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Welcome to Holt Public Schools!

It is with great pride and enthusiasm that I write the fourth of what I hope will be many Ram Quarterly (RQ) welcome letters to you and our exceptional community. I remain excited to serve our learning community daily!

This is our first edition of the nearly exclusively online RQ. I know that some of you may want a paper copy of our publication. Know that we plan to print a limited number of copies to place throughout the Holt and Dimondale communities for you. Feel free to pick up a paper copy of the RQ at the following locations:

- Holt Delhi Library
- Sam Corey Senior Center
- Buddies of Holt
- Dimondale Library
- Mike’s Village Restaurant
- Midway ELC/Community Ed
- Holt School Office

I hope you will connect with us via social media or through our weekly email correspondence called the Peek at the Week. You can get information regarding Holt Public Schools on the following social media sites:

Facebook = Holt Schools Advantage
Twitter = HoltPublicSch
Instagram = Holtpublic
Tumblr = Holtpublic
Website = www.hpsk12.net

To be added to our weekly email updates, please send a message to SuptOfc@hpsk12.net with the work “Peek” in the subject line.

As you know, I am driven to reinforce positive behaviors as we confront negative behaviors together. For the second year in a row, I plan to lead a community book study. Last year, members of our learning community read Who Moved My Cheese. This year we will study Rules of the Red Rubber Ball by Kevin Carroll. In this book, readers are challenged to use their passion and creativity to maximize their potential. Carroll references his seven simple rules for success, which include committing to “it,” seeking out encouragers, and maximizing the day, to name a few! Give this book a read, as we will be referencing it over the course of the school year!

Once again, I am firmly committed to promoting our district by highlighting the remarkable, inspiring work that takes place daily. I am honored to serve you and embrace the opportunity to celebrate the past and continue to inspire the future of Holt Public Schools.

District Pride, Community Wide!

Dr. David G. Hornak

Superintendent’s Community Coffee Schedule

You are invited to join Superintendent Dr. David Hornak for an informal conversation regarding Holt Public Schools! Share your thoughts and find out “what’s happening” in our district.

2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 5</td>
<td>9:00 a m</td>
<td>Tim Hortons</td>
<td>Mike’s Village Restaurant</td>
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<td>Monday, February 6</td>
<td>9:00 a m</td>
<td>Mike’s Village Restaurant</td>
<td>Tim Hortons</td>
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<td>Tuesday, March 7</td>
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<td>Thursday, April 13</td>
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<td>Wednesday, May 3</td>
<td>9:00 a m</td>
<td>Mike’s Village Restaurant</td>
<td>Tim Hortons</td>
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ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS WHILE YOU SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLS!

Reach consumers in our community with an ad in the Ram Quarterly—and, at the same time, support Holt Public Schools!

The Ram Quarterly offers a quality environment for your advertising and all the revenue goes to HPS. For more information, please contact Melissa DeVine at 517-333-4900.

All advertising directly offsets the cost of this publication.
2017 CALENDAR

This calendar does not include early dismissal/late start dates. Check the district online calendar (www.hpsk12.net/calendar) for updates.

NOTE: Dates subject to change

JANUARY
Jan 3  School resumes for all students
Jan 16  MLK Day – no school (all students)
Jan 25-27  1st semester exams – gr. 7-12 half day;
gr. K-6 full day
Jan 30  2nd semester begins

FEBRUARY
Feb 8  Student count day; K-12 full day
Feb 17-20  Mid-winter break for traditional calendar
Feb 17-24  Mid-winter break for balanced calendar

MARCH
Mar 6-10  Parent-teacher conference week – all students
Mar 8  Full day (all students); gr. 9-12 evening conferences
Mar 9  K-12 half day (all students); gr. 7-12 afternoon
conferences, gr. 7-8 evening conferences
Mar 10  K-12 half day (all students)

MARCH/APRIL
Mar 31-Apr 7  Spring break for traditional calendar
Mar 31-Apr 14  Spring break for balanced calendar

MAY
May 29  No school – Memorial Day holiday for all students
May 29-June 2  Memorial break for balanced calendar

JUNE
Jun 14  2nd semester exams – gr. 7-12 half day;
gr. K-6 full day
Jun 15  2nd semester exams – gr. 7-12 half day;
gr. K-6 traditional half day; balanced full day
Jun 16  2nd semester exams – gr. 7-12 half day;
gr. K-6 traditional half day; balanced full day
Last day of school for traditional calendar
Jun 21-22  Balanced calendar half day
Jun 22  Last day of school for balanced calendar

*Balanced calendar: Horizon and Sycamore Elementary Schools

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Did You Know?

......that we want to hear from Holt graduates? We know you are still in the area or scattered all over the Midwest, the United States and abroad. If you can take a few moments to let us know what you’ve been up to lately, please go to our website at http://www.hpsk12.net/parent-student-resources/ram-quarterly-listing/, fill out the “Did you Know?” questionnaire, and submit by email or “snail” mail, following the directions on the form. We look forward to hearing from you!
MINI-GRANT AWARDS!
The popular mini-grant program has provided project funding of more than $391,000 to date! Teachers, paraeducators and school volunteers have been awarded grants for projects that have enhanced teaching and learning throughout classrooms in our district. This year’s grants will help provide: “Magic Apples,” ASD/Peer-to-Peer Collaboration, Attendance Achievement incentives, Project RED (Read Every Day) Bag, and Genius Hour projects, to name a few.

Congratulations to the teachers who were awarded a total of $33,944 for seven mini-grant projects for the 2016-17 school year! Be sure to watch for reports on these projects at our 2017 Community Recognition Dinner!

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION DINNER
Nominations are being accepted until January 13, 2017, for outstanding alumnus, community member and school employee! Information is posted on the district website at www.hpsk12.net/district/foundation. Honorees will be recognized at the annual Community Recognition Dinner, scheduled to take place on Wednesday, March 22, 2017. More information will be posted online as the event nears. Please save the date!

The Holt Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Contributions are accepted year-round, and may be sent c/o Superintendent’s Office, Holt Public Schools, 5780 W. Holt Rd., Holt MI 48842. No amount is too small.

Thank you!

SAT PRACTICE WORKSHOP FUNDRAISER
The SAT practice workshop is held for high school students who wish to learn strategies for improving their SAT test scores. After the workshop, students will take a practice exam; when finished, they will get a login to access their scores online. The next workshop is scheduled for February 25, 2017. It’s not too early to sign up!

All proceeds benefit the Holt Education Foundation.

If you have a student who wishes to take the ACT exam, please go to www.actstudent.org for national test date information and registration deadlines.

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Dimondale Office: 127 East Rd.

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Welcome!

New Board Members

Ben Bakken has been part of the Holt-Dimondale community for many years, having graduated from Holt in 1995! He has a degree from Wayne State University and an MBA from Northwood University. Mr. Bakken is currently Vice President of Commercial Banking for Mercantile Bank. He has volunteered as an assistant boys varsity basketball coach for more than 10 years. He serves on several boards, including the Holt Education Foundation and the Holt Rams Victory Club; is a member of the Holt Business Department Advisory Committee, and is an organizer of the 5-Minutes-Tops contest. Mr. Bakken and his wife, Rachel, live in Dimondale with their three children, Clara (who attends Dimondale Elementary), Jack and Henry (who will attend Dimondale Elementary — when they’re old enough!). Mr. Bakken can be reached at ben.bakken@hpsk12.net.

Laura Colligan may be a familiar name to many in the district, where she has served in several roles over twenty-plus years — teacher, principal, building and district instructional coach. She is currently a supervisor of Student Instructional Services for the Ingham Intermediate School District. She has degrees in general education, special education and curriculum and holds an Educational Specialist degree in K-12 Administration. She and her husband, Craig, live in Holt and are the proud parents of Grant and Megan, both Holt graduates, and Carter, who currently attends Holt High School. As a board member, she will strive to improve the learning and overall school experience for all in the district. Mrs. Colligan can be reached at laura.colligan@hpsk12.net.

Thank you!

We would like to sincerely thank outgoing Board of Education members Jeana McKee and Lori Murphy for their unselfish service, commitment and loyalty to the Holt-Dimondale school community. They have both served Holt Public Schools since June 2004, and to quote Lori Zajac, board president, “Holt Public IS a better place because of the steadfast leadership and positive impact they have had on so many lives...students, families, teachers, staff and administration alike.” They will be missed!

Holt Public Schools would like to welcome several “new” faces to the district!

Mr. Steve Netzel, Ed.S., joined the Central Office team as Executive Director of Curriculum and Staff Development in August. Not new to the district, he has over 15 years of education experience and most recently served as principal of Elliott Elementary. Mr. Netzel and his wife (also a teacher) and their two children reside in the district and enjoy spending time “Up North” when not working at school.

Mrs. Jessica Cotter has also moved to Central Office as the district’s Director of Student Achievement and Staff Development, working closely with Mr. Netzel in the Curriculum Department. Mrs. Cotter’s prior experience includes working as a district transformational/instructional coach and Holt High School social studies teacher and department chair. Mrs. Cotter and her husband, Ty (who is also a teacher at HPS), have a student at HPS.

Mr. Scott Huard joined our district as Principal of Horizon Elementary on August 1, just as school began! He came to us from the Bryan City School District in Bryan, Ohio, bringing 21 years of experience (6th grade teacher, principal, director of special education and director of elementary education). He has a passion to ensure that each child feels safe and loved at school while they work to achieve their full academic, social, emotional, and physical potential. Mr. Huard lives in Dexter with his wife April and their five children, Elizabeth (19), Grace (17), Owen (14), Claire (12), and Anna (5). He enjoys spending time with family and serving in their local church, Refuge, in Ann Arbor.

Taking over as new Principal of Elliott Elementary is Mrs. Erin North. Mrs. North came to us from Hillsdale, where she was a principal for five years. Prior to that, she taught in Dewitt for seven years. Mrs. North is grateful to the staff, students and families of Elliott, who have been so welcoming and helpful. When not working, she enjoys spending time with her husband and three children, traveling and taking mini-road trips.
CURRICULUM CHANGES EXPECTED TO IMPROVE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

An expansion of Holt Public Schools’ curriculum staff will “change the trajectory of student achievement at all levels,” Superintendent David Hornak told the Board of Education in August, as he outlined plans to dedicate two professionals, rather than one, to lead the Curriculum Office. The move, which was supported by the Board, is expected to close learning gaps and help to develop robust, sustainable systems at the secondary level.

Dr. Hornak noted that, as a result of staffing changes including resignations and retirements, the district was in a position, and the timing was right, to add another professional to the office.

According to Dr. Hornak, “In a time when accountability and improving student achievement is at an all-time high, I am thrilled with our decision to hire two people to serve from the Curriculum Office. The idea of one person having the time and the deep knowledge to address K-12 curriculum was difficult for me to comprehend. With two people serving in leadership roles, each can specialize.”

Mr. Steve Netzel (former Elliott Principal and HPS teacher) and Mrs. Jessica Cotter (former instructional coach and HPS teacher) were hired to lead the district’s Curriculum Office.

Mr. Netzel is serving as Executive Director of Curriculum and Staff Development. He will focus his attention on K-6 curriculum and staff development. Serving as the Director of Student Achievement and Staff Development, Mrs. Cotter will focus her attention at the secondary level.

Following a national search, the two candidates who were advanced to the final round of interviews by a committee of 17 were both internal candidates.

“We have the two best professionals to serve in our district and look forward to the impact each will have on the district,” Dr. Hornak said.

When considering a two-person curriculum office, the administration collected data from districts sized similarly to Holt and discovered the majority had multiple directors. With the redesign, the Curriculum Office is expected to be better able to address concerns and take action to combat lagging test scores.

“We will be seeing the benefits of this decision for years to come,” said Dr. Hornak.

H.O.L.T. Scholarship Fund Continues to Grow

PNC Foundation Generously Gives $5,000

Thanks to another generous $5,000 contribution from the PNC Foundation, the H.O.L.T. Scholarship Fund is growing!

The H.O.L.T. (“Helping Others Learn Together”) Scholarship Program is a donor-supported project to help qualifying students in the Holt Public School District receive an advanced education opportunity at Lansing Community College (or other accredited postsecondary institution). The goal is to be able to offer scholarships to more Holt/Dimondale students, so additional funding is needed! If you are looking for a way to give back to your community, please consider a contribution to the H.O.L.T. Scholarship Program. For more information, please contact the H.O.L.T. Scholarship Program at www.holthelps.org, or the Capital Region Community Foundation at www.crcfoundation.org.
Guide to Giving and Volunteering at Holt Public Schools

TRADITIONAL GIVING:

The Holt Education Foundation is run by a volunteer board and the primary fundraising projects are the annual pre-game Cookout and the Community Recognition Dinner. More information is on page 3. http://www.hpsk12.net/district/foundation /517.694.5715

The H.O.L.T. (Helping Others Learn Together) Scholarship is a “Promise” scholarship, providing assistance for college. This scholarship is awarded to qualifying students identified in their eighth grade year. This scholarship fund is managed by the Capital Region Community Foundation, an independent, tax-exempt public charity. www.crccfoundation.org /517.272.2870

The HPS STEAM Fund is a direct donation to Holt Public Schools for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math programming teaching and learning. While the district has been fortunate to acquire grant funding for hardware, the STEAM Fund is essential to providing training to use that hardware, as well as providing for software and programming support. SuptOfc@ hpsk12.net /517.694.5715

NON-TRADITIONAL GIVING:

Box Tops for Education — these little labels mean cash for our schools! Please contact your local elementary school for more information.

VOLUNTEERING:

Walking School Bus — Holt Public Schools is proud to offer Walking School Buses as part of the Safe Routes to School program. This program promotes safety, community, physical fitness and more! Volunteers are always needed, especially as we work to expand this program. Mrs. Jennifer Miller, Program Coordinator: jennifer.miller@hpsk12.net

Please see the Guide to Giving and Volunteering brochure for handy reference. The District is also working to set up other easy fundraising methods; more information will be provided in the future!

School Closing Information

In the event of a major snowstorm, electricity outage or other event that could cause school cancellation, Holt Public Schools will report information to local TV and radio stations for broadcast.

Holt Public Schools will also use the Skylert Rapid Notification System to notify families of school closings. Please do not call your child’s school or the transportation office when you receive such a call. Offices are unable to handle a large volume of phone calls, may be closed in the event of a “snow day,” and the phones do not work in a power outage.

Remember, it is very important that our school families provide correct contact information—please view and update your phone numbers and e-mail addresses by logging into Family Access at www.hpsk12.net and selecting the “Skylert” link.
AROUND THE HORN

MIDWAY EARLY LEARNING CENTER/HOLT COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Midway Early Learning Center has had a great start to the school year! We set a building goal of positive behavior focused on being safe, respectful, responsible and kind. By teaching our students these concepts at an early age, we help them be even more prepared for Kindergarten.

We are excited about some great new partnerships! In our partnership with Michigan State University’s nursing program, nursing students come to the Center and observe children in every day play, as well as teaching them about health and germs. We have also partnered with PNC Bank as part of its Grow Up Great program. A team from PNC is volunteering at our family events and even brought in a mobile planetarium for our children to experience. We are fortunate to have such meaningful partnerships to provide enrichment opportunities for the children here at Midway!

DIMONDALE ELEMENTARY

Dimondale Elementary had another fantastic start to its school year and the students settled in nicely. We continue to follow our school-wide expectations of Be Safe, Be Responsible, and Be Respectful. We have spent time addressing these expectations in all areas of the building.

Goal-setting conferences were a success! It was great to build relationships with families early in the year and work together for the success of all the children.

This year we are focusing on attendance, making sure that students are at school so they can receive the instruction they need. As winter continues, it is important that students have boots, snow pants, hats and mittens so they can be prepared to be outside. Go Bearcats!

ELLIOTT ELEMENTARY

Elliott Elementary students are tomorrow’s creative problem-solvers. Using the new LEGO® STEM program, we are working to equip them with the necessary science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) knowledge and skills to be innovative and imaginative thinkers. This approach helps make abstract STEM concepts tangible by taking teaching out of the textbooks and putting it into the hands of students, creating a better understanding of STEM subjects while building 21st century skills.

The program’s curriculum covers nearly 20 activities. Students build a project together and then program it to move on its own. There is room for creativity as the programming can be done any way the students wish. Recently, more projects were added to the program, making it possible for some projects to be wireless and better integrated with science and math.

We began using LEGO® STEM at Elliott Elementary as an after-school program two years ago, led by one teacher and one assistant. After that initial success, last year we opened up the program to 4th grade students for enrichment during Team Time, and this year we’re adding the 3rd graders for their Team Time!

HORIZON ELEMENTARY

The Horizon Organization of Parents and Staff (HOPS) started off the 2016-17 school year with a different approach to fundraising—an effort to promote health and fitness while raising funds for needed new playground equipment and other essentials.

Enthusiasm spread throughout the entire school. The students set up lemonade stands, held bake sales, brought in their loose change and completed extra chores to help add to the pledges. With each benchmark they reached, students celebrated with special rewards like “crazy hair day,” extra recess and more.

Thanks to the wonderful sponsorship of Dart Bank, Edru, District 5, Zap Zone, YMCA, Potter Park, Impression 5 and more, prizes were given to the students who pledged. The final incentive was met with pure excitement—the principal and a few staff members would become human ice cream sundaes! Horizon successfully met and exceeded its fundraising goal of $12,000, raising about $16,000 in all.

Even more impressive than exceeding the goal was the final event, the Horizon Fun Run. The students wore custom class-color shirts and face paint as they ran, danced and enjoyed the run course with music, balloons and many parents cheering them on. After each grade level ran, they enjoyed bananas, pretzels and water handed out by HOPS volunteers. This event was a great success in promoting health and fitness, and HOPS looks forward to the installation of the new playground equipment in the spring of 2017.

SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY

During our balanced calendar break in October, Sycamore hosted another exceptional fall Intersession—this one focused on careers and recycling. Guest speakers from our community spoke about careers, and students also learned to repurpose materials.

In addition, our after-school enrichment clubs continue to reach enrollment capacity. The Sycamore LEGO® Club, organized and taught by third grade teacher Eric Grabow, was an overwhelming success as students worked together to problem-solve and explore mechanical movement and coding. Our newest after-school enrichment club is the Sycamore Stars Coding Club, taught by second grade teacher Jason Gentry. Made possible by a Dart Foundation grant for a set of classroom Chromebooks and a charging cart, the Coding Club allows students to learn programming language while also sparking a love for learning and problem-solving using digital tools.

The Sycamore staff is excited to help create a strong foundation of technology learning in Holt Public Schools.
WILCOX ELEMENTARY

Students at Wilcox Elementary are off to a “fin-tastic” start, launching a year-long under-the-sea/fish theme for their positive learning and behavior celebrations throughout the year.

We have reached out to several of our community partners this fall to support additional hands-on, experiential learning activities. Kindergarten students dove into deeper learning of our Holt community by visiting the Delhi Public Library, the fire station and a local pizzeria.

First grade students extended their science observations this fall at Fenner Arboretum, and second graders visited the MSU Children’s Garden for deeper investigations of plant life. The Meridian Historical Village and Nokomis Learning Center in Okemos hosted our third graders with authentic learning activities about Michigan history, and our fourth-grade students are headed to the MSU Planetarium for enrichment lessons on “A View From the Earth.” We look forward to sharing our experiences with family and friends!

HOPE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Hope Middle School started the school year off well! The school’s focus this year is “attendance achievements.” This includes hot pink 8 x 10” posters marking 100% attendance displayed outside teachers’ classrooms; monthly attendance rewards for students; and friendly attendance competitions between classroom teams.

Hope Middle School is also happy to share that we have implemented the Golden Apple Award. This is a way for a faculty or staff member to recognize one of his or her colleagues for a job well done.

WASHINGTON WOODS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Washington Woods is excited to have implemented a few twists to our Positive Behavior Integrated Supports (PBIS)! This year we have installed two “Buddy Benches.” Kids know that these aren’t just a place for the lonely to be found, but a place to scope out what games are happening, who might be a playmate, and how a struggling middle schooler can engage with peers. While they are sitting there, other kids can see that they might need help joining, and pull them into the fun.

We have also added a Hallway Hero program that encourages students to notice super-caring peers and nominate them for a reward. Each nomination of a student means there was another student seeking out kindness in our school!

Finally, we have opened a school store where students can use their RAM tickets to purchase school supplies and fun items—all for learning the ropes and modeling great behavior at school.

We are so proud of our intervention time, where teachers have worked hard together to identify which students—whether struggling learners or advanced—need additional academic support. Our staff is serious about helping them all and monitoring their progress. You may hear kids call this “flooding time,” because it’s a time when all teachers in the grade level share all kids for instruction and “flood” the building with support, right where kids need it. The staff at Washington Woods take student success seriously and work as a phenomenal team to make a difference each day!

HOLT JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Parents were invited to participate in the “Lunch with Your Student” activity on September 27 and more than 200 parents attended the event. Both parents and students commented on how much they enjoyed the program. We are now planning an additional lunch opportunity to take place this spring!

The Junior High also kicked off our Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) programs on September 30 with Jeff the Magician! Junior High and Sycamore Elementary students were invited as an incentive for meeting their goals, related to the character trait “responsible.” Principal Perkins and Superintendent Hornak spoke about being responsible and what positive actions students could take throughout the school year.

HOLT HIGH SCHOOL

In October, seniors at Holt High School were treated to the Dee-1 Knowledge for College Tour, and watched as one of their peers won a $5,000 scholarship in a sweepstakes drawing sponsored by Sallie Mae Bank, which also sponsored the tour.

Dee-1 is the stage name of David Augustine, Jr., a New Orleans rapper and former middle school math teacher who has partnered with Sallie Mae, touring the country and stressing the importance of a college education. The partnership stemmed from a Dee-1 single, “Sallie Mae Back,” in which he raps about making his final student loan payment to Sallie Mae.

The winner of the Sallie Mae scholarship was Holt High School senior Gabriel Crowe.

Holt Public School District Asks for Community Feedback

The Holt Public Schools Board of Education and Administration would like your help with our survey!

This survey will help us determine the level of community interest in the concept of the balanced school calendar. The school district calendar is a negotiated item that is determined yearly (or depending on contract terms) and identifies school start and end dates, conference weeks and early release or late start days that provide staff with professional development. The actual number of days or hours required for instruction of students is set by the State of Michigan’s Department of Education.

This brief online survey can be found at (https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XYK9892), and on the District’s website under the News and Notices tab (www.hpsk12.net/news/district-news). The survey is open to all residents of the Holt Public School District. Survey responses will be accepted through January 27, 2017. Questions regarding the survey may be directed to Supt01c@hpsk12.net.
Holt Public Schools is hosting a Kindergarten Information Night for parents on Thursday, March 23, 2017 from 6:30–7:30 p.m. at the Holt High School Margaret Livensparger Auditorium. This night is for parents of potential kindergarteners for the 2016-17 school year. Individual school open houses are held in May.

State legislation changed the enrollment age for kindergarten students by requiring them to be five by September 1, 2015, beginning with the 2015-16 school year. However, effective October 9, 2013, the legislature revised the kindergarten age requirement enacted to allow a parent or legal guardian to enroll his or her child in kindergarten as long as the child turns five on or before December 1 of that school year, by notifying the district in writing of his or her intent to enroll the child in kindergarten. Completing an online enrollment form through the Registration Gateway portal at www.hpsk12.net will meet this notification requirement for children turning five between September 1 and December 1, 2017, for the 2017-2018 school year.

Kindergarten “call in” pre-registration (Holt-Dimondale school district residents only) takes place January 23 to February 3, 2017, from 9:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Call your home area school to pre-register (if you do not know your home area school, you may call 694-0625 or 699-1103 for assistance). After you call your school building you may proceed with the online enrollment process. Your child is considered enrolled only when this process is complete.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS AT TIME OF REGISTRATION

The documents required for students before starting kindergarten are:

1. Birth certificate — original certified with state seal (copies are not accepted)
2. Immunization record — including Hepatitis B and Varicella immunizations
3. Proof of residency — utility bill, lease, etc. (two documents needed)
4. Vision screening
5. Hearing screening
6. Parent photo ID

CHILDCARE

Before- and after-school childcare is available through Holt Community Education. For more information call 694-3411 or e-mail comed@hpsk12.net.

IN-DISTRICT SCHOOLS OF CHOICE

For Holt/Dimondale Public School residents:

In-district Schools of Choice applications will be available in February for the 2017-18 school year at all K-6 buildings and the Curriculum Office at the North Campus Building, 5780 W. Holt Road. Applications are due on or before April 14, 2017. If you need more information, please call the Curriculum Office at 699-1103.

NON-RESIDENT SCHOOLS OF CHOICE

For students who do not reside within the Holt School District boundaries:

Non-resident Schools of Choice applications will be available in May 2017. Please call 694-5370 for more information or to request an application packet.

IMMUNIZATION WAIVER INFORMATION

Any parent/guardian who wants to claim a nonmedical waiver must receive education regarding the benefits of vaccination and the risks of disease from a county health department before obtaining the certified nonmedical waiver form through the local health department. The rule requires the use of the State of Michigan nonmedical waiver form dated January 1, 2015.

College bound? Don’t delay!

As students return to school from the holiday vacation, seniors in particular need to be paying attention to college fairs and financial aid events that are held at the high school or in the greater Lansing community. The federal financial aid application (AFSA) is due March 1, and scholarships have individual deadlines as well.

Parents, while you can’t complete the college choice and application process for your senior, you can help by researching schools and scholarship opportunities. You can also help your student get the most out of his or her college fair experience by reviewing the list of participating schools and prioritizing them, as well as helping to brainstorm questions to ask each school.
Kinetics Program Wins $5,000 from Independent Bank

We’re proud to be among the winners of Independent Bank’s “Investing in Youth” contest, which awarded $5,000 to each of four winning schools.

Holt Public Schools Superintendent Dr. David Hornak learned about the contest from a friend, and noticed that phase 3 of the contest focused on “improving athletics and physical education programs in our local schools.”

“A perfect fit for our elementary kinetics program!” thought Dr. Hornak. He entered the contest on behalf of Sycamore Elementary, where kinetics teacher Bruce Angell has taken the lead on updating the kinetics curriculum for all the elementary buildings. Although the entry was submitted under the Sycamore Elementary name, the award will benefit our entire district’s kinetics program.

Thank you, Independent Bank, for helping us ensure our students are Fit 4 Life!

Help protect our sanitary sewers

Tips from Delhi Township Water Treatment

Did you know...

- “Flushable wipes” clog sewer pumps, sensors, valves and land on all sewer surfaces
  - The fibers in flushable wipes are woven, preventing them from breaking down
  - Although prevention screens help trap the wipes, they add another layer of work as well as 350 pounds of dry weight (which equates to 1,000 pounds of wet weight) of waste per day that is sent to the landfill.
  - Toilet paper is the “wipe” of choice as it is engineered to break down.
- Sump pumps or footing drains should not be connected to sanitary sewers but rather to the storm water lead.
- Houses built before the 1970s are at more risk of drain-pipe root penetration. Roots are the number one cause of drain blockage. Roots should be cleaned out mechanically by a licensed professional rather than trying to remove with harsh chemicals.
- When buying a home, it is a good idea to invest in a televised inspection of drain pipes. Asking for a copy of the video is an acceptable practice. The investment for such an inspection can help prevent tens of thousands of dollars in future repairs.
- It is good practice to research plumbing and sewer contractors. Websites such as Yelp, Google, the Better Business Bureau and Angie’s List help review companies, helping you to make an informed decision about who to hire.
Holt High School gears up for second Korean exchange

Following a successful 2016 Korean exchange program with Asan High School in South Korea, Holt High School will again be hosting Korean students in February 2017. The exchange is part of the Lansing Regional Sister City Commission (LRSCC).

In January 2016, 15 students came from Asan High School to Holt High School for three weeks. In addition to attending classes with their host family/student they participated in activities such as roller skating, skiing, a tour of MSU, a meeting with the governor, a tour of Chicago, movies, shopping and attending Holt events such as basketball games. Their visit even included a trip to Niagara Falls.

In July, four of Holt’s host family students and their counselors traveled to South Korea. They visited the War Museum and other cultural and art museums, learned to cook Korean food and play traditional instruments, and visited amusement parks, tombs and palaces. Their time in South Korea also included a visit to Seoul. Students Kyra Dennis, Brandon Baswell, Auden Chase and Lucas McCarick represented Holt High School. They were accompanied by Holt High School counselors Nicole Lown and Kim Reichard.

Asan is a city of approximately 205,000 in the South Chungcheong Province of South Korea, bordering the Seoul metropolitan area to the north. It is home to five universities and is considered a business hub.

The LRSCC works to bring about a deepened appreciation in our community for the beauty and unique strengths of the world’s many cultures. Its mission includes study abroad programs for high school students in many locations, funding the programs and serving as the liaison between the various high schools involved in the program.
Welcome, new Board members!

Schedule of Regular Meetings for 2017

- Monday, January 9, 2017 ...... 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, February 13, 2017... 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, March 13, 2017 ...... 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, April 10, 2017 ....... 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, May 8, 2017 .......... 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, June 12, 2017 .......... 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, July 10, 2017 .......... 6:30 p.m.

1 Statutory organizational meeting followed immediately by regular meeting.
Updated meeting info can be viewed at: http://www.hpsk12.net/board-of-education/meeting-schedule.

Location: Administration Building Boardroom, 5780 West Holt Road, Holt, MI 48842
517-694-5715 | www.hpsk12.net/board-of-education/meeting-schedule

Holt Public Schools BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ms. Lori Zajac, President
Ms. Deborah Roeske, Vice President
Mr. Mark Perry, Treasurer
Mr. Ben Bakken, Trustee
Ms. Julie Bureau, Trustee
Ms. Laura Colligan, Trustee
Mr. Doug Needham, Trustee

Holt Public Schools BUILDING DIRECTORY

Holt Public Schools
Board of Education and Administration Office
5780 W. Holt Road
Holt, MI 48842
517-694-0401

Holt High School – Main Campus
5885 W. Holt Rd.
Holt, MI 48842
517-694-2162

Holt High School - North Campus
5780 W. Holt Rd.
Holt, MI 48842
517-694-4370

Holt Junior High School
1784 Aurelius Rd.
Holt, MI 48842
517-694-7117

Hope Middle School
2020 Park Lane
Holt, MI 48842
517-699-2194

Washington Woods Middle School
2055 Washington Rd.
Holt, MI 48842
517-699-0250

Dimondale Elementary School
P. O. Box 159 – 330 Walnut St.
Dimondale, MI 48821
517-694-6411

Elliott Elementary School
4200 Bond Ave.
Holt, MI 48842
517-699-2106

Horizon Elementary School\[1\]
5776 W. Holt Rd.
Holt, MI 48842
517-694-4224

Sycamore Elementary School\[1\]
4429 Sycamore St.
Holt, MI 48842
517-699-2185

Wilcox Elementary School
1650 Laurelwood
Holt, MI 48842
517-699-0249

Community Education
Preschool & school-age child care information
Child & adult enrichment classes
4552 Spahr Ave.
Holt, MI 48842
517-694-3411

Midway Early Learning Center
Infant, toddler & preschool-age child care information
4552 Spahr Ave.
Holt, MI 48842
517-699-1587

EdTreK Alternative Education Center
In Partnership with Ingham Intermediate School District and Operated by Ombudsman Educational Services
4610 Spahr Ave.
Holt, MI 48842
517-709-3148

Transportation Department
517-694-0625

\[1\] Horizon & Sycamore operate on a balanced (year-round) calendar

Community Education Wants You!

Do you have a passion, special skill or talent you want to share with others? Holt-Dimondale Community Education is seeking motivated instructors to teach adult and youth enrichment classes. We welcome your desire to share your knowledge and passion.

We are pleased to offer a wide variety of educational, affordable, entertaining and enriching classes and activities to our community members. As a class instructor, you play a powerful role in inspiring and enhancing the lives of the participants. Classes may be offered several times a year: fall, winter, spring and/or summer. For more information, please contact the Community Education office at comed@hpsk12.net or 517.694.3411.
SPECIAL EVENTS:

Midnight at 3 (With Balloon drop at 3pm)
Dec. 31 – 1pm-7pm

New Years Eve Late Skate – 8 pm-1am

Princess and Super hero Skate
Jan. 21 – 9am-12pm

Valentine All Night Skate
Feb. 11 – 8pm-6am

Character Skate
Feb. 25 – 9am-12pm & 3pm-6pm

ATTRACTIONS

- Public Skating
- Laser Tag Game
- Lessons
- Rollers & Strollers
- Birthday Parties
- Fundraisers
- Private Parties
- Field Trips/Team Building
- Group rates start as low as $6.00

Skate for the health of it!

Skating lessons available. Call for details.