



THE WOLFPACK



LOOMIS PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of Loomis

February 2025 Issue



SMALL TOWN: BIG DATES

- 2-1 FKC Basketball Tournament
CNFL #2 Speech Meet in Grand Island at 8:00AM
Boys Wrestling in Doniphan-Trumbull at 9:00AM
Girls Wrestling in Amherst at 9:30AM
- 2-2 Groundhog Day
FKC Cheer Practice at 2:00PM
- 2-3 FKC Basketball Tournament
Peewee Wrestling Practice for PK-2nd Grade at 6:15PM
Peewee Wrestling Practice for 3rd-8th Grade at 7:00PM
- 2-4 FKC Basketball Tournament
Building, Grounds and Transportation Mtg at 11:30AM
FFA CDE Practice at 4:00PM
- 2-5 FFA State Degree and Proficiency Reviews
Cheer Practice at 6:30AM
Junior High Basketball in Elm Creek at 2:30PM
- 2-6 FKC Basketball Tournament
Boys FKC/TVC Wrestling in Shelton at 10:00AM
FFA CDE Practice at 4:00PM
- 2-7 FKC Basketball Tournament
Girls District Wrestling in Ord
School Board Meeting - Bid Letting at 7:00AM
Dental Clinic for Grades K-5th from 8:15AM - 12:00PM
- 2-8 FKC Basketball Tournament
FKC Cheer Performance at halftime of the Championship Game
Girls District Wrestling in Ord
Speech Meet in Gothenburg at 8:00AM
- 2-10 Cheer Practice at 6:30AM
FFA CDE Practice at 4:00PM
Peewee Wrestling Practice for PK-2nd Grade at 6:15PM
Peewee Wrestling Practice for 3rd-8th Grade at 7:00PM
School Board Mtg at 7:00PM
FFA Mtg at 7:00PM
- 2-11 G/B Basketball in Axtell; JV 4:30, GV 6:00, BV 7:45
- 2-12 FFA District Career Development Events #2 in Curtis at 7:00AM
Junior High Basketball in Amherst at 12:30PM
High School Quiz Bowl in Franklin at 1:00PM
Monthly Booster Club Mtg at 6:20PM
- 2-13 11:50 Dismissal - Parent/Teacher Conferences from 1 - 8
School Board Mtg - Interview Construction Managers at 7:00AM
FKC Honor Band in Litchfield at 8:30AM
Grades 5th-6th Boys Basketball Practice at 6:30PM
- 2-14 St. Valentine's Day
Boys Wrestling Districts in Shelton
No School
G/B Basketball in Pleasanton; JV 4:30, GV 6:00, BV 7:45
- 2-15 Boys Wrestling Districts in Shelton
Speech Meet in Minden at 8:00AM
- 2-16 FFA Labor Auction
- 2-17 Girls Basketball SubDistricts
Cheer Practice at 6:30AM
Peewee Wrestling Practice for PK-2nd Grade at 6:15PM
Peewee Wrestling Practice for 3rd-8th Grade at 7:00PM
- 2-18 Girls Basketball SubDistricts
FFA CDE Practice at 4:00PM
- 2-19 Junior High Basketball in Hi-Line at 1:00PM
- 2-20 Girls Basketball SubDistricts
NSIAAA/NCA Cheer and Dance Competition
State Wrestling in Omaha
FFA CDE Practice at 4:00PM
- 2-21 NSIAAA/NCS Cheer and Dance Competition
State Wrestling in Omaha
Boys Basketball vs Maxwell in Loomis; JV 6:00, BV 7:30
1K Shooting Recognition during halftime
- 2-22 State Wrestling in Omaha
NSIAAA/NCS Cheer and Dance Competition
Speech Meet in Elm Creek at 8:00AM
- 2-24 Boys Basketball SubDistricts
FFA District CDE #3 Welding Contest
Cheer practice at 6:30AM
Peewee Wrestling Practice for PK-2nd Grade at 6:15PM
Peewee Wrestling Practice for 3rd-8th Grade at 7:00PM
- 2-25 Boys Basketball SubDistricts
FFA CDE Practice at 4:00PM
- 2-26 Science Field Trip All School Day
Kindergarten Round-Up at 8:00AM
- 2-27 Boys Basketball SubDistricts
- 2-28 Girls Basketball District Finals
State Speech



Straight from the Wolf's Den

Nate Weaver

Hello Wolves!

It seems like January flew by! February has been so much better with warm temperatures. The future forecast seems to show promise with the weather getting warmer! We need nice weather to get the students outside, to get them fresh air and moving!

It was a year ago when I accepted the Superintendent position here at Loomis Public Schools. I love to reflect on the time. I wouldn't say that it is a stress-free position, but I have enjoyed being able to continue working with such wonderful people. We are fortunate to have such a warm and caring staff. Some people have probably heard, but the school recently had a boiler go down in the high school. This is disappointing due to the boiler only being 15 years old. I know that this school isn't the first school to have to go through something like this, but unfortunately, we have to spend the money to have this issue fixed. The school is ok to have 1 boiler functioning to deliver adequate heat to the building. We are getting plans together to have this issue fixed and luckily have had no issues with the current boiler that is still running. Thankfully we have had some good companies in to help us figure out the best plan to fix this.

The end of February is an exciting time for wrestling, basketball, speech and FFA. Our student athletes have the opportunity to showcase their improvement throughout the year with conference, districts and state. I would like to wish them the best of luck to those competitors in the post season. We currently have 77 students 9-12. This is 4 more students that last year. 67 of those students are participating in a winter activity. That is 87% of the students that are involved in something outside of the school day. This number is well above the national average of 78%. I applaud those students and want to continue to encourage all students to be involved in an activity outside of the school day. The benefits of participating are valuable to their work ethic and their future. We offer FFA, Speech, Cheer, basketball and wrestling during the winter months.

Our teaching staff, coaches and sponsors also need a shout out! They create, build and push student relationships and encourage our students to get better every day. I appreciate their effort, ability, patience and attitude to get the students through the subjects, days, months, quarters and semesters. January is always a tough month dealing with sickness, activities and still trying to get through the curriculum, while still making it to practice after the school day is finished.

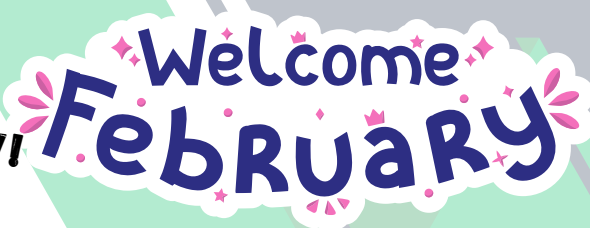
Time continues to fly by!

Go Wolves!

The Head Honcho's Highlight Reel

Jeff Ellsworth

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!



Winter Sports

Winter Sports are rapidly coming to a close with FKC tournaments in full swing for both basketball and wrestling followed by districts and state. Congrats to the Boys Wrestling Team for qualifying for State Duals this Saturday at UNK. Girls District Wrestling is this Friday and Saturday in Ord. Boys Districts are in Shelton next week. Girls State Wrestling is February 17 & 18 (Tuesday and Wednesday). Boys State Wrestling is February 19, 20, & 21 (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday). State Cheerleading is February 20 & 21 (Friday and Saturday). I hope you can come support these athletes.

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.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Thursday, February 13, we will dismiss school at 11:50. All students will have lunch prior to dismissal. Conferences start at 1:00 and will conclude at 8:00pm. There is **NO SCHOOL FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14!**

Testing

We will do our spring testing next month (NSCAS for grades K-10; ACT for Grade 11). For those worried about testing, check out the links below:

ACT Prep

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Cn04QgawUP8GVBVmogklxxaDkuu4ubH_VL-rmEFaVqo/edit?tab=t.0

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ULit02k77rpqsWp3Q4EN2WOTAG0xcUPibHISKcv8_qs/edit?tab=t.0

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Nb3sUixuodAODUQO6acNSXx6oWUcVY2ue3bwHh2eDmo/edit?tab=t.0>

Your students have access to Varsity Tutors through their Clever accounts on their computers. It is an interactive program that can help with everyday homework. Below is a link for parents so they can help their children.

Varsity Tutors for Parents

<https://my.varsitytutors.com/launchpad>

I hope to see you all at P/T conferences next week and don't forget to go support our athletes.

Mr. E

National School Counseling Week—February 3-7, 2025

“Helping Students Thrive”



Article submitted by
Mrs. Julie Johnson,
English Teacher

Logann Collin: Licensed Mental Health Practitioner with a Master’s of Social Work. Serves Loomis Public Schools via a contract with ESU11.

What is your role?

- I am a member of Loomis Public School’s three-person wellness team.
- I act in many roles to enhance the awareness of mental health needs and services.
- I promote community understanding of mental health.
- I assist students with academic concerns, mental health, career readiness, and social-emotional wellness.

How long have you been in this role at LPS and in other roles?

- 2nd year serving LPS.
- 4 years experience in a school role
- 8 years in social work

Tell me about your journey to becoming the professional you are today.

- I am a third generation social worker—My mom and grandma were social workers.
- Personal interests, family and other connections led me to this career.
- I wanted to help others during the expansion of a program for mental health services where it had not been available.

What do you enjoy most about your role?

- Relationships that I build with students and staff.
- I get to do one on one and [influence] a broader culture in the building.
- I address needs of the community—a larger scale.

What is the most challenging aspect of your role?

- The uncertainty of my placement—I may be building a program for change and then that opportunity changes.

What would you most like Loomis students, staff and patrons to know about you and your role?

- People can come to me; I am a safe person to talk to.
- I also have a broader role than just one on one “sit and get.” [That means traditional one on one talk therapy techniques].
- I design and implement interventions that are for groups to help develop emotional citizenship. An example is “My Best Me” [K-12 social-emotional curriculum used at LPS] to help kids function as citizens by regulating their emotions.
- I help develop policy.

What are your office hours and what is your contact information?

- I am at LPS on Mondays and Wednesdays.
- Call the school (876-2111)
- Email: logann.collin@esu11.org

Dana Meyer: Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Ed and Special Education. Pursuing an MA in School counseling K-12.

What is your role?

- I am the K-12 guidance counselor.
- I organize and implement K-6 guidance classes.
- I teach the Senior Seminar class(career readiness, personal finance education, scholarship application)
- I help with MTSS (academic and behavioral intervention).
- I coordinate 504 plans.
- I converse with students about coping strategies, organizational, and communication skills.
- I acts as a mediator among students, teachers, and parents.
- With Logann, I organize plans for activities [that relate to] social issues.

How long have you been in this role at LPS and in the field of education?

- 2nd year in this role
- 11 years, formerly as LPS kindergarten teacher
- 5 years elementary school at Cozad

Tell me about your journey to becoming the professional you are today.

- While teaching elementary—I felt I wanted to help and to be a counselor.
- Change is hard/scary. I took the opportunity [as it came here].
- I have grown and my role has changed me to have a more positive outlook.

Who/what inspired you to pursue this career?

- In high school—Pat Dannehl [Dana’s former teacher at Bertrand] inspired me to go into education.

What do you enjoy most about your role?

- I like interaction with K-12—all ages.
- I feel good about myself after conversation to help someone—[that it] made an impact on someone struggling.

What is the most challenging aspect of your role?

- Sometimes I don’t have the answers,
- I wish I could ease the problem.
- I don’t like to see kids struggle.

What would you most like Loomis students, staff and patrons to know about you and your role?

- I want them to feel comfortable. I am a safe person. [They can] come to me if needed.

What are your office hours and what is your contact information?

- I am at LPS 7:40 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. daily.
- Call school (876-2111)
- Email: dana.meyer@loomiswolves.org

The FFA logo is centered at the top of the page. It features an eagle with spread wings perched atop a shield. The shield is divided into four quadrants, each containing a different agricultural symbol: a plow, a sheaf of wheat, a bundle of cotton, and a pitchfork. The word "FFA" is prominently displayed in the center of the shield, with "AGRICULTURAL" written above it and "CAPS" below it. The entire logo is rendered in a light blue, semi-transparent style.

Join Us For the 2025

**BERMIS FFA
LABOR
AUCTION**

FEBUARY 16, 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!

Board Meeting Notes



Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, January 13, 2025 7:00 PM

Loomis School, Media Center, Rm 117

101 Bryan St

Loomis, NE 68958-0250

Holdrege Daily Citizen Posted Date: 1-6-2025

Loomis Post Office, Loomis Village Office, Loomis Public School

Posted Date: 12-31-2024

Kelly Anderson: Present, **Farren Nelson:** Present, **Denny Pouk:** Present, **Scott Schukar:** Present, **Mike Szekely:** Present, **Luke Thorell:** Present.

1. Call to Order

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

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Farren Nelson: Yea, Denny Pouk: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

2. New Board Member Oath of Office

Farren & Denny took the oath of office.

3. Election of Officers

Motion to accept the Board Officers as nominated. Passed with a motion by Kelly Anderson and a second by Luke Thorell.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Farren Nelson: Yea, Denny Pouk: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

President: Luke nominated Scott, no other nominations.

Vice President: Kelly nominated Mike, no other nominations

Secretary: Mike nominated Farren, no other nominations

Treasurer: Farren nominated Luke, no other nominations

At large: Kelly

At large: Denny

4. Appoint Board Committee Members

Motion to approve committees as proposed Passed with a motion by Kelly Anderson and a second by Mike Szekely.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Farren Nelson: Yea, Denny Pouk: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

Americanism: Denny, Mike, Kelly Policy Scott, Farren, Luke

Building Grounds & Transportation: Kelly, Luke, Denny

Superintendent Evaluation: Scott, Farren, Mike

Preschool Advisory: Kelly, Farren, Scott

Finance: Luke, Scott, Mike

Beef: Kelly, Denny, Scott

Negotiations: Denny, Luke, Mike

5. Review Board Ethics/Code of Conduct

6. Review Policy 2006 - Complaint Procedure

7. Annual appointment of Title IX Compliance Coordinator

Vote to approve Jeff Ellsworth as the Title IX compliance coordinator. Passed with a motion by Scott Schukar and a second by Kelly Anderson.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Farren Nelson: Yea, Denny Pouk: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

8. Appoint Non-discrimination Compliance Coordinator

Vote to approve Jeff Ellsworth as the Non - Discrimination Coordinator. Passed with a motion by Scott Schukar and a second by Luke Thorell.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Farren Nelson: Yea, Denny Pouk: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

9. Welcome Guests

Julie Johnson, David Squiers, Ryan Robinson, Easton Reynolds, Lindsey Hays

10. Approval of Absent Board Members

11. 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 Mike Szekely and a second by Scott Schukar.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Farren Nelson: Yea, Denny Pouk: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

Reviewed the bill roster.

11.1. Agenda

11.2. Previous Board Meeting Minutes

11.3. Bill Roster

11.4. Financial Reports

11.4.1. General Fund

Receipts \$199,891.37, expenses \$351,447.25, balance \$1,438,139.38

11.4.2. Investment Fund

Depreciation: Receipts \$8,279.55, expenses \$0, balance \$1,034,914.24

Bond: Receipts \$316.49, expenses \$0, balance \$154,621.98

11.4.3. Activities Fund

Receipts \$22,809.30, expenses \$18,153.30, balance \$146,090.41

11.4.4. Nutrition Fund

Receipts \$15,859.27, expenses \$15,725.26, balance \$79,883.17

11.4.5. Building Fund

Receipts \$316.49, expenses \$2,306.79, balance \$140,931.53

12. Introduction of Speakers

Booster Club: Basketball Tournament was held last weekend. 34 teams. Thinking about ideas to purchase some things the school may need.

13. Board Committee Reports

13.1. Negotiations

13.2. Americanism

Next meeting is March 6th at 7:30 am

13.3. Policy Next meeting is April 3rd at 7:30 am

13.4. Building, Grounds, and Transportation

Met Friday, 1-10-2025 to go over roofing bids. The committee chose Springer Roofing to repair the roof that was damaged by hail last summer. Discussed boiler bids, we are seeking more bids for that replacement. Football field paint sprayer is not working again, we are looking at replacing it.

13.5. Preschool Advisory

Next meeting is Jan 21st at 6:30 pm to discuss the handbook and the priority list.

14. Administrative Reports

14.1. Principal

14.2. Superintendent

Set up a field trip to the USDA Meat Animal Research Center in Clay Center to educate students for the Beef in Schools program.

Supt. evaluation will be this spring.

Board retreat at UNK on Jan. 20th.

ESU 11 hot topics in law, Perry Law Firm will present on Jan 29 at 6:30 at JB's in Holdrege.

Alicap safety inspection was 1-13-2025.

Kelly discussed the DG Fuel meeting that was held in Holdrege. He would like to put a hold on our building project until we know if they do build the fuel plant.

15. Public Forum

16. Recess None taken

17. Action Agenda Items

18. Vote to discontinue the remodel/expansion project.

Vote to pause the remodel/expansion project. Unseconded with a motion by Kelly Anderson.

19. Adopt the resolution to select the Construction Manager at Risk Contract Delivery System

Vote to approve the resolution for Construction Manager at risk. Passed with a motion by Luke Thorell and a second by Denny Pouk.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Farren Nelson: Yea, Denny Pouk: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

20. Vote to approve the contract with Northland and Tobin Buchanan.

Vote to approve the contract with Northland. Passed with a motion by Scott Schukar and a second by Mike Szekely.

Kelly Anderson: Abstain (With Conflict), Farren Nelson: Yea, Denny Pouk: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

21. Counselor Evaluation Tool

Vote to Approve the Counselor Evaluation tool. Passed with a motion by Mike Szekely and a second by Scott Schukar.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Farren Nelson: Yea, Denny Pouk: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

22. Activity Director Evaluation Tool

Vote to approve the Activities director evaluation tool. Passed with a motion by Luke Thorell and a second by Mike Szekely.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Farren Nelson: Yea, Denny Pouk: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

23. Principal Evaluation Tool

Vote to approve the SEED principal evaluation. Passed with a motion by Kelly Anderson and a second by Scott Schukar.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Farren Nelson: Yea, Denny Pouk: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

24. Accept the bid to fix the hail damaged condenser on the AC unit on the High School.

Vote to approve the bid to repair the AC unit hail damage. Passed with a motion by Mike Szekely and a second by Farren Nelson.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Farren Nelson: Yea, Denny Pouk: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

25. Approve the bid for the West Gym roof repair.

Vote to approve the bid for Springer Roofing to repair the roof on the west gym and crows nest. Passed with a motion by Mike Szekely and a second by Scott Schukar.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Farren Nelson: Yea, Denny Pouk: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

26. Staff Resignation

Vote to accept with regret, the resignation of Roxann Hunhoff as the media specialist and thank her for her 25 years of service to the district Passed with a motion by Mike Szekely and a second by Luke Thorell.

Kelly Anderson: Yea, Farren Nelson: Yea, Denny Pouk: Yea, Scott Schukar: Yea, Mike Szekely: Yea, Luke Thorell: Yea

27. Closed Session

28. Next Meeting Date

The Goals & Visions Meeting will be held January 20, 2025 at 5:00 pm at UNK. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held February 10, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center.

29. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 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.