



KNOW Your Schools

Rooted in Community, Reaching for Excellence.

Vol 15, Issue 3, March 2021

Superintendent's Message

Dear Holton Families:

One year ago in the March Know Your Schools article, I shared with the community the various services and supports we rapidly put in place as our schools were forced to close due to the pandemic. This was a time of uncertainty and worry. As I reflect on this historical year, I continue to be incredibly proud of our community. Together we provided food for families with our Food Service and Transportation Departments and the Hand2Hand Program. The parent and teacher partnership had to grow to support continued learning for our kids. Area businesses donated food and resources to help our community. Our community partners stepped up to provide ongoing mental health support to our students. Teachers, support staff, custodians, bus drivers, food service staff, and administrators have demonstrated incredible flexibility as we have responded to this public health crisis. This has been a challenging year. I remain incredibly proud of this community and hopeful that even better days are ahead. Together we can overcome anything!



The arrival of warmer weather and robins are sure signs that spring is underway. There are several updates I want to share as we begin this very busy time of year.

SPRING BREAK: Spring Break is April 2 - April 11. We will continue to provide meals during this time. Please sign up at: <https://forms.gle/XLe57wD87CPhNDYAA>. Meals will be delivered on April 5. Also, if you plan to travel for spring break, please be mindful of the CDC travel recommendations <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html>. International travel will require a two week quarantine. Please keep this in mind as you make any travel arrangements.

KITCHEN REMODELS: Each of our kitchens will be receiving a variety of upgrades this summer. The Elementary kitchen will be getting some updated equipment and redesigned serving areas to increase food preparation space. The Middle and High school kitchen is getting an upgraded cooler, warming equipment, and a new delivery entrance to support secure vendor delivery. The District Services Building kitchen is getting updated equipment and plumbing to provide additional meal options for our preschool and Virtual Academy students. These projects are all being funded through the additional reimbursement we receive through food service. These dollars must be spent on food service projects.

COMMUNITY SURVEY: Each spring we ask our community to complete a survey to help give feedback to the district. We use this survey data to improve our systems and assess the progress we are making on goals. Please complete the survey at: <https://forms.gle/GFfBjt5Hz2DzusiG6>.

SUMMER PROGRAM: We are in the beginning stages of planning our summer school program. This will be a larger, more robust program for our students. The program will include engaging activities that help support increased academic achievement. The program will be eight weeks with meals and transportation provided. We are working with community partners that will provide a variety of experiences including field trips and presentations to help make this program engaging and fun for our learners.

NEXT YEAR: Preliminary plans are underway for next school year. We are working on plans that include smaller class sizes, increased intervention support, and continued pandemic mitigation strategies as required. The pandemic has impacted our students in a wide variety of ways and we will work to provide individually differentiated learning and support to ensure our students have the most opportunities possible for their future.

On a personal note, I have never had so many people tell me "I would not want your job" during this unusual and unprecedented year. My job has been challenging this year. Even though this has been tough (for all of us), I do want to thank you for your support and encouragement. Your encouraging messages, calls, and thoughtful feedback are really appreciated. I'm honored and privileged to serve the community of Holton Public Schools. Even during a pandemic.

Respectfully,
Dr. Adam Bayne

2021 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Spring Break	April 2 - 9 (Return April 12)
Senior Awards	May 19
No School - Teacher PD	May 28
No School - Memorial Day	May 31
Graduation	June 2
Half Days - End of Year	June 8 - 10
Start time: MS/HS.....	8:00 a.m. End time.....2:15 p.m.
Start time: Elem.....	9:00 a.m. End time.....3:15 p.m.
Half day end time:	MS/HS.....11:00 a.m. Elem.....12:03 p.m.

Central States Activities Association TALENT REVUE

On Thursday, April 22, White Cloud will be hosting the annual CSAA Talent Revue and Art Showcase at their High School. The performance will begin at 7:00PM.

FORENSICS 2021

Congratulations to the Holton High School 2021 Forensics Team!

This season was an unusual one, as all of the competitions were hosted virtually, rather than in person. Holton's team rose to the occasion and proudly earned 2nd place as a team in the CSAA Conference Finals, being outperformed only by Kent City.

When people hear "forensics" they often think of TV detectives who examine dead bodies for evidence of "who done it." The word "forensics" actually stems from ancient theories about debate, performance, and argumentation. Our Forensics Team competes in different areas of PUBLIC SPEAKING.

New to the team this year were Freshman, Joslin Vanderboegh; Sophomore, Aiden Hippler; and Junior, Gina Nye. Joslin competed in the Impromptu category and Aiden took on Sales. Both placed 3rd in the conference in their categories! Gina competed in the Prose category and her rendition of "The Peril of Stories" was well received earning her an All Conference Honorable Mention 2nd place performance!

Sophomore returning team member, Bella Resterhouse, is our All Conference Champion in Broadcasting for the second year in a row! Also returning as Sophomores this year are Faith Hale and Morgan Boyette. Faith earned All Conference Honorable Mention 2nd place in the category of Poetry with pieces that she selected from the book "Hope", while Morgan earned third place in Storytelling with her tale, "Perfectly True".

Madison Bloom, the team's only Senior, has earned All Conference Honorable Mention 2nd place in the category of Dramatic Interpretation with her selected piece titled, "The Experiment".



Congratulations to the Forensics Team!
Thank you for representing Holton with PRIDE,
POISE, and PROFESSIONALISM!

FREMONT Ford



ride with pride

As we approach the last quarter of the school year, it is time to start getting excited for Ride With Pride! For those who are unfamiliar with Ride With Pride, it is a positive behavior incentive program for the Middle and High School. At the beginning of the school year, students who wanted to be eligible for the contest signed



a positive behavior pledge. The pledge includes abstaining from drugs, alcohol, vaping, mean behavior and negative contact with the police. It is also a pledge to drive safely, wear your seatbelt, attend school regularly, pass your classes and follow school rules. Students who take the pledge and meet the requirements are eligible to win lots of prizes. One lucky High School student will win a car donated by Fremont Ford! Another High School student will win a moped. One Middle School student from each grade will win something like a skateboard, bike or other age appropriate "ride". In addition to the car, the moped and the Middle School rides, we will be giving away t-shirts, water bottles, lanyards and several hundred dollars worth of gift cards! Our tentative plan is to have an outdoor assembly in May for this event. It will be a lot of fun!



Welcome Spring

Greetings from Holton Middle and High School. The weather is warming up and the snow is melting, which means spring is right around the corner. After a long winter indoors, the excitement is building for all of the activities that come with spring weather. So far, it looks like this spring will look and feel a little more normal than last year. Of course we can never be sure what is coming next in these uncertain times, but our team is working diligently to finish the school year with fun, success, and as many normal activities as possible.

As always, the last few months of the year will be busy and move fast for the secondary building. Due to last spring's shutdown, our 6th graders did not get an opportunity to attend camp. I'm happy to share that those students will have the opportunity to attend camp this year. We also have the return of spring sports, awards assemblies, a spring play, band concerts, and graduation. Our staff is making great efforts to be flexible and creative in trying to make all of our end of the school year activities as fun and normal as possible.

Finally, state mandated testing will be upon us as soon as we return from spring break in early April. Students in grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, & 11 will be testing at various times throughout the rest of the month. More details on testing will be coming soon so please watch for this information.

Sincerely, Erik Carlson, MS/HS Principal



CONCERT

The Bands are excited to announce that they will be hosting a Band Concert on Sunday, April 25th, 2021 at 3PM in the Middle & High School Gymnasium.

Performers in the Beginning, Junior and High School Bands have been given information regarding uniforms and report times.

Please join us (social distancing and masks will still be required) for this celebration of MUSIC!

SnowFest 2021 & Snowcoming 2021

Sponsored by the HS Student Council

SnowFest 2021 took place February 23rd at Red Devil Stadium. The kids had a great time playing in the SNOW! We had wiffle ball, snowman building, angel making, obstacle course, sledding, snowball targets and hot chocolate!



SnowFest 2021 HS Student Council Members



SnowFest 2021 Snow Angels



SnowFest 2021 Obstacle Course - Mr Horenziak



THEATRE 2021



Holton Theatrics presents...

No Signs of Intelligent Life

A Comedy by Bryan Starchman



Production Dates:

May 7 - 7PM
May 8 - 3PM & 7PM
& May 9 - 3PM

Contact Mrs. Thompson via e-mail or by the Band room office phone: gthompson@holton.k12.mi.us or 231.821.1950

SYNOPSIS:

If you think you've suffered too many awkward moments or been in the dark in conversations, just think how poor, innocent aliens feel! Hungry to fit in, (a little too hungry at times!) they do and say things that we humans aren't allowed to. Join in the laughter as these extraterrestrials meet all kinds of humans -- teenagers, rednecks, survivalists and the most enigmatic, tech support nerds. Will these hapless aliens be able to figure out the daily rituals of dating, gossiping at the water cooler, camping, or even fixing our computers? The aliens have the knowledge to increase food production, create alternative energies, and achieve world peace. Are Earthlings the intelligent life they seek to bestow these gifts? More important, could Earthlings help the aliens get home again?!

3-D Art has been building paper mache projects. Students began with recyclable materials to build an armature and then used layers of mache pulp and paper mache. Madison Bosset has been working on a paper mache sculpture of her horse.



Snowcoming 2021



Snowcoming 2021 King and Queen: Nathan Cannady and Raschelle Fox

Snowcoming 2021 Theme was "SEASONS" We were able to celebrate Snowcoming with an outdoor event with competitive games and challenges for all! The Freshman Class won the mini float contest with their float Representing "Summer" and the Senior Class won the overall spirit points.

Snowcoming 2021 looked a little different this year due to Covid 19 restrictions, but our students portrayed themselves very well following all the guidelines set in place for this year's Snowcoming festivities. They lined up single file and were socially distant and they all wore masks! The Snowcoming 2021 Court Members: Back Row Left to Right: Jaden Israel, Austin Fowler, Skylar McFarland, Cameron Wackernagel, Patrick Hippler, Nathan Paseka and Nathan Cannady. Front Row Left to Right: Gracie Sullivan, Vanessa Peltoniemi, Raschelle Fox, Danni Coburn, Riley Legard, Kirstin Rogers and May Newell.



Freshman Mini Wagon Contest Winner

MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL REWARDS

On Friday, March 5th, Mr. Carlson and Mr. Tyers delivered donuts and milk to Middle School Virtual Students who made the honor roll. The treat was put together by Mrs. Wagenmaker. She got donuts and milk as a reward for all of the honor roll students and wanted to be sure to include our outstanding Virtual Students. Virtual students on the honor roll were Ava Alderink, Chloe France, Gus Sundberg, Ava Wackernagel, Sophia Wackernagel, Ava Berghuis, Stephany Schwartz, Luke Urso, Jenna Alderink, EmmaLee Fox, Karly King, Ethan LeRoux, and Trinity Tyndall. Unfortunately, we were not able to get a photo of all of the students, but have included the ones we could.

We are proud of our honor roll students. Keep up the great work!



Ava Alderink



Karly King



Trinity Tyndall



Luke Urso



Stephany Schwartz

Holton Families

Hello Holton Elementary Families and Community. We are all very excited for the glimpse of warm weather that we have been getting from time to time. With a recent cold stretch, we are hopeful that the days of inside recess (at least for the cold) are behind us.

Spring here at school brings a lot of events and activities, and although some of them cannot be the same as they have been in the past, we continue to find ways to plan these in a way that are safe for our students and staff.

March is reading month was planned with a jungle theme. The students were able to get involved during their art time in the classrooms by creating various elements for the jungle. A calendar of dress up days was created for each school day in March. We encourage reading each day here at the elementary and in March we celebrate it.

Lastly, Michigan's state standardized test, the M-STEP, will be given to students this Spring in third, fourth, and fifth grades. These assessments will begin after Spring Break in April. All grades will be scheduled for the math and English language arts assessments. The fifth graders will also be taking the science and social studies assessments. We encourage students to give their best efforts on these assessments. They can also prepare to do their best by getting a good night's sleep and eating healthy the night before the tests.

As we look back on the last year, and think this was the time where everything about the way we do school changed, we are encouraged by the many efforts that have been put forth to continue to educate our students. Whether students are in the building five days a week or at home five days a week, our staff continues to connect the students to learning. We are hopeful, as the days go on we continue to make steps back to "normal" and be able to bring back some things we have missed. As always, feel free to contact me at any time at ebyrnes@holton.k12.mi.us or 231-821-1828.

Educationally yours, Erin Byrnes, Holton Elementary Principal



Muskegon Community Foundation started a children's savings account program two years ago for all Kindergarten students in Muskegon County. This year they are focusing on having the first and second grade students, who currently have accounts, to deposit

money into their accounts. They have even set up incentives for them including a project in second grade to earn \$5 for their account and a reading challenge for first and second grade students in the month of March where they can also earn \$5. This information was sent home to our first and second grade students earlier in March. All students can participate whether they attend face to face or virtually.

The Kindergarten students this year will be set up with a savings account with \$50 added to it, at the beginning of next school year (along with next year's Kindergarten students). With so many barriers this year, the community foundation chose to hold off until next year with this part. But all students will have their savings account started next fall. We are excited for kids to having this opportunity and begin to learn to save money for their future.

Congratulations!!!!

Mr. Follett was WZZM's Teacher of the Week



On January 25th, Mr. Follett, Holton Elementary 2nd grade teacher, was awarded Teacher of the Week by WZZM TV 13. His nominator stated, "he will do anything for his kids." Congratulations to Mr. Follett for this honor and we are happy to have him teaching at Holton Elementary.

Chromebooks in Classrooms

Technology has definitely become an even bigger part of our lives in general, and also a bigger part of student's education. With some of our students learning completely virtual, some of our students learning virtual some days, and with a school closure during November and December, we have all had to adjust to the use of more technology. With this, the district has continued to add more technology for our students. This began last Spring when students were learning completely from home. Then this fall additional technology needed to be added to support our students and families.



Now, Holton Elementary is thrilled to have enough Chromebooks in each 2nd – 5th grade class for every student. All students who are learning virtually or as a hybrid student have been offered a Chromebook to work from home. Lastly, Kindergarten and First grade classes have been given touch screen Chromebooks, so that our youngest students do not have to manage the mouse pad.

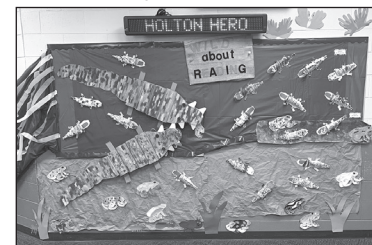
Teachers have found many creative ways to add technology into student's daily routines. Students are becoming more skilled at using technology appropriately and the elementary is much more prepared in case we do need to transition to remote learning again.

March Is Reading Month

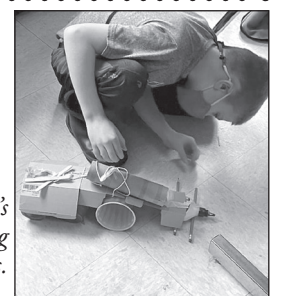
Holton Elementary is Wild About Reading

This year the theme of March is reading month is a jungle, "We are Wild About Reading." Students participated in their classrooms to help create items for the main hallway jungle. Trees, waterfalls, rivers, birds, bugs, and animals filled the hall.

A calendar of dress up/participation days were created to keep everyone excited and enthusiastic about reading and the theme for this year. There is also a checklist of activities to complete at home in order to receive a prize. This is available to all students at home or at school. Packets were delivered to our all virtual students. We are excited to finish celebrating this year's reading month.



Mrs. Laster's snow volcano.



Mrs. Sundberg's class making Mar Rovers.

Happy 100th Day of School Holton Elementary!

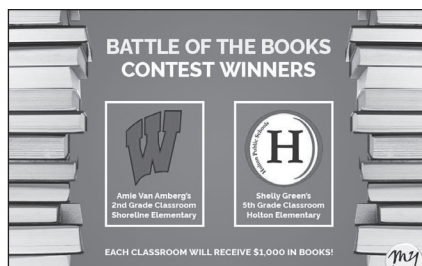


We Love New Books!

Thank you so much to Robin Whitehurst for her generous donation of \$200 to our elementary library. Robin is a 1972 graduate of Holton and loves to read. She tutors second graders near her current home, and wanted to share her love with reading with Holton students.



Thank you for the new books.



Way to go, Mrs. Green's Class!!!

Congratulations to Mrs. Green's class for winning the Subaru Battle of the Books for the Muskegon area. The contest was to read as many hours as possible and log their time. Mrs. Green's class won the 4th – 6th grade division by reading more than 360 hours. This has earned Mrs. Green \$1000 for books for her classroom. Also, they were highlighted as WZZM13's One Good Thing.

Congratulations to Mrs. Green and her students!!



Lunch & Recess Monitors Needed

Holton Elementary is looking for help monitoring student lunch and recess.

This position is Monday - Friday (when school is in session) from 11:00 AM - 1:45 PM.

If you are interested in applying, please call Robin Taylor at 231-821-1826 for more information.



2021 SPORTS SCHEDULE

VARSITY BASEBALL

3/29	@ Muskegon Catholic	4:00 PM
4/12	@ Chip Hills DH	4:00 PM
4/16	Home vs.	
	Morley Stanwood DH	4:00 PM
4/17	Red Devil Invite;	9:00 AM
4/20	Home vs. White Cloud DH	4:00 PM
4/23	@ Lakeview DH	4:00 PM
4/27	@ Kent City DH	4:00 PM
4/30	@ Marsh Field vs.	
	Hesperia DH	5:00 PM
5/1	GMAA	9:00 AM
5/4	@ Morley Stanwood DH	4:00 PM
5/7	@ White Cloud DH	4:00 PM
5/11	Home vs. Lakeview DH	4:00 PM
5/14	Home vs. Kent City DH	4:00 PM
5/18	@ Hesperia DH	4:00 PM
5/20	@ Hope College vs.	
	River Valley	4:00 PM
5/25	@ Fremont DH	4:00 PM
	Cam Night	

VARSITY SOFTBALL

4/12	@ Chip Hills DH	4:00 PM
4/16	Home vs.	
	Morley Stanwood DH	4:00 PM
4/17	Red Devil Invite	9:00 AM
4/20	Home vs. White Cloud DH	4:00 PM
4/23	@ Lakeview DH	4:00 PM
4/27	@ Kent City DH	4:00 PM
4/29	Home vs. Hesperia DH	4:00 PM
5/1	Home GMAA	9:00 AM
5/4	@ Morley Stanwood DH	4:00 PM
5/7	@ White Cloud DH	4:00 PM
5/11	Home vs. Lakeview DH	4:00 PM
5/14	Home vs. Kent City DH	4:00 PM
5/15	Home Invite	9:00 AM
5/18	@ Hesperia DH	4:00 PM
5/20	@ Hope College vs.	
	River Valley	4:00 PM
5/22	@ Glen Lake Invite	9:00 AM
5/25	@ Fremont DH	4:00 PM

VARSITY TRACK

4/14	@ Morley-Stanwood	4:00 PM
4/16	@ Newaygo Invite	4:00 PM
4/21	@ White Cloud	4:00 PM
4/28	@ Lakeview	4:00 PM
4/30	Boys GMAA @	
	Reeths-Puffer	2:00 PM
5/1	Girls GMAA @ Oakridge	9:00 AM
5/5	Home vs. Kent City	4:00 PM
5/10	Home vs. Hesperia	4:00 PM
5/14	@ Hesperia	4:00 PM

MS TRACK

4/15	@ Kent City	4:00 PM
4/22	Home	4:00 PM
4/29	@ Big Rapids	4:00 PM
5/06	@ Morley Stanwood	4:00 PM
5/07	@ White Cloud	4:00 PM
5/13	Home	4:00 PM
5/19	@ Chip Hill	4:00 PM

VARSITY BOYS GOLF

4/20	@ Chip Hills- The Royal	9:00 AM
4/27	@ Reed City- Spring Valley	9:30 AM
4/28	GMAA @ Stonegate	9:00 AM
5/4	Home- Stonegate	9:00 AM
5/11	@ Fremont- Waters Edge	9:00 AM
5/18	CSAA Championship	9:00 AM

All schedules are subject to change. Please check <https://holtonathletics.com/> for the most up to date schedules.

TRACK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

This spring will bring many opportunities to get out and support your Red Devils. In order to host great events many volunteers are needed, especially during a track and field home event. If you are interested in volunteering to help in hosting track and field (no experience necessary) please contact the athletic director:

Jared Hudson at 231-821-1930 or jhudson@holton.k12.mi.us



Wrestling and Bowling All Conference

Congratulations to wrestler Rice Robins for earning 1st team all-conference this winter. Fellow wrestlers Graham Resterhouse, Dylan Cartwright, Jarid Coburn, and Kaleb Nichols earned Honorable mention. Joseph McLean also earned honorable mention all-conference in boys bowling this winter.



Boys Basketball Conference Champs

The 2020-2021 varsity boys basketball team has earned a spot at the top of the conference standings for the first time since 2005. The boys are champions in the CSAA Silver for the first time.

Way to go boys!



Front Row: Carter Brant, Kevin Erickson, Brett Hosmer, Joseph McClean
Back Row: Coach Trygstad, Aidan Poling, Austin Fowler, Wyatt Monette, Brodrick Fialek, Coach Swanson



CONTACT NUMBERS

Administration Office:
821-1700 Fax: 821-1724
High School Office:
821-1725 Fax: 821-1774
Middle School Office:
821-1775 Fax: 821-1824
Elementary Office:
821-1825 Fax: 821-1849
Transportation Office:
821-1707 Fax: 821-1722
Maintenance Office: 821-1709
Athletic Director: 821-1930
Athletic Office: 821-1707

Girls Basketball Team would like to THANK YOU!



The Holton girls basketball team collected, sorted and returned enough pop cans to give out 25 board games and 25 gift cards for family game night for Holton middle and high school students. There were two larger gift items (bike, movie basket) that were given to one middle and one high school student that were nominated by their teachers for going above and beyond throughout the year. Holton girls basketball would like to thank all of the community members for donating and making this holiday season a little brighter for so many families.



NOTICE OF VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

In order to protect the health, welfare, and safety of students, staff, and visitors, as well as District property, electronic video surveillance systems may be used to monitor activity while on District property.