



THE WOLFPACK

LOOMIS PUBLIC SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

October 2026



September Recap

September was a busy month for the Wolves, and now it's officially wrapped up! From exciting events to school spirit and athletic accomplishments, there was plenty happening around the Pack!

Congratulations to our Volleyball Team!

The Lady Wolves brought home the championship titles at the L-Club Tournament and the Bertrand Tournament! Volleyball is currently sitting at 14-7. Great job, ladies!

Homecoming

September also brought plenty of Homecoming excitement! Students did a fantastic job getting into the spirit by decorating, dressing up for theme days, and helping make Homecoming week one to remember. We loved seeing the school come together and show off their Wolf Pack pride!

Cross Country Success

Cross Country continues to put together great individual and team performances, highlighted by a 3rd-place finish for the girls and a 4th-place finish for the boys at Ravenna.

Football Stays Undefeated

The football team is currently 6-0 after beating Bertrand on October 1st. The Wolves have shown plenty of hard work, determination, and teamwork on the field. We are excited to see what the rest of the season brings!

Dates

- **October 9th** – 1:50 Dismissal
- **October 16th** – End of 1st Quarter
- **October 22nd** – No School, Teacher Workday
- **October 23rd** – No School, Fall Break

STRAIGHT FROM THE WOLF'S DEN



MR. NATE WEAVER



October is here, and it is an exciting time of year for our students and staff! Fall activities are in full swing, and many of our teams and organizations are quickly approaching postseason competition. With that in mind, I would like to share a few reminders and updates.

As the weather begins to cool, please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the season. We encourage students to wear jackets, sweatshirts, and long pants on chilly days so they can comfortably enjoy recess, outdoor activities, and fresh air. With cold and flu season also approaching, helping students come to school prepared for changing weather can play an important role in keeping everyone healthy.

We are hopeful that construction will begin soon on our new concession stand and restroom facility at the football field. This project will be a tremendous addition to our outdoor facilities, providing patrons and visitors with clean, well-lit restroom access and creating a more functional and efficient workspace for our concession stand volunteers.

Our concession stand is currently managed by Mrs. Jackie Johnson and Mrs. Cheryl Orcutt, who do an outstanding job throughout the year. They continually look for new menu items and creative ways to enhance the experience for our fans and visitors. Having a larger facility with running water and improved work areas is something they are very excited about. In addition, the building will provide restroom access for students participating in practices and activities at the football field. I look forward to seeing this project come to life and the positive impact it will have on our school and community.

A reminder to parents: PowerSchool houses all student information, including grades, attendance, and important school updates. If you do not currently have login access, please contact the school office. I strongly encourage parents to check grades regularly. Doing so helps students stay accountable and reinforces the important partnership between home and school that contributes to student success.

On a personal note, October is one of my favorite months of the year. The changing leaves, crisp mornings, and beautiful Nebraska sunrises and sunsets remind us just how special this season can be. And to top it all off, Halloween falls on a Saturday this year—something I know many students, parents, and staff members are excited about!

As always, thank you for your continued support of Loomis Public Schools. We appreciate the opportunity to work with your children each day and look forward to a great month ahead.

Have a wonderful month,

GO WOLVES!



PRINCIPAL'S PACK UPDATE

MRS. SAMANTHA THORELL



It is hard to believe how quickly this school year is already flying by! We are turning the calendar to October, and it seems like just yesterday we were welcoming students back for a new school year. It has been wonderful to see our students settle into their routines and get comfortable in the new school year. One of my favorite parts of this year has been getting to know our new students and reconnecting with students I had the opportunity to teach when they were in elementary school. Watching them grow and seeing their personalities develop is one of the most rewarding parts of being a principal.

Celebrating the Wolf Way

We are continuing our Wolf Way Student Citizenship Awards this year! Each month, staff members nominate students who exemplify what it means to be a member of the Wolf Pack. These students demonstrate kindness, make positive choices, encourage and support their peers, show respect and responsibility, demonstrate integrity, and have a willingness to help others. We want to recognize that being a great student is about so much more than academics. It is also about the way we treat others and the way we contribute to our school community. We are incredibly proud of the students who have already been recognized, and we look forward to celebrating many more Wolves throughout the year!

Fall at Loomis

Fall is always a busy and exciting time at Loomis Public Schools. Our students are doing a fantastic job balancing academics with their many extracurricular activities. Whether they are competing on the field or court, participating in activities, attending practices, or supporting their teammates and classmates, our students continue to dedicate their time and effort to representing Loomis. Our Wolves seem to be having a great fall, and I am so proud of the hard work, commitment, and school spirit our students continue to demonstrate!

Family Literacy Night

We are excited to invite all K-5 families to our Family Literacy Night on October 19 from 6:30-7:30 PM at the school. This will be a great opportunity for parents to learn more about the Science of Reading and, most importantly, learn practical ways to support your child at home as they develop their reading skills. We hope you will join us! We believe that when schools and families work together, our students benefit tremendously.

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PRINCIPAL'S PACK UPDATE



MRS. SAMANTHA THORELL

As the Weather Changes

With cooler weather setting in, we also know that sickness tends to make its way around our schools. We want all of our students to be healthy and ready to learn! If your child is going to be absent because they are sick, please make sure to communicate with the front office. Keeping us informed helps us accurately account for students and allows us to better support your child when they return to school. Thank you for helping us keep our school community healthy!

A Few Important Dates

October 9: 1:50 PM dismissal for all students. Buses will run accordingly.

October 16: End of the first quarter. As we approach the end of the quarter, please continue checking in with your student about their grades, assignments, and upcoming responsibilities. A quick conversation at home can go a long way in helping students stay organized and on track.

October 19: K-5 Family Literacy Night, 6:30-7:30 PM

October 22: MTSS/ Staff Workday - No School

October 23: No School, Fall Break

As we move into October, I also want to take a moment to say thank you to our families. I have truly enjoyed the partnerships I have been able to build with parents and guardians so far this year. Your communication, support, and involvement make such a difference in our school community. Please never hesitate to call, email, or stop by my office if you have a question, concern, idea, or simply want to visit. My door is always open, and I genuinely value the opportunity to work together on behalf of our students.

There is a lot to be proud of at Loomis right now. Our students are learning, growing, competing, participating, and finding their place within our Wolf Pack. Thank you for trusting us with your children and for continuing to partner with us throughout the year.

Have a wonderful October, Loomis families!

Once a Wolf, Always a Wolf!



OCTOBER

Bermis FFA newsletter

DATES TO KNOW



Oct. 1 – Football concessions in Loomis

Oct. 7 – Area Land Judging

Oct. 10 – Farmer Feed

Oct. 17 – Bertand Craft Show

Oct. 21-24 – National FFA Convention

HOW TO STAY IN TOUCH

Sports You Code:

UQQ3WBH6

Facebook:

BerMis AgEducation

Instagram:

BerMis FFA

CONTACT INFO



Samantha Lavene:

samantha.lavene@bertrandvikings.org

Savannah Siebrandt:

savannah.siebrandt@loomiswolves.org



SIGN UP

Football concessions in Loomis

- We need both members and parents to help with concessions at the football game in Loomis on October 1st.
- The BerMis Supporter Booster Club will also be serving a meal at the game!

SIGN UP HERE!



Farmer Feed

- Please pass out the information to any crews that will be in our area.
- We also need parents to make a few dozen cookies for the farmers' feed. If everyone pitches in a little, then we will be able to give back more!

SIGN UP HERE!



ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS



- Try to get everything you need for official dress which includes:
 - A white collared shirt or blouse.
 - Black dress pants or black skirt.
 - Black dress shoes with black socks.
 - FFA Jacket with FFA scarf or tie.

🎯 SEPTEMBER RECAP

The sophomores through seniors got to go to Husker Harvest Days. They spent their time completing a scavenger hunt that UNL had created for students. The scavenger hunt helped them visit certain businesses and learn more about them.



The chapter also helped serve food and clean up at an event that Cross Diamond Meats and Sweet Blooms Hosted at Farm to Table their flower farm.



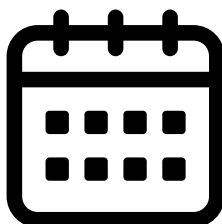
We had our annual trash pickup where we picked up trash along highway 23.



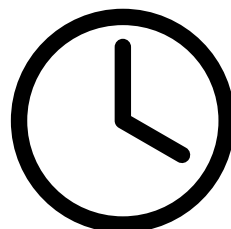


FFA FOOTBALL

CONCESSIONS



OCTOBER 1



6-9 PM



LOOMIS

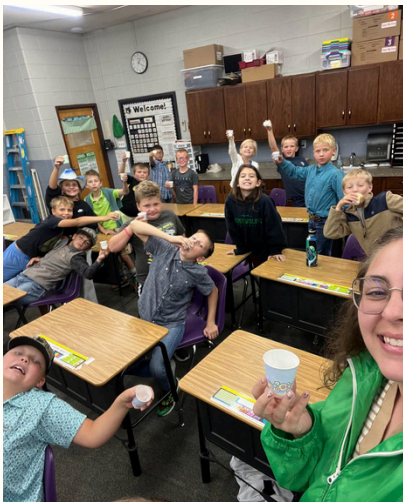


**SIGN UP ON
SPORTSYOU**



WOLVES IN ACTION

September Recap





BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, September 14, 2026
Immediately following Tax Request Hearing**

**Loomis School, Media Center, Rm 117
101 Bryan St
Loomis, NE 68958-0250**

Holdrege Daily Citizen Posted Date: 9/3/26

Loomis Post Office, Loomis Village Office, Loomis Public School Posted Date: 8-28-2026

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

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

3. Approval of Absent Board Members

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Consent Agenda

Discussion: Reviewed the Bill Roster and the fund expenses, receipts.

5.1. Agenda

5.2. Previous Board Meeting Minutes

5.3. Bill Roster

5.4. Financial Reports

5.4.1. General Fund

Discussion: Receipts \$79,936.45, expenses \$523,998.49, balance \$1,981,672.71

5.4.2. Investment Fund

Discussion: Depreciation: Receipts \$200,169.38, expenses \$69,480.00, balance \$1,705,982.62

Bond: Receipts \$1,630.72, expenses \$0, balance \$336,577.35

5.4.3. Activities Fund

Discussion: Receipts \$50,800.80, expenses \$14,531.30, balance \$107,615.70

5.4.4. Nutrition Fund

Discussion: Receipts \$11,166.45, expenses \$37,158.79, balance \$(5,217.01)

5.4.5. Building Fund

Discussion: Receipts \$898.91, expenses \$0, balance \$470,273.36

6. Introduction of Speakers

Discussion: Booster Club: purchased TVs for the weight room, held a successful corporate sponsorship campaign, the Wolf Den has been a hit, also purchased an electronic score table. They are looking into purchasing a hydration system for teams. They have applied for a grant through PCCF for the track.



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

7. Board Committee Reports

7.1. Negotiations

Discussion: The next meeting will be in October. I plan to go to the Labor Relations workshop on September 29th and 30th.

7.2. Americanism

Discussion: Held a public meeting September 8, 2026.

7.3. Policy

7.4. Building, Grounds, and Transportation

Discussion: Met last month. Mini split a/c units need replaced, waiting for additional bids.

7.5. Preschool Advisory

Discussion: Our next meeting is September 22nd. The same night as the Joint Public Hearing. Mrs. Thorell will cover this meeting. I will get the agenda sent out this week. Sidney Robinson and Heather Gray are the parents on the committee and Farren, Kelly and Luke are the board members on the committee.

7.6. Beef Committee

8. Administrative Reports

Discussion: Question regarding the time frame of the Superintendent Evaluation.

8.1. Activities Director

Discussion:

8.2. Principal

Discussion:

The Wolf Way

In August, we completed our first round of The Wolf Way Awards to recognize students who demonstrate outstanding citizenship and exemplify what it means to do things "The Wolf Way." Teachers throughout the building nominated students who consistently demonstrated positive character, responsibility, respect, and leadership. Ten students were honored with a certificate explaining what the Wolf Way means and were also given a special T-shirt designed specifically for Wolf Way recipients.

This recognition will take place at the end of every month throughout the school year. Our goal is to encourage positive behavior throughout the building while recognizing and celebrating the students who help make Loomis Public Schools such a great place to be. We want our students to know that we see and appreciate the positive choices they make each day.

Standards-Based Grading

Our elementary staff and I met this past month to discuss how we can continue to improve our practices surrounding Standards-Based Grading. We implemented Standards-Based Grading several years ago, but we recognized that more work needed to be done to create consistency and continuity throughout our elementary classrooms. We want to ensure that students and parents are receiving consistent information, using the same language, and developing a clear understanding of what our grading system means.

As a team, we participated in professional development, conducted research, and had meaningful discussions about how Standards-Based Grading should be implemented with fidelity. We agreed on a consistent numbering system for both academics and behavior that will be utilized in grades K-5. Our behavior expectations will also be incorporated into preschool. This work will help create a more consistent experience for students and families as they move through our elementary school.



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

CharacterStrong

Our district recently purchased the CharacterStrong curriculum for students. This curriculum will be used during Mrs. Meyer's guidance lessons as well as during Junior High/High School H.O.W.L. time. CharacterStrong is a social-emotional learning and character development program designed to help students develop skills such as self-awareness, empathy, responsibility, perseverance, leadership, and positive relationships. The curriculum provides age-appropriate lessons and activities that help students build character and develop skills they can use both in and outside of school.

CharacterStrong is designed to support students from preschool through 12th grade, allowing us to build consistent character development learning practices throughout our entire district. We are excited to see how this program can support the positive culture we are continuing to build at Loomis Public Schools.

CPR Training

Many of our staff members, including coaches, teachers, administrators, and paraprofessionals, completed CPR/AED/First Aid certification. This training included both an online curriculum and an in-person skills training component required for certification.

Providing this refresher training and recertification is an important part of keeping our students and staff safe. Having trained staff members throughout our building and at school activities ensures that we are better prepared to respond appropriately in the event of an emergency, whether it occurs during the school day or at a school-sponsored activity.

Staff Evaluations

Starting this September, I have begun the evaluation process for our certified teachers. 6 staff members will be evaluated during the month of September. This process includes classroom observations, taking detailed notes, writing an evaluation report, and meeting with teachers afterward to review the observations and discuss areas of strength and opportunities for continued growth.

This process will continue throughout the school year until all certified staff members have been evaluated. New staff members will receive two evaluations throughout the year, while tenured staff members will be evaluated once during the year. The goal of the evaluation process is not only accountability, but also professional growth, reflection, and continued improvement in our instructional practices.

MAP Testing

All students in kindergarten through 10th grade completed their fall MAP assessments last week. During the testing window, our juniors also met with Mrs. Vrbka, Mrs. Masske, and Mrs. Johnson for ACT preparation and junior class meetings.

Our seniors met with Mrs. Johnson on the 8th and were given a 10:00 AM late start time during the testing window. I am pleased to report that all of our seniors arrived at school and were on time. Because of their success and their demonstration of responsibility, we will continue to provide them with an additional day off during our winter testing window.

I am especially proud of our students for how hard they worked during their Fall testing window, and excited to see the progress that is made in the winter testing window.



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

8.3. Superintendent

Discussion: Woodward Disposal Service

Joint Public Hearing Meeting Sept. 22nd

Project updates – footings are planned for end of Sept, beginning of Oct.

Labor Relations – Sept 29-30

1:50 OUT – October 9th

Bus Update –

Give to Grow – Nov. 12

9. Public Forum

Discussion: Do we prefer to get beef in on a schedule? We do have freezer space now to accommodate multiple beef donations.

Is there a correlation to the Bldg & Grounds list of projects to the tax request? No necessarily, many of the items are repairs that must be taken care of, some items are wish list items.

Would it be a better investment to replace the mini split units with a better quality unit?

10. Recess

Discussion: None taken

11. Action Agenda Items

11.1. Discuss and vote to approve the September policy changes that are up for the month of September.

11.2. Discuss and vote to approve the revised Hudl quote.

11.3. Discuss and vote to approve the Annual Emergency of Operations Plan.

11.4. Discuss and Vote to approve the 2026-2027 Tax Request

11.5. Discuss and vote to approve the 2026-2027 Budget

12. Closed Session

13. Next Meeting Date

Discussion: The next regular meeting will be held October 12, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

14. Adjournment

Discussion: Meeting adjourned at 9:48 p.m.