



GOLDENDALE HIGH SCHOOL

525 Simcoe Drive, Goldendale,
WA 98620

Phone: 509-773-5846, Fax:
509-773-8019

"Students and Staff Improving Every day"

Denise Reddinger, Principal

Niki Swanson, Assistant Principal/Activities & Athletics Dir

GHS PRINCIPAL COMMENTS/REPORT

SEPTEMBER , 2025

- This year, GHS welcomes three new teachers, Brandon Chronister & Jennifer Hills join the math team teaching algebra and geometry, respectively. Both teachers will teach algebra 2/trigonometry. Jesse Miles is our new business education teacher and FBLA advisor.
- We also welcome, full-time, Toni Starr as our Library Tech para. Debbie Rhoades joins Robin in the Kitchen preparing nutritious meals for our students. Christina Torres accepted our multi-lingual paraeducator position. And, Jose Arguelles is our new Family Engagement Coordinator. We are still needing to hire one more LAP para.
- Improving students' math knowledge continues to be a focus this year. Our math team will be supported by The Learner First (TLF) math webinars and in-person professional development. We also partner with the ESD 105 to bring in Geoff La Brant as a match coach for the math department, as well as our special education and business education math teachers. The math department has already completed the first data collection of iReady math assessments, with the exception of 10 students.
- Literacy will be another academic focus. Staff discussions are centering on how to best incorporate literacy across ALL content areas. The Building Change Team discussed teaching students to respond in full sentences. This would be in written responses and oral responses. Also discussed were writing conventions - capitalization & punctuation.
- This year, our staff are identifying their lead learners through AMMA, which includes teacher professional judgement. We have also started our year thinking about "Starfish". All staff have been encouraged to think about how they will make a difference to at least one starfish.

- Teachers completed the Family Connections meetings with their Navigation students' families. This helps teachers to have a more complete introduction to their students. It opens up communication and collaboration with families. The attendance rate for Family Connections, so far, is 89%, when we factor in students who have since withdrawn from school. I have asked our staff to reach out to students' families who did not attend the Family Connections.
- Teachers Assisting Students with Knowledge (TASK) began on Monday, 9/15 with approximately 61 students being assigned TASK. This first TASK period runs through Thursday, 9/25. Juniors and seniors not assigned to a TASK are able to use the additional 20 minutes for a longer lunch. Freshmen and sophomores not assigned TASK sign up for and participate in an enrichment activity.
- GHS clubs have also started. We have 21 clubs from which our students may choose. New clubs include SkillsUSA, Origami and Science Fiction. After discussion with our staff, we are keeping the Purple-Gold alternating clubs to allow for students to join more than one club. Students join at least one club or stay with their Navigation teacher and, by default, join whatever club their teacher is advising.
- Fall athletics are underway! As you know, our enrollment numbers are down a bit and, after following the district procedures and timelines, we have three 8th graders playing on our soccer team.

