



**2024-2025  
Elementary  
Yearbooks  
will be  
available in  
April  
\$20.00**

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Griswold Community  
School District  
20 Madison  
Griswold, Iowa 51535  
712-778-2152 (fax 712-778-4145)  
<http://griswoldschools.org>

Questions/comments regarding the  
newsletter contact  
Monica Brandt , 712-778-2154 or  
[mbrandt@griswoldschools.org](mailto:mbrandt@griswoldschools.org)

*The mission of the  
Griswold Community School District,  
in partnership with our families  
and communities, is to provide  
leadership for positive change to  
ensure the best learning opportunities  
foreveryone in a safe and  
caring environment.*

### **Spring Conferences**

***Elementary conference must be scheduled by the parents on the school website.***

***MS /HS Conferences will be open format again this semester. Drop by anytime you like during the conference times to meet with teachers in the High School gym at your convenience. If you require an alternate conference time, please reach out to your student's teachers.***

Monday, February 24th	4:00 - 8:00 pm
Thursday, February 27th	4:00 - 8:00 pm

#### ***Schedule for the week will be as follows***

Monday, February 24th	Normal School Day
Tuesday, February 25th	Normal School Day
Wednesday, February 26th	1 hour early dismissal
Thursday, February 27th	Normal School Day
Friday, February 28th	No School

## **PRESCHOOL**



### **Parents of 3 and 4 year olds**

**Please contact Michele Kirchhoff in the school office at  
778-2154 to receive information on  
preschool for the 2025-2026 school year.  
Registration will be April 21st at 6:00pm.**

## Middle/High School Counseling Office

### **Class of 2027 Registration & College/Career Planning Presentation**

Informational meeting for sophomores and their parents with ICAN about career and college planning. We want you as parents to be informed of the opportunities your students have at GHS. At this meeting, school personnel will be available to review courses and address any questions you may have regarding your child's education. Dual Enrollment courses at Iowa Western Community College offered next year will be discussed and registration for college classes for the Fall Semester will be this night. Students will also be making final registration decisions for 2025-2026 classes. All registrations must be "signed off" by parents. It is very important that all parents and students plan to attend this meeting. If you are unable to make this session, please call/email Mrs. Akers at 778-2154 or [aakers@griswoldschools.org](mailto:aakers@griswoldschools.org) and make other arrangements to review your student's plan.

**Monday, Feb 24th @ 5:30 pm  
High School Media Center**

**College Financial Aid Presentation  
for Current 11th Graders  
Monday, Feb 24th @ 6:30 pm  
More information will be sent out later.**

## Orientation for Class of 2029

### Current 8th graders

### February 26th

### 6:30pm

MS/HS Auditorium.



It is important that ALL 8th Graders and their parents attend this meeting. Bring your chromebooks. While you are here, you can attend your student's parent-teacher conferences also.

## Scholarships – Seniors

The time for seniors to apply for scholarships is upon us! This can be a very time-consuming process since many of the forms are lengthy and detailed. In an effort to help with the time-management piece, we have provided seniors with one general application for all of the local scholarships. This is found under the School Counseling tab on the school's website (Click on "Senior Scholarships" in the top right corner). **Deadline for the general application is March 3rd**. Once students turn in their application, we will distribute copies to the various organizations. Scholarship due dates are available on the counseling webpage to help students organize deadlines. It's important that seniors check this page often, as new scholarships are added frequently. **\*\*Also, make sure to check out the Southwest Iowa shared scholarship spreadsheet linked at the top of the scholarship page. \*\***

Scholarships do not need to be limited to ones sent to the counseling office. You may have received offers for searches in the mail. One warning: If they want you to pay, don't use them. There are many good sites that help for free. Here are a few I recommend:

[www.iowacollegeaid.gov](http://www.iowacollegeaid.gov)

[www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov)

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

[www.icansucceed.org/scholarships](http://www.icansucceed.org/scholarships)

***One special note: Dollars for Scholars will be offered in April. Please wait for notification to fill out this scholarship.***

***\*\* Seniors and Parents, have you completed your FAFSA?? That needs to be completed ASAP to receive college-based scholarships, grants, loans, and/or work study!!!***



## Academic Awards & Senior Class Night

The National Honor Society would like to invite you to the annual Academic Awards program. This will be held May 7th at 7:00 p.m. at the Griswold School. A letter will be mailed out with more information. We will be honoring academic achievers and awarding letters to those fulfilling the requirements. Students become eligible for an academic letter during the sophomore year after attaining a minimum of 3.5 cumulative grade point average for 2 consecutive semesters, earned in classes from the regular school curriculum. Awards will be made after completion of the first semester each year. Students may also become eligible when they have achieved a 3.5 cumulative grade point average for 2 consecutive semesters and have completed at least 10 high school credits. The cumulative grade point average of 3.5 must be maintained for students to be eligible for a letter or bars.

Senior Class night will follow the Academic Awards on May 7th. Outstanding Awards and Scholarships will be awarded to the Class of 2025.

Griswold Ministerial Association will host Baccalaureate at 6:00 pm on May 7th. All seniors and families are invited to attend. A senior video will be showed between Baccalaureate and Academic Awards & Senior Class Awards.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**Test Taking Tips for Parents**

Iowa Assessment Testing is coming up April 7-11 for the HS/MS and the elementary. It is time for parents to review how they can help their children prepare for these tests. First of all, remember that the Iowa Assessments are how schools report to the state and federal government on performance. It is important that students are well prepared, not only academically, but physically for these tests. Here are a few tips that may be of help:

- Make sure that your child gets enough sleep the night before the test.
- Ensure that your child eats a healthy breakfast and avoid heavy foods that may make him/her groggy and avoid high sugar foods that make him/her hyper.
- Avoid planning evening activities during testing week to allow students time to relax and avoid stress.
- Encourage your child to do well, but don't pressure him/her, you stress them out. It is important for them to stay relaxed and positive on test days.
- Talk with your child each night about how the tests went that day and praise them for their desire to do well.
- Keep a positive attitude about the tests.

While we know that Iowa Assessments are just a snap shot of what students know and are able to do. We recognize that they do identify areas of strengths and weaknesses and can provide valuable information to the school as we work to provide the best education possible for the students.

**Notifications**

Dear Parent/Guardian:

**School Breakfast Program**

Mornings can be hectic! Skip the hassle and encourage your children to eat Breakfast at school! We offer nutritious, balanced breakfasts to allow your children to be fueled and keep them energized throughout the day. Breakfast is available to all ages starting at 7:45 am until the morning bell. Breakfast costs \$1.90 for all ages, reduced price is \$0.30. If you are in need of an application for free or reduced meals, please contact Hannah Bierbaum at [hbierbaum@griswoldschools.org](mailto:hbierbaum@griswoldschools.org).

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

**No Child Left Behind**



**Summer Food Service Program**

The Griswold Community School District will not be participating in the Summer Lunch Program for the Summer of 2025. But don't worry - there are many locations in South-west Iowa that will offer free nutritious meals throughout the summer while school is out of session! To find a location near you go to <https://www.fns.usda.gov/meals4kids>

Parents/Guardians in the Griswold Community School District have the right to learn about the following regarding their child's teacher's qualification; state licensure status, special endorsements for grade level/subject area taught, and baccalaureate/graduate certification/degree.  
Parents/Guardians may request this information from the Office of the Superintendent by calling 712-778-2152, or sending a letter of request to: Office of the Superintendent, 20 Madison, Griswold, IA 51535.

**Iowa Sex Offender Register:**

Patrons of the Griswold Community School District may view a list of registered sex offenders at the district's Central Office. The list may also be viewed by going to the state website: [www.iowasexoffender.com](http://www.iowasexoffender.com)