



GORDON-RUSHVILLE

Public Schools

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January 8, 2026

As we begin 2026, I would like to offer my appreciation and thanks to the staff at Gordon-Rushville Public Schools for their hard work and dedication to the youth and families in our communities. If you have been able to enjoy a Holiday Concert, athletic or arts activity, classroom or building event, received a gift from the elementary Christmas Store, or just kept up with our schools' social media pages, you get a glimpse of the many great opportunities available to our students. This is all possible because of the wonderful staff we have at GRPS. Again, I cannot thank the staff enough for all that you do!

The Annual Report to the Patrons was presented at the December board meeting and is published annually toward the end of the Fall Semester. The information in the Annual Patron Report, along with more specific building and district level data, is utilized by GRPS administrators and teachers to help make informed decisions regarding our building and district continuous improvement process. The report has been published on the GRPS website. It can be accessed on the website by going directly to <https://www.grmustangs.org/page/annual-report-to-patrons> or by going to the website, www.grmustangs.org, clicking on "Menu" at the top, then clicking on "School Related Information" under the Public Information heading. The report, along with prior year reports, are then accessible by clicking on "Annual Report to Patrons." Below are some of the highlights from the report:

- Gordon-Rushville Public Schools had a Free and Reduced rate of 78.31% in 2024-25 compared to the state average of 50.43%. The GRPS percentage has increased 19% since 2018-19 when the rate was 59%. GRPS participates in the CEP program, which provides one breakfast and one lunch meal free of charge to all students every day.
- The official Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) 2025 Graduation Rate for GRHS was 96%, compared to 88% statewide. 27 diplomas were awarded.
- The attendance rate shows the ratio of the total number of days students are actually in school compared to the number of days they could have been in school. Gordon-Rushville had a rate of 93.9% compared to the State Average of 92.8%.
- Financial Overview – The 2025-26 overall budget is \$16,216,671, a 3% decrease from 2024-25. Tax asking is \$8,653,717 compared to \$8,468,889 in 24-25, which is a 2.18% increase. Total levy .680864 compared to .705042 in 2024-25. The General Fund budget is \$14,693,975,000, a 4.54% decrease from the previous year. State Aid is \$795,495, a 1.58% decrease.
- District assessment scores in the ACT and NSCAS in 2024-25 met or exceeded the state average by significant margins, and students continue to perform well on the NWEA MAPS norm-references assessments. More detailed information is provided in the Annual Patron Report and longitudinal data is available in the Superintendent's Office.

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- Nebraska AQuESTT Classifications for districts and individual schools are divided into four categories: Excellent, Great, Good, & Needs Support to Improve. The formula to arrive at the classification includes assessment data, attendance rate, graduation rate, as well as district/school identified measures and resources regarding the school improvement process. Information regarding the Gordon-Rushville Public Schools AQuESTT Classification can be found on the NDE website at the following link:
<https://nep.education.ne.gov/#/profiles/district/snapshot?dataYears=20242025&agencyId=81-0010-000>. The District classification for 2024-25 continued to be Great. Gordon-Rushville High School was classified as Excellent, Gordon-Rushville Middle School was classified as Good, Gordon Elementary was classified as Excellent, and Rushville Elementary was classified as Great. Please contact me for further information and/or questions regarding AQuESTT, and I would be happy to help.

This fall, the district has also held a community meeting in October regarding the JEO Facility Assessment and potential considerations for facility updates. Parental Advisory Committee Meetings were then held in November and December in each of the buildings that allowed for community building tours for attendees. Gordon-Rushville Public Schools will host the next Community Facility Meeting Board Work Session on January 21, 2026, at 5:30 PM at the high school gymnasium in Gordon. Additional information regarding facility improvement discussions will be presented and a facility tour of Gordon-Rushville High School will be conducted. Please plan on attending if you are able.

As we begin the Spring 2026 Semester, I would like to reiterate my gratitude for our district staff, families, volunteers, local organizations, and community members who work together to provide so many opportunities for the youth in our community. I would also like to wish all of our students, staff, families, and community a Happy New Year! I look forward to working with all of you for the remainder of the school year to continue to provide numerous outstanding educational opportunities for our students. As always, please reach out to me with any questions or assistance you may need.

Sincerely,
Nathan Livingston, Superintendent

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