

# WILDCAT NEWSLETTER

September 2026

**Dear Parents and Guardians,**

We are off to a fantastic start to the school year! It has been wonderful to welcome our students each morning and see so many smiling faces coming through our doors. When asked how they feel about being back, most students have shared their excitement about returning to school, and I have a feeling that even those who didn't say it are secretly happy to be back! As we begin the new school year, I would like to share a few important updates regarding policies and regulations that impact our students. Each year, the Iowa State Legislature reviews and establishes guidelines related to the operation of our schools. Of the policies currently in place, three will have the greatest impact on our students and families:

**Policy 504.6 Eighth-Grade Eligibility for High School Varsity Activities**

This policy addresses the eligibility of eighth-grade students to participate in high school varsity activities and has received considerable attention across Iowa.

Each school district has the ability to establish its own regulations regarding eighth-grade eligibility. Our school board has approved a process that allows eligibility to be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Recommendations must come from the activity sponsor and will then be reviewed by the activity director, principal, and superintendent for final approval.

**Policy 603.6 Presidential Physical Fitness Test**

This policy requires students enrolled in Physical Fitness classes to participate in the Presidential Physical Fitness Test. Some of you may remember completing these fitness assessments during your own school years!

**Policy 605.5 Student Screen Time**

This policy establishes limits on the amount of screen time students may have during the school day. For students in kindergarten through fifth grade, screen time is limited to 60 minutes per day. Our faculty and staff have carefully reviewed this policy and are working to ensure that screen use at school supports student learning and engagement. We also encourage families to have conversations with their children about when and how much time they spend on social media and other screens outside of school.

As we head into a busy season of school events, activities, and athletic competitions, I want to take a moment to highlight the important role you play as spectators. The way we conduct ourselves at games and school events is a direct reflection of our school community. Even more importantly, our children are watching and learning from us. Parents and guardians are among their most influential teachers, particularly when it comes to modeling respect, sportsmanship, encouragement, and positive behavior.

If you ever have questions, concerns, or simply want to talk, please don't hesitate to reach out to the school. We are always happy to visit with you, answer questions, and work together to support your child's success. Thank you for all you do for Glidden-Ralston.

**Mr. Ridder**





## **G-R Families,**

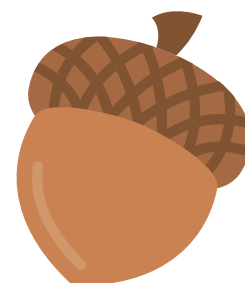
The 2026-2027 school year is off to a great start! Homecoming week is now behind us and we look forward to getting into more of a normal routine. This past week construction began on our new office entrance. We hope that this will be completed in the next couple of weeks. Beginning the week of the 28th we begin our regular Tuesday-Friday 4-day week routine for students.

Our Community Engagement Committee will be hosting our first event of the school year on September 24, prior to the varsity volleyball game. Please see the flyer within this newsletter for more information.

**Event reminders:** When students attend football games they are the responsibility of their parents. We will allow students to play on the outfield of the baseball complex, but we do not allow any balls to be thrown or kicked inside of the football fence. If there is roughhousing we will send students back to their parents. Keep in mind that supervision is still the responsibility of the parents.

At indoor events the halls are not a playground. Students should either be watching the games with their parents or with other students unless they are getting concessions or using the restrooms.

**Go Cats!**  
**Mr. Hjelle**





**Dear Parents/Guardians/Students,**

What a great start to the school year. Thank you for making it a positive experience for the staff and community. Some of the highlights so far include: The start of fall sports- strong numbers for volleyball, football, cross country and swimming. It is great that our student body takes advantage of all the opportunities available to them, Homecoming was held the week of August 31st-September 4th. The community and the school showed great school pride with many events, powder tuff, powder puff, dress up days and finishing with the parade, game and dance. Our students showed great enthusiasm and displayed strong school spirit all week.

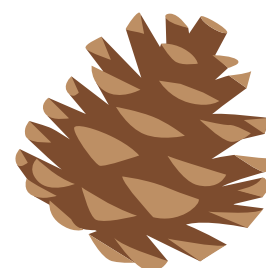
We are excited to announce that we will be working with DMACC in setting up job shadows, internships and career fair shows for our students. Mrs. Wallace will be our point of contact for the students and DMACC. This is a new program that DMACC is offering local high schools and I know Mrs. Wallace and Mr. Borchers are excited about all the possibilities that the program can provide.

Finally, I would like to say thank you for all that you do for our students and staff. Your strong devotion to our school is unmatched. We have great support from our Booster Club and I encourage you to sign up for the golf tournament on September 19th. Even if you don't play, come for the meal and auction items. Our Booster Club plays an important role in our school's success, so please stop out, support the club and have a great time.

As always if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me  
[tnapierala@glidden-ralston.k12.ia.us](mailto:tnapierala@glidden-ralston.k12.ia.us)

**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](mailto:eshinn@glidden-ralston.k12.ia.us)



# DATE REMINDERS

~ September 7: No School-Labor Day

~ September 23: School Picture Day

~ September 24: Popsicles with Wildcat Pride Event

~ September 28: Professional Development - No School



# OTHER REMINDERS

- School doors open at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast. Please do not drop students off before this time.

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

- Recess Clothing Guidelines:

When the “feels like” temperature is below 10 degrees - Inside Recess

When the “feels like” temperature is 10 or higher - Outside Recess

~ 60°F or above: short sleeves and shorts are acceptable.

~ 50°F-59°F: long sleeves are necessary.

~ 49°F-40°F: coats or sweatshirts are recommended.

~ 39°F or below: Snow pants, boots, winter coats, and gloves are necessary to play and walk on the snow.



WEDNESDAY, SEPT 23RD

# WAIVER WEDNESDAY

## INVITATION TO PARENTS & EDUCATORS

**Informative, Hands-On Session with  
Guidance on ID & HAB Waiver Forms**



New Hope Day Hab Building  
400 N Clark St., Carroll, Iowa



Time:  
4:00-5:00 PM



Date:  
Sept. 23, 2026

**This meeting aims to help you:**

- ✓ Understand when and how to begin the waiver process
- ✓ Learn why early planning is important
- ✓ Explore future services and supports
- ✓ Q&A, Tour & More!

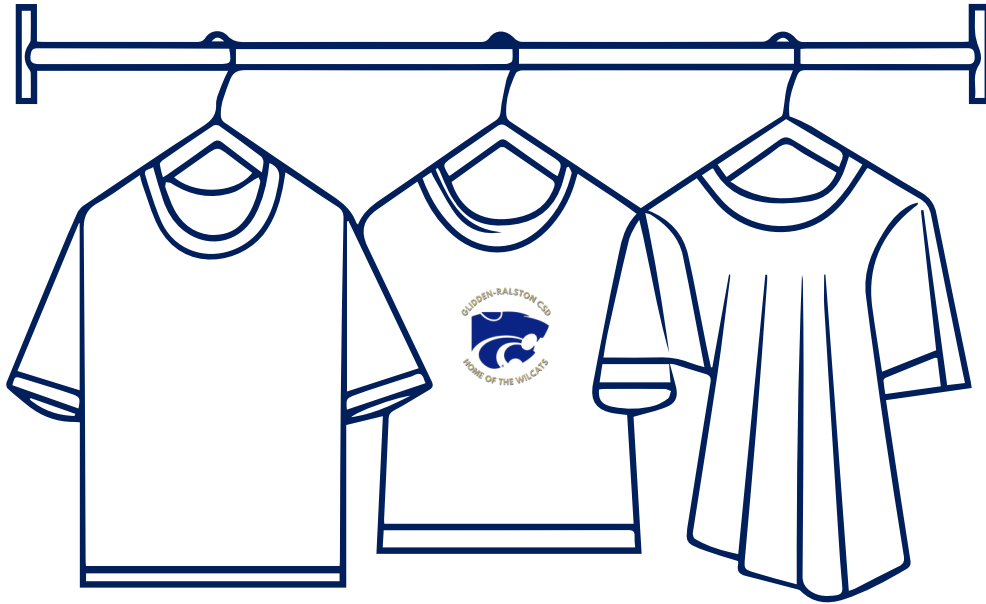
For all ages; an ID  
waiver can take  
up to 7 years for  
approval.



For more information, contact Kevin,  
Service Development Coordinator at  
712-792-5500 x223 or  
[kevin\\_zehnder@newhopevillage.org](mailto:kevin_zehnder@newhopevillage.org)



# WILDCAT GEAR



If you want to show your G-R Pride, please visit  
our Wildcat Apparel Store!



Scan me or visit:

<https://gr26-27wildcatgear.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

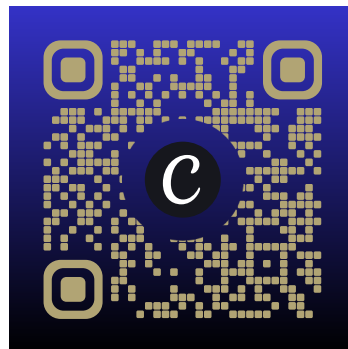


# ACTIVITY PASSES



**2026-2027**  
**Single Activity Passes**

**Purchase your 2026-2027  
Activity Passes now!**



**Scan Code or Search:**

<https://www.gobound.com/ia/schools/gliddenralston/tickets>

# Wildcat Calendar



# September 2026

\*For the most up-to-date information on sports and activities, visit [gobound.com](http://gobound.com)!

| SUNDAY                  | MONDAY                                                                                                   | TUESDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | WEDNESDAY                                                                                                         | THURSDAY                                          | FRIDAY                                                                      | SATURDAY                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                         |                                                                                                          | 1<br>-V XC @ East Sac<br>-JV/V VB vs Colo-Nesco<br>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 2<br>-6:00pm Powderpuff/tuff Games                                                                                | 3<br>-7:00pm Coronation Night/<br>Jersey Auction  | 4<br>-2:45pm Parade/ Pep Rally to follow<br>-V FB vs. Ar-We-Va (Homecoming) | 5                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Homecoming week!</b> |                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                   |                                                   |                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                |
| 6                       | 7<br>-NO SCHOOL (Labor Day)                                                                              | 8<br>-JH FB vs. Woodbine<br>-JV VB @ Audubon                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 9<br>-4:30pm Board Meeting                                                                                        | 10<br>-VG Swim @ Carroll<br>-JH/JV/V VB @ Audubon | 11<br>-V FB @ Griswold                                                      | 12<br>-V XC @ Ridge View<br>                                |
| 13                      | 14<br>-JH FB @ CAM<br> | 15<br>-V XC @ Little Sioux<br>-VG Swim @ Carroll<br>-V VB vs. Ar-We-Va                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 16                                                                                                                | 17<br>-JH/JV/V VB @ Paton-Churdan                 | 18<br>-V FB vs. Boyer Valley                                                | 19<br>-V VB @ OABCIG<br>-VG Swim @ Fort Dodge                                                                                                  |
| 20                      | 21<br>-JH FB @ Ar-We-Va                                                                                  | 22<br>-JH/V VB vs. CR-B                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 23<br>-School Picture Day<br> | 24<br>-JH/V VB vs. Exira-EHK<br>-V XC @ MVAOCOU   | 25<br>-V FB @ CAM                                                           | 26<br>-HS Band @ Oktoberfest<br>-VG Swim @ Lincoln HS<br> |
| 27                      | 28<br>-NO SCHOOL (Teacher In-Service)<br>-JH FB vs. BV                                                   | 29<br>-JH/JV/V VB @ Woodbine<br>-V XC @ Denison<br>-VG Swim @ Carroll<br>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 30                                                                                                                |                                                   |                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                |
|                         |                                                                                                          | <p>The Glidden-Ralston CSD offers career and technical programs in the following service areas: Agricultural Education, Business Education, Health Occupations Education, Family and Consumer Sciences Education, and Industrial Education. It is the policy of the Glidden-Ralston CSD not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact the district's Equity Coordinator, Tom Borchers, School Counselor, 602 Idaho St, Glidden, IA 51443, 712-659-3411, <a href="mailto:tborchers@glidden-ralston.k12.ia.us">tborchers@glidden-ralston.k12.ia.us</a></p> |                                                                                                                   |                                                   |                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                |

CALENDAR SUBJECT TO CHANGE

# September 2026 MENU

| Monday                                                                                                                          | Tuesday                                                                                                                                    | Wednesday                                                                                                                                                        | Thursday                                                                                                                    | Friday                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                 | 1 WG Pancakes or Cereal<br>Chicken Patty on WG Bun<br>Corn<br>Apple<br>Mixed Fruit<br>Milk                                                 | 2 WG Muffin or Cereal<br>Italian Dunker w/ Meat Sauce<br>Romaine Lettuce w/ Cherry Tomatoes<br>Peas<br>Peaches<br>Milk                                           | 3 WG Biscuits & Gravy or Cereal<br>Lasagna<br>WG Breadstick<br>Lettuce Salad<br>Green Beans<br>Tropical Fruit Salad<br>Milk | 4 WG Bagel w/ Cream Cheese or Cereal<br>Crispito<br>Spanish Rice<br>Black Beans<br>Carrots<br>Pineapple<br>Milk      |
| 7 NO SCHOOL                                                                                                                     | 8 Breakfast on a Stick or Cereal<br>Hot Ham & Cheese Sandwich<br>Baked Chips<br>Baked Beans<br>Pears<br>Milk                               | 9 WG Breakfast Bagel or Cereal<br>Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce<br>WG Garlic Bread<br>Romaine Lettuce w/ Cherry Tomatoes<br>Cooked Carrots<br>Mandarin Oranges<br>Milk | 10 WG Waffles or Cereal<br>Popcorn Chicken<br>Mashed Potatoes<br>Corn<br>Cucumbers<br>Mixed Fruit<br>Milk                   | 11 WG Long John or Cereal<br>Pepperoni Pizza<br>Lettuce Salad<br>Peaches<br>WG Rice Krispie Treat<br>Milk            |
| 14 WG Muffin or Cereal<br>Rib Patty on WG Bun<br>Tater Tots<br>Corn<br>Mixed Fruit<br>Chocolate Pudding Cup<br>Milk             | 15 WG Toast or Cereal<br>Popcorn Shrimp<br>Smiley Fries<br>Green Beans<br>Applesauce<br>Milk                                               | 16 WG Pancakes or Cereal<br>Chicken Alfredo<br>WG Garlic Breadstick<br>Romaine Lettuce w/ Cherry Tomatoes<br>Broccoli<br>Cantaloupe<br>Milk                      | 17 Eggs w/ Sausage or Cereal<br>Walking Tacos<br>Tortilla Chips w/ Salsa<br>Black Beans<br>Tropical Fruit Salad<br>Milk     | 18 Nutrigrain Bar & Yogurt or Cereal<br>Sub Sandwich<br>Sun Chips<br>Carrots w/ Ranch<br>Banana<br>Fruit Cup<br>Milk |
| 21 WG French Toast Sticks or Cereal<br>Hamburger on WG Bun w/ Cheese<br>Green Beans<br>Pineapple<br>Vanilla Pudding Cup<br>Milk | 22 WG Cinnamon Roll or Cereal<br>BBQ Chicken Sandwich on WG Bun<br>Lettuce Salad w/ Cherry Tomatoes<br>Corn<br>Mangos<br>WG Cookie<br>Milk | 23 WG Pancakes or Cereal<br>Scalloped Potatoes w/ Ham<br>WG Dinner Roll<br>Peas<br>Carrots<br>Mixed Fruit<br>Milk                                                | 24 Breakfast Burrito or Cereal<br>WG Corn Dog<br>Baked Chips<br>Baked Beans<br>Mandarin Oranges<br>Milk                     | 25 WG Waffles or Cereal<br>Breakfast Pizza<br>Tri-Tater<br>Cauliflower<br>Peaches<br>Banana<br>Milk                  |
| 28 NO SCHOOL                                                                                                                    | 29 WG French Toast or Cereal<br>WG Soft Shell Taco w/ Cheese, Lettuce, & Black Olives<br>Fiesta Beans<br>Tropical Fruit Salad<br>Milk      | 30 WG Poptart or Cereal<br>Orange Chicken<br>WG Wild Rice<br>Peas<br>Pineapple<br>WG Fortune Cookie<br>Milk                                                      |                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                      |