

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.

* Opt Out Forms Sent Home

- Survey Opt Out forms were sent home for all 10th and 12th graders. Please fill that out and get it back to the GFH Main Office by 2/20/26 if you DO NOT want your student to take the survey.
- The health survey is 100% anonymous.

*

* 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,

A reminder that we do not have school on Monday due to a holiday.

This week we'll be celebrating our theater musical production, GREASE. Shows will run Thursday and Friday at 7pm and Saturday at 2pm. Come on out and enjoy the show!

GFHS will also be sending our wrestling team and all our BPA qualifiers to state! We are having them walk the halls on Tuesday of this week.

It is also crosstown basketball this week, both Thursday and Friday!

Go Bison!

Geoffry Habel



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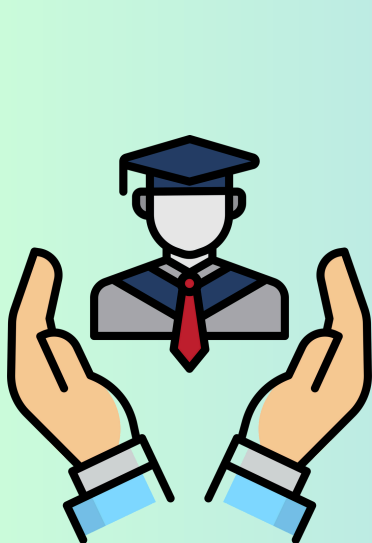
GFHS Drama Production of GREASE:

- Come out and join us!

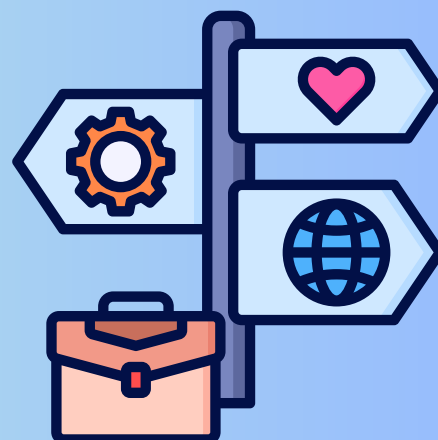
THIS THURSDAY AND FRIDAY
7pm in the Davidson Auditorium

THIS SATURDAY
2pm in the Davidson Auditorium

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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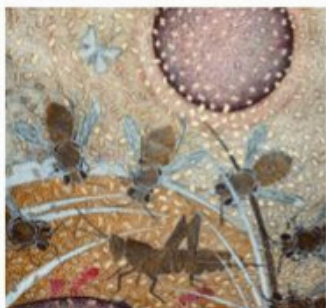
DO THE BEST YOU CAN

GFHS Fine Arts At A Glance

January 8th and 9th	Jazz Workshop	CMR
January 27th	EMS Showcase	EMS
January 29th - 31st	GFHS Drama Showcase	Davidson Auditorium
February 2nd and 3rd	AA Orchestra	CMR
February 9th	Orchestra Concert	Davidson Auditorium
February 12th and 13th	Thespian Festival	Missoula
February 19th - 21st	Musical: Grease	Davidson Auditorium
February 23rd	Montana Youth Sing	Davidson Auditorium
February 26th - 28th	Musical: Grease	Davidson Auditorium



Frottage Revisited VICKIE MEGUIRE



Norman T. Dahl Gallery, GFHS
Now through March 4th, 2026
OPEN to the PUBLIC



The public is welcome to the
High Voltage Crosstown Art Exhibit
at the **Dark Horse, 116 1st Ave S**
Thursday, February, 19th from 4-5:30 PM.

The Dark Horse in the lower level of Celtic Cowboy.

Current Student Exhibit Schedule:

12/11/2025, Ongoing, 2nd floor display cases, New work 1/15
02/10/2026, **NEW Art @ Buffalo Blanc**

Upcoming Student Exhibit Schedule:

02/19-21/2026, Dark Horse in Celtic Cowboy, HS Student Exhibit, Reception February 19th, 2026, 4:00-5:30 PM
03/05-04/28/2026, GF Public Library, GFPS K-12 Youth Art Month Exhibit, Reception March 6th, 2026, 4:00-5:30 PM
March, State Capital, Helena, MAEA K-12 Youth Art Month (YAM) Exhibit, no reception, open to the public
March, Russell Country Credit Union & Four Seasons, Young Russell Juried Exhibit, Western Art Week
March, Horizon Credit Union & Heritage, Young Masters Juried Exhibit, Western Art Week



Art Club meets every
Wednesday at lunch
in room 113. Feel
free to stop in and
check it out!

Want to learn about
earning a letter in Art?

Stop by and talk to Mr.
Medved or Mrs. Harant today!

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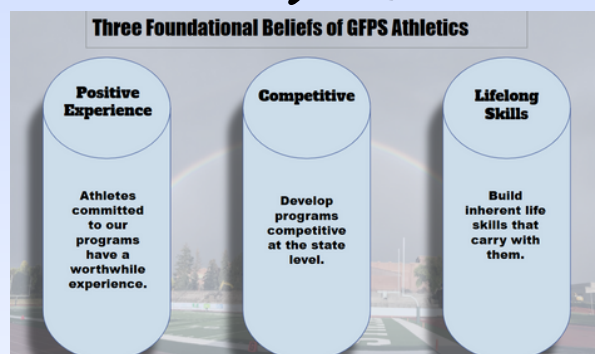
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GFHS WEEKLY ATHLETICS

WR	THURS	2/19/2026	GFH	STATE	BILLINGS METRA	V	3:00 PM			
GBB	THURS	2/19/2026	GFH	CMR (CMR HOME)	CMR FH- AUX GYM	V-JV-S-F	7:00 PM	5:30 PM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM
WR	FRI	2/20/2026	GFH	STATE	BILLINGS METRA	V	9:00 AM			
BBB	FRI	2/20/2026	GFH	CMR (CMR HOME)	CMR FH-AUX GYM	V-JV-S-F	7:00 PM	5:30 PM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM
WR	SAT	2/21/2026	GFH	STATE	BILLINGS METRA	V	9:00 AM			



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Bison Beat

February 13, 2026

Monday Feb 16-No School

Tuesday Feb 17 -regular bell schedule

Wednesday Feb 18 -PLCT schedule

Thursday Feb 19- regular bell schedule

Friday Feb 20-regular bell schedule



Vocational

The cleaning crew continues to work at the Great Falls Transit two days per week. Several students are out on paid jobs and underclassmen will soon be starting to get out for one month training jobs in the community.

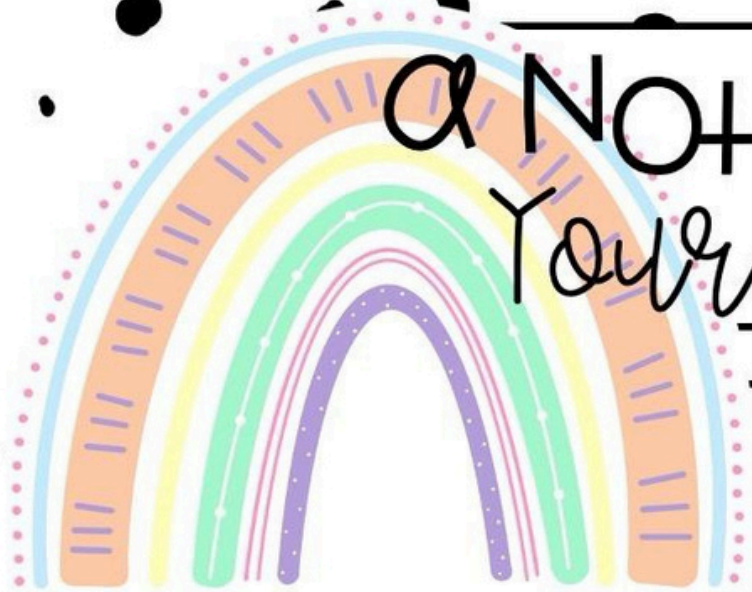
Life Skills

Students have been working on community skills such as how to act at a restaurant, how to navigate the community safely, and how to use the city transit system.

Community News

We are working on doing at least one collaborative outing each week with the Secondary Life skills students and their teacher. This helps the seniors who will be attending next year get familiar with their teacher and gives them the opportunity to practice community skills.

Bison Beat is created by the life skills students of Great Falls High



A NOTE FROM Your Teacher

February 13, 2026

It's been a busy couple of weeks! Students went to work sites in the building and the community. Several students went out outings with staff as well. Some went to Buffalo Blanc (the coffee shop near GFHS), some went to Paris Gibson to visit secondary life skills and then attended an outing to the new coffee shop downtown, Little Light. Sadly, they were out of donuts when the students visited.

As we move through the rest of the school year, we will be doing outings with the secondary life skills staff and students on a weekly basis and we will continue to provide outings to bowling, places to shop, and other places of interest in the community.

Congratulations to all who competed in Special Olympics Bowling Last week! We are proud of you!
Thanks for reading the Bison Beat!

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:**
 - 2/21/26
 - 8:30am - 11:30am
- **After School Support - 2/17/26**
 - 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:

Week of 02/15/26-02/21/26				
GFH - President's Day - No School	02/16/26	Monday		All Day
GFH - Group Picture Day	02/17/26	Tuesday	OG	8:00am-3:15pm
GFH - Pre College Advisory	02/18/26	Wednesday	HUB	10:30-12:00pm
GFH - MT Air National Guard	02/18/26	Wednesday	HUB	11:36-12:06pm
GFH - US Army Table	02/19/26	Thursday	HUB	11:30am-1:00pm
GFH - Drama Winter Show	02/19-02/21/26	Thursday-Saturday	AUD	7:30pm (Sat. 2:00pm)



ParentSquare

PARENTSQUARE INFORMATION:

ParentSquare is the new district communication tool.
Click on the links below for more information:

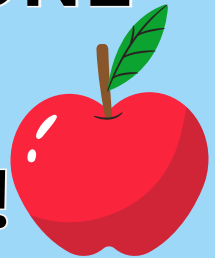
[GFPS District Letter](#)
[Getting Started Guide](#)



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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LIBRARY



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.



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 interpersonal 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
- Do the right thing while demonstrating grace, pride, and kindness, even when it is difficult
- Apply talents to better their community

Great Falls High School Historical Article Of The Week Tribune article from Tue. Apr. 20th, 1965

Gillespie, Lucas, Hanley Get Bison MVP Awards

Presentation of three "Most Valuable" awards highlighted the Quarterbacks Club annual athletic banquet Monday night in Hotel Rainbow.

Jack Gillespie, 6-9 center for the state Great Falls High School basketball team, received the Most Valuable Player Award. He averaged 24 rebounds per game and averaged 25 points per game.

Rich Lucas, winner of the 112-pound division at the state tournament and only undefeated Bison wrestler, won the Most Valuable Wrestler award. He was the team's highest scorer with 90 points. He had a 25-0 record.

John Hanley, one of the top skiers in the state and state representative in the Northwestern Ski Championships in Bend, Ore., received the Most Valuable Skier award.

Special Awards

Other special awards went to Gillespie, who also won the top rebounding award, for grabbing 320 in 28 games; Randy Carlson, who led the team in assists, and Jim Kernaghan, who received the free throw trophy after connecting on 77 per cent of his charity tosses.

Jeff Cuniff also received an award for the fastest fall. He downed an opponent in 22 seconds in the Northcentral Division tournament in Kalispell.

The banquet honored lettermen in basketball, wrestling, and track, whose seasons are completed, and track men, whose season has just begun.

Herb Agcos, banquet speaker and head wrestling coach at Montana State College, Bozeman, said the Bison basketball team showed it was the "greatest and best in the state."

senior, second letter; Carlson, senior, second; Roger Jones, senior, second; Gary Swartz, second; Jerry Sabol, senior, second; Tom Winters, senior, second; Bob Crnkovich, first; Randy Morrison, junior, first; Marvin Smith, junior, first; Damon Schlenske, first, Mike Smith, first.

Letter Winners

Receiving wrestling letters were Niswanger, who ended with a season record of 20 wins, three losses and two ties, was first in the divisional tournament and runnerup in the state tournament, his third letter; Art Bicsak, senior, 11-6, third in division, his second; Chuck Widdicombe, senior, 22-2-1, divisional champion and consolation winner in state, second; Dick Kilpatrick, senior, 17-5, second in divisional, second; Wayne Ross, senior, 13-5-3; first in divisional and second in state, first; Ray Peters, senior, 10-5, first in divisional, first; Mike Wilmot and Ivan Beston, saw limited action to earn their letters. Both are seniors.

Lucas, junior, 25-0 and winner of divisional and state tournaments, second; Paul Schafer, junior, 21-3, first in divisional and runnerup in state, first; Cuniff, 23-4-1, third in divisional and state, second; Gary Jensen, sophomore, 13-6, third in divisional, first, and Frank Rossberg, sophomore, 9-8, second in divisional, first.

The manager was Gregg Cuniff.

Receiving skiing letters were Clark Babcock, a junior; Hanley, senior; Dennis McCafferty, senior; Jerry Omundson, senior; Bruce Steel, senior, and Lloyd Taylor, senior.

Team Introduced

Members of the track squad

team showed it was the "greatest and best in the state."

He complimented Bison wrestlers and coaching staff for the fine showing the team did during the season. Great Falls had a 14-1 dual-meet record and took the divisional title and was runnerup in the state tournament. Losing out the Missoula Sentinel.

George Wright, Quarterbacks Club president, said the club would fully support the new Russell High School.

He also said the club, because of the two schools, may in the near future have an all-sports banquet, rather than the two they have now.

Great Rivalry

William Swarthout, principal, said he is looking forward with apprehension when the schools split.

"The greatest rivalry will be between the two schools," he said. "And it is rivalry and competition that makes sports great."

Walter Schwank, athletic director at Montana State University, said that the basketball team was "really the best in Montana."

The senior wrestlers presented Coach Rudy Sabo with a "championship coaching trophy."

Basketball players receiving letters were Ron Madeen, senior, his third letter; Kernaghan,

Team Introduced

Members of the track squad introduced along with the letter winners were Rhett Allen, senior; Jim Aronow, junior; Branch Brady, senior; Gary Braden, junior; Mickey Cabbage, senior; Terry Carver, senior; Randy Hahn, sophomore; Ron Hahn, junior; Jim Hewson, senior; Dick Jarman, senior; Commie Little, senior; Dave Nebel, senior; Tom Nelson, senior.

Marty Palagi, junior; Pete Robino, junior; Wayne Rush, senior; Jerry Simmons, junior; Bruce Steel, senior; Gary Thorn, junior; Maurice Volkman, junior; Gary Walrack, senior; Chuck Widdicombe, senior, and Bob Zins, sophomore.



Article courtesy of:

The Great Falls Tribune and
Newspapers.com