

WILDCAT NEWSLETTER

August 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this message finds you and your family well, and that you are enjoying the final weeks of summer. As we prepare for the start of the 2026–2027 school year, I want to extend a warm welcome back to our returning families and a special greeting to those joining the Glidden-Ralston School District for the first time.

The first day of school for students is **Monday, August 24**. The school day will begin at 8:00 am and end at 3:45 pm. Our custodial staff has been working diligently over the summer to ensure a safe, supportive, and engaging learning environment for all students. One of our key summer projects included the renovation of our front office area. This will include a renovated front entrance which will add an additional level of safety for our students, faculty and staff.

As we approach the new school year, please take note of the following updates and reminders:

The First Day of School: The first day of school for students is Monday, August 24. The school day will begin at **8:00 am and end at 3:45 pm**.

4 Day Week: We are excited to begin our 4-day school week schedule on Tuesday, September 29. This represents an important change for our school community, and our faculty and staff are enthusiastic about working together to make this transition a successful one. We appreciate your support and partnership as we implement this new schedule. For additional information and details about the 4-day school week, please visit our school website.

Open House: Our Open House will be held on **Thursday, August 20**, from **5:00 to 6:30 p.m.** This is a valuable opportunity to meet your child's teachers, explore the school, and connect with other families.

Communication: Strong communication between school and home is essential to student success. Please ensure your contact information is up to date in Infinite Campus. We encourage you to reach out directly to teachers, administrators, or staff with any questions or concerns—it's always best to get information from the source rather than relying on social media or secondhand updates.

I'm truly excited to begin another school year with our students, staff, and families. Each August marks a fresh start and a new opportunity for growth, both academically and socially, for every student. Thank you for your continued support of the Glidden-Ralston School District. We look forward to a fantastic year ahead.

Tom Ridder



602 Idaho St, Glidden, IA 51443



P.O. 488



712 - 659 - 3411



712 - 659 - 2248



Welcome Back, G-R Families!

The 2026-2027 school year is here, and we are excited to get off to a great start here at Glidden-Ralston! This is my 30th year in education and third year at G-R. I'm very much looking forward to another fantastic year working with our wonderful students, staff, and community.

New Staff Welcome:

We are thrilled to welcome some new faces to our elementary faculty this year:

Ms. Beech – 3rd Grade Teacher

Reminders and a Few New Items for a Smooth Start:

SCHOOL HOURS: The school day for runs from 8:00 A.M. to 3:45 P.M.

- ~ Students are not to arrive at school before 7:30.
- ~ Breakfast is served from 7:30-8:00 AM.
- ~ PK will begin dismissal at 3:35
- ~ Class dismissal times for TK,K, 1 will start at 3:40 and all students are dismissed by 3:45 P.M.

Please avoid parking in the no-parking zone near the front crosswalk.

Recess Clothing Guidelines:

- o When the “feels like” temperature is below 10 degrees - Inside Recess
- o When the “feels like” temperature is 10 or higher - Outside Recess
- o 60°F or above: short sleeves and shorts are acceptable.
- o 50°F-59°F: long sleeves are necessary.
- o 49°F-40°F: coats or sweatshirts are recommended.
- o 39°F or below: Snow pants, boots, winter coats, and gloves are necessary to play and walk on the snow.

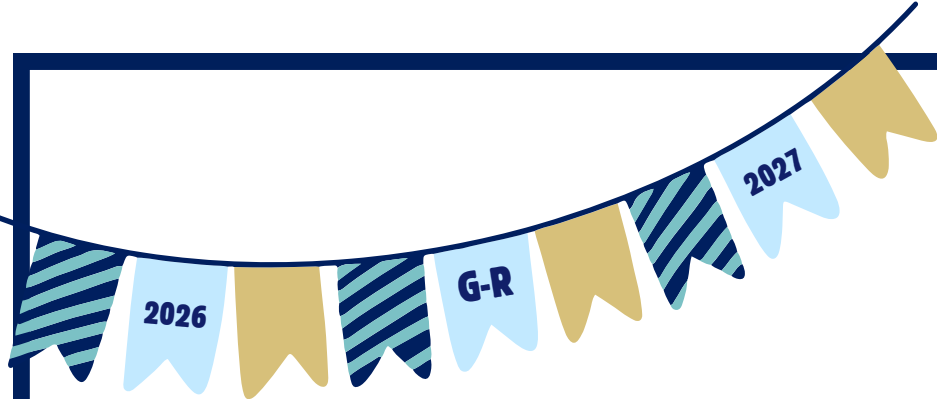
Let's make it a great year together!

Go Cats!

Mr. Hjelle

Elementary Principal





Dear Wildcats

Welcome back to the school! We are excited for the beginning of the school year, with all the new challenges and opportunities it will bring. There are some exciting changes for the 2026/27 school year.

HOMECOMING IS EARLY THIS SCHOOL YEAR: WEEK OF AUG. 31- SEPT 4. WE KNOW THIS MAY BE A LITTLE BIT CHALLENGING, BUT A GREAT WAY TO START THE YEAR BY BUILDING SCHOOL SPIRIT.

New Academic Eligibility Policy: along with the state policy of, we have implemented a new weekly eligibility policy for our students who participate in extra curricular activities. After enough grades have been put into the books, I will get a weekly report, any student who is failing a class will have one week to raise that grade to passing. If they do not raise that grade in the week, that student will be ineligible the following week. We are hoping that this new policy will help our students stay on top of their assignments and be more involved in their school work. As parents and guardians, you can play a large role in helping your child succeed in the classroom. If you have any questions please reach out.

We have established 6-8 middle school for our students: We believe this will be best for our students and their academic, social and emotional success. We are looking forward to the positive changes that this new concept will bring.

And as always we have the beginning of our fall sports seasons - please make sure to **register your student on bound**, fill out the mandatory paperwork and make sure your child has their physical.

Finally, we want to remind students that we need them to **drive safe**. Students need to be aware of all posted traffic signals (especially stopped busses) and they must drive and park in the school lot in an appropriate manner. For our younger students who travel by scooters, you are not to be driving your scooter in the school parking lot - that creates a dangerous situation, so please remind your students not to ride them through the school parking lot. We want to make sure everyone has a safe school year.

We are looking forward to this fall and can't wait to see all of you, if you have any question or concerns please feel free to reach out.

Go 'Cats

Mr. Napierala





ATTENDANCE REMINDERS

PK-5

- Call Central Office at: 712-659-3411
 - or Email Homeroom Teacher

6-12

- Call Central Office at: 712-659-3411
 - or Email Erin Shinn at:
eshinn@glidden-ralston.k12.ia.us



DATE REMINDERS

August 20: Back to School Night (5:00–6:30 p.m.)

August 24: First Day of School

AUGUST 31 – SEPTEMBER 4: HOMECOMING

September 7: No School (Labor Day)

September 3: Booster Club Meeting (6:00 p.m.)

September 23: Picture Day

September 28: No School

HOMECOMING



GLIDDEN-RALSTON WILDCATS VS. AR-WE-Va ROCKETS

SEPTEMBER 4TH, 2026 7:00 PM

2026-2027 School Calendar – Aug. 24 Start

Glidden-Ralston CSD

Summary of Calendar:

Days in classroom:

First Semester71 Days

Second Semester87 Days

TOTAL DAYS/HRS 158 Days

CALENDAR LEGEND

Begin & End	
PD Days	
Quarter	
No Sch. (Mon)	
Holidays	
Vacation Days	

HOLIDAYS:

Labor Day	(9/7)
Thanksgiving Day	(11/26)
New Year's Day	(1/1)
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	(1/18)
President's Day	(2/15)
Memorial Day	(5/31)

Potential Snow Make Up Days:

Dec. 7	Apr. 5
Dec. 14	Apr. 12
Feb. 1	Apr. 26
Feb. 22	May 3
Mar. 8	May 17

Professional Development Days

Aug. 18-21	Feb. 15
Sept. 28	Mar. 15
Oct. 19	Apr. 19
Nov. 16	May 10
Jan. 4	May 27

Graduation May 16

School Day

Start time: 8:00 AM

End time: 3:45 PM

August 2026					Student Days	
M	T	W	Th	F		
17	18	19	20	21		
24	25	26	27	28	5	
31					6	
September 2026						
	1	2	3	4	10	
7	8	9	10	11	14	
14	15	16	17	18	19	
21	22	23	24	25	24	
28	29	30			26	
October 2026						
			1	2	28	
5	6	7	8	9	32	
12	13	14	15	16	36	
19	20	21	22	23	40	
26	27	28	29	30	44	
November 2026						
2	3	4	5	6	49	
9	10	11	12	13	53	
16	17	18	19	20	57	
23	24	25	26	27	59	
30					59	
December 2026						
	1	2	3	4	63	
7	8	9	10	11	67	
14	15	16	17	18	71	
21	22	23	24	25	71	
28	29	30	31		71	
January 2027						
				1	0	
4	5	6	7	8	4	
11	12	13	14	15	9	
18	19	20	21	22	14	
25	26	27	28	29	19	
February 2027						
1	2	3	4	5	23	
8	9	10	11	12	27	
15	16	17	18	19	31	
22	23	24	25	26	35	
March 2027						
1	2	3	4	5	40	
8	9	10	11	12	44	
15	16	17	18	19	48	
22	23	24	25	26	52	
29	30	31			54	
April 2027						
			1	2	56	
5	6	7	8	9	60	
12	13	14	15	16	64	
19	20	21	22	23	68	
26	27	28	29	30	72	
May 2027						
3	4	5	6	7	76	
10	11	12	13	14	80	
17	18	19	20	21	84	
24	25	26	27	28	87	
31						
June 2027						
	1	2	3	4		

Aug. 18. New Teacher Training

Aug. 19-21 PD Days

Aug. 24 Begin 1st Semester

Sept. 7 Labor Day (No School)

Sept. 28 PD Day (No School)

Oct. 19 PD Day (No School)

Oct. 23 End 1st Qtr.

Nov. 2 Parent/Teacher Conferences

Nov. 16 PD Day (No School)

Nov. 25-27 Thanksgiving Holiday (No School)

Dec. 18 End 1st Semester

Dec. 21-Jan. 2 Winter Break (No School)

Jan. 4 PD Day (No School)

Jan. 5 Begin 2nd Semester

Jan. 18 Martin Luther King Day (School Day)

Feb. 15 President's Day (PD Day- No School)

Mar. 1 Parent/Teacher Conferences

Mar. 12 End 3rd Qtr.

Mar. 15 PD Day (No School)

Mar. 26-29 Spring Break (No School)

Apr. 19 PD Day (No School)

May 10 PD Day (No School)

May 16 Graduation

May 26 End 4th Qtr.

May 26 End 2nd Semester

May 27 PD Day

May 31 Memorial Day



**2026-2027
School Year**

MEAL PRICES

BREAKFAST

Starting at 7:30

PK-12 Full Price\$2.35

Reduced Price\$0.30

LUNCH

PK-12 Full Price\$3.25

Reduced Price\$0.40

Adult Price\$5.14

FREE & REDUCED PRICE MEAL APPLICATION

**If you would like to apply for free and reduced price meals,
please fill out the application located on our school website
under the Food/Health section.**



GLIDDEN RALSTON
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

BREAKFAST MENU

AUGUST 24-31

MONDAY 24TH

WG Poptart or Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk

TUESDAY 25TH

WG Muffin or Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk

WEDNESDAY 26TH

WG Waffle or Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk

THURSDAY 27TH

WG Donuts or Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk

FRIDAY 28TH

WG Toast or Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk

MONDAY 31ST

Nutrigrain Bar & Yogurt or Cereal, Fruit, Juice,
Milk



GLIDDEN RALSTON
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

LUNCH MENU

AUGUST 24-31

MONDAY 24TH

Cheese Pizza, Corn, Peaches, Banana, Milk

TUESDAY 25TH

WG Soft shell Tacos w/ Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato & Black Olives, Fiesta Beans, Refried Beans, Pineapple, Milk

WEDNESDAY 26TH

Chicken Nuggets, Romaine Lettuce w/ Cherry Tomatoes, Mixed Veggies, Cantaloupe, Milk

THURSDAY 27TH

Crispito, Tortilla Chips w/ Salsa, Carrots, Pears, Milk

FRIDAY 28TH

Hamburger on WG Bun w/ Cheese, Harvest Cheddar Sun Chips, Green Beans, Mixed Fruit, WG Cookie, Milk

MONDAY 31ST

Hot Dog on WG Bun, Tri-Tater, Baked Beans, Mandarin Oranges, Milk