

Great Falls High School

August 1, 2023

Dear BISON Parents and Students:



Welcome to Great Falls High School 2023-2024! This coming year is shaping up to be one of the best years in recent memory! We have an excited staff and faculty that are committed to making this year an outstanding experience for our students and for the Bison community as a whole. Our school has been buzzing all summer with students and staff coming together for camps, collaboration and fun times. We are ready to serve!

The purpose of this letter is not only to officially welcome everyone to the 2023-2024 school year, but to also communicate important information you will need to know. Superintendent Moore has three guiding principles as part of his strategic plan for the district. They are *Stewardship and Accountability*, *Student Achievement*, and *Healthy, Safe and Secure Schools*. Using those guiding principles as our umbrella, Great Falls High emphasizes our core values of *Treat others the way you want to be treated*, *Do what's right*, and *Do the best you can* as the expectation for every student and every adult who are part of the Bison Family. The district principles and our core values have led us to make some changes at Great Falls High School this year that will be important for everyone to know. A few of those changes are:

- **1:1 Devices:** All students will get a school issued device. More information is enclosed with this letter. Devices will be checked out from outside the GFH main office at the following times:

- Seniors: **August 14th 12:30-2:00pm**
- Sophomores: **August 15th 9:00-11:00am**
- Juniors: **August 14th 2:00-3:30pm**
- Freshmen: **August 15th 1:00-3:30pm**
- Enclosed parental signoff sheet must be brought in at the time of device checkout
- Students will receive their class schedule at the time of device checkout
- **Fee week:** All students whether checking out a device or not may pay yearly fees, dues and outstanding fines August 14th through August 18th

- **One Lunch:** GFH will move to having only one lunch during the school day. Our facilities can accommodate lunch numbers. A few important notes regarding this change:

- There is no change to the amount of time for lunch. It will remain 30 minutes.
- It is recommended students remain on campus for lunch
- Tardies and absences due to long lines at fast food restaurants will not be an excuse
- We strongly encourage everyone to fill out the free and reduced paperwork here: <https://lunch.gfps.k12.mt.us/>. There are definitive benefits for completing this.

- **Vape Detectors:** We have installed vape detectors throughout Great Falls High School
 - It is still illegal for minors to possess and use vape pens and other devices (see handbook)
 - We want our classrooms, hallways, bathrooms, and entire campus to be healthy, safe and secure for everyone

- **Attendance:**
 - Students are expected to miss no more than 12 days per semester per class
 - Students are expected to be on time for all classes
 - Our attendance and tardy procedures reflect professional and workplace expectations

Thank you for working with us to make the experience of GFH the best it can be. We look forward to working alongside each of you over the course of this year.

We have a number of places where you will be able to learn information about GFH. Throughout the year please continue to visit our website at: <https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/GFHS> We also ask that you join us on Facebook @gfhbison. We will be sharing more information over the coming days, weeks and throughout the year regarding Great Falls High School happenings and other important information. Of course, you can always call us at: 406-268-6250.

Our first day of school is on Wednesday, August 30th. We will once again start the year with a Bison welcome to our Freshmen and new students to GFH. Freshmen and new students will begin their day on the 30th at 8:00 a.m. We are asking these students to report to their first period class no later than 8:00am. Returning upperclassmen can arrive at 10:45 a.m. if they would like to eat lunch on campus. All students will report to the Fieldhouse at **11:35 for the all school assembly.**

ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL ASSIGNMENTS

Paul Culbertson: A – G Tami Faulkner: H – N Shianne Currey: O – Z

COUNSELOR ASSIGNMENTS

Chad Getten: A-C Carie Magers: D-G Rosie Rossberg: H-L
 Kathy VanTighem: M-R Joe Ferda: S-Z

We want to officially welcome you all to Great Falls High School. More information will be shared as we go throughout the next few weeks and begin our year. We look forward to being a part of many more hopes and dreams, and we are extremely excited to have students roaming our hallways once again!

Sincerely,

Geoffry Habel
Principal

Paul Culbertson
Associate Principal

Shianne Currey
Associate Principal

Tamera Faulkner
Associate Principal

GREAT FALLS HIGH BELL SCHEDULES

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	7:55	0	7:24	7:55	0	7:05	7:55
1	8:00	8:53	1	8:00	8:48	1	8:00	8:31	1	8:00	8:48
2	8:59	9:52	2	8:54	9:47	2	8:36	9:07	2	8:53	9:41
3	9:58	10:51	3	9:53	10:40	3	9:12	9:43	ASSEMBLY	9:46	10:26
4	10:56	11:49	4	10:46	11:33	4	9:48	10:19	3	10:31	11:18
LUNCH	11:49	12:19	LUNCH	11:33	12:03	5	10:24	10:56	4	11:23	12:10
5	12:25	1:18	5	12:09	12:57	6	11:01	11:33	LUNCH	12:10	12:40
6	1:24	2:17	6	1:03	1:51	7	11:38	12:10	5	12:45	1:32
7	2:23	3:15	7	1:57	2:45				6	1:37	2:24
									7	2:29	3:15

****Please note: We will have Open House for all parents and students on Monday, August 28th from 5:30-7:00pm. Please come over for a meet and greet with your teachers!!**

****August 23rd - 7:00pm - GFH Crosstown Clash Night - Voyagers Game**