executive officer. "My concerns were unfounded. We absolutely love our casual day. I would recommend it to anybody."

She said meetings on Fridays are often more productive. Customers of the ad agency seem to be catching on.

"We find that clients enjoy coming to see us on Friday so they can wear jeans too," Tietjen said.

The ad executive sees casual work dress catching among other businesses.

"I just think the world is less buttoned up than it used to be," said Tietjen.

But there are pockets of resistance to casual dress. At D.A. Davidson & Co., the local brokerage firm, a more casual look is acceptable on Fridays, but only during the summer months, said Stu Nicholson, the firm's chief financial officer.

While there are exceptions, the financial field is still largely a formal affair.

"I think there is sort of a stigma that bankers, stockbrokers and insurance people are suit-and-tie people," Nicholson said.

For Zadick, the matter is clear cut. Even as a kid, he vowed to never have a job that required dressing up. He says his casual attire has no bearing on the quality of his work.

"I don't think any better with a tie on," he said.

By KATHLEEN DRISCOLL
Gannett Rochester Newspapers

For Ruth Russell, T.G.I.F. isn't just about anticipating the joys of the upcoming weekend. It's the one day she can trade in her pantyhose for a sweater and casual slacks.

A benefits analyst at Cigna Group Insurance in Rochester, N.Y., Russell loves the day away from her usual dressy suits and heels: "It's a real treat. It puts us in a good mood and winds the week down."

Russell has joined the hordes of workers across the country who happily forgo jackets, ties, dresses and pantyhose in favor of jeans, chinos, polo shirts and sweaters.

Friday "dress down" is part of a sweeping national trend toward casual dress in the workplace. Though it's controversial in some places, the movement has swept up virtually everyone in the office hierarchy, from the CEO to the receptionist.

And it's broadly popular, from Eastman Kodak Co. and Xerox Corp. to municipal governments and social agencies. Even IBM, whose legions of sales workers wore regulation blue suits, blue ties and white shirts for years, has relaxed its dress code in some places.

Many companies relish the shirtsleeve camaraderie.

"I think it gives an atmosphere of less formality," says Matthew Augustine, president of Eltrex Industries. "We try to operate as a family at our company and this enhances that." Eltrex employees began dressing casually at the end of the week about three months ago. And Augustine, who trades his business suit and French cuffs for slacks and a silk shirt on Fridays, notes that his people do make exceptions for visitors and meetings outside.

> "Dressing down is popular partly because it's a free benefit the company can give to people," says Allan Cohen, a dean at Babson College in Massachusetts.

Casual wear at work not only has gained popularity for its comfort but for its trendiness. Today, dressing casually on the job is chic, a way to show your company is in style.

"People used to apologize for dressing down," chuckles Germaine Knapp, president of Wordsmart, a Rochester communications firm. "Now, if I show up somewhere in a suit, I apologize for dressing up."

Recent surveys seem to bear out the popularity of casual wear at work. A survey of 100 employers released earlier this year by the research firm NPD Group Inc. of Port Washington, N.Y., showed that almost 90 percent are "dressing down," either through special days or a year-round dress code.

Of course, the casual trend has touched off its own financial boom. At Levi Strauss & Co., for example, sales of the Dockers leisure line soared to $1 billion last year. In contrast, sales of suits and formal wear have dropped 13 percent since 1985, according to the Marketing Resource Corporation of America.

Some trace the origin of the "dress down" trend to the West Coast, in Silicon Valley companies that have made casual wear an integral part of their lifestyle.

"Dressing down is popular partly because it's a free benefit the company can give to people," says Allan Cohen, a dean at Babson College in Massachusetts who has written about the casual dress trend.

Another contributor: faxes, phone mail and e-mail that have reduced public contact. With fewer out-of-the-office meetings, people are dressing less to impress and more for comfort, experts say.

And baby boomers revel in it. "Baby boomers who are now in management were the first generation to grow up in casual clothes," says Levi Strauss spokesman Bradford Williams. "They were allowed to wear jeans to high school. Casual clothing became part of their lifestyle."

Aside from its cultural origins, the trend remains controversial. Indeed, some workers remain staunchly opposed.

"You've got all the time in the world to dress down when you retire," declared one woman, who asked not to be identified. Others worry that dressing casually — even for one day — jeopardizes an employer's professional image.

B. Thomas Golisano, chief executive of Paychex Inc., a payroll processing company in Penfield, N.Y., couldn't agree more.

"Why would we do it any other way?" he asks. Paychex is known for its strict dress code, requiring suits and ties for men and dresses or skirts for women. Paychex is not alone in requiring traditional business clothing. Financial firms and brokerage houses, for instance, maintain allegiance to suits as well.

"Wall Street remains a pretty conservative place," says a spokesman for Lehman Brothers in New York. "We have meetings with clients at all levels at all times. Business attire is the most appropriate form of dress."

Despite that devotion to tradition, many top executives believe employees' clothing simply isn't as significant an issue for a company's image as it used to be.

Yet John T. Malloy, author of the original how-to book, "Dress for Success," insists that dress — as a key element in image — is as important as ever, particularly for women.

Without professional suits and dresses, women are perceived as lower-level employees in the organization, Malloy says. "If the world's male chauvinists came up with a plot to stop women in the workplace, they couldn't have done it better. Dressing down puts them at a market disadvantage."

Article courtesy of:
The Great Falls Tribune and Newspapers.com