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Holley Central School District • OCTOBER 2020

# First day of school



# A Message from the Superintendent



Hello Holley Families!

I'm very pleased to once again greet you with a welcome back letter in the first edition of this year's Dimension! Although things look and feel vastly different than any other start to a school year

we've ever experienced, having our students and staff back, and working together again, has been wonderful. Seeing buses pulling up to our schools, and having students present in classrooms, hallways, and cafeterias together, sure has been a welcome sight.

Getting to this point didn't occur without challenges. However, I'm so proud of how hard our staff worked to get ready to start the school year. With in-person and remote instruction, our teachers had to make many adjustments to provide meaningful learning experiences for all our students and to find ways to improve upon what we were able to provide this past spring. We appreciate everyone's understanding and patience as we navigate through these unique days of hybrid learning plans, new schedules, and formats for teaching and learning.

Complying with all the safety requirements was another new aspect for our students and staff to adjust to this year. So far, everyone is doing an amazing job with wearing masks and being compliant with social-distancing rules. I'm especially proud of our students as they have really done a good job with following the rules and keeping safety a priority. We've emphasized that if we are to remain open, and hopefully expand to more in-person learning, we have to do a good job with following all the safety protocols, especially remaining physically distant from others, wearing masks when distancing is not possible, and maintaining good personal hygiene. Thank you for all your support of these issues at home, too! By all of us working together to be a safe school district and community, we hope to be back to more normal operations very soon.

As we move through the year, it is our hope to do as many typical and traditional things as we possibly can. With that said, there will be some changes to our calendar, events may need to be altered to follow current guidelines and/or restrictions, and some activities may need to be postponed or even canceled. However, if we need to adjust our district calendar in any way, we will send out communications via email, social media and our website. Thank you for paying close attention to those sources of information, as we want to make sure that everyone is informed about any possible changes to our calendar, or about specific events and activities.

Thank you for taking the time to read through the Dimension. We plan to have this publication mailed home this school year, producing newsletters for each season, along with our special budget newsletter in May. A full color copy of the Dimension will always be posted on our website.

I appreciate your continued support of Holley CSD. Thank you once again for all you're doing at home and in the community to partner with us to educate our students. Together, we are stronger.

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Go Hawks!

Brian Bartalo Superintendent of Schools

### Holley Employees Receive Service Awards

On Sept. 3, Holley faculty and staff members received service pins based on their years of service to the district. Pins were awarded to district employees who had achieved five-year milestones (5 years, 10 years, 15 years, etc.) as of June 30, 2020. District employees were recognized at the Reopening Ceremony. Many award recipients are pictured below for each milestone.



5 years of service: Michelle Gonzalez, Julie Bader, Pamela Arnold and Sharon Zacher.



10 years of service: Stephanie Sanchez, Theresa Neale, Paula Barrus, Susan Beach and Nara Penna.



15 years of service: Renee Wolf, Kelly Frost, Debra Henry and Trudy Brooks.



20 years of service: Cheryl Tipton, Darlene Gervasi, Karen Bower, Holly Moore, Jim Di Sessa, Angie Davis, Shawna Benzan, Suzanne Lepkowski, Holly Curtis, Tricia Draper, Debra Koehler, Melanie Montague and Leigh Weaver.



25 years of service: Brenda Schurr, Kellie Burke, Karen Gaylord and Buffie Gleason.



30 years of service: Wanda Farrell.



Congratulations to our employees on achieving these milestones!

### School Bus Safety Reminders

Did you know that an estimated 50,000 motor vehicles illegally pass New York State school buses every day? Don't become one of them! In New York State, it is illegal to pass a bus when its red lights are flashing. When drivers see the red lights flashing, they must come to a complete stop at least 20 feet away from the bus so that the bus driver can pick up or discharge students. This rule applies even when a bus has its red lights flashing in a parking lot, on school grounds, on a multi-lane highway or on the opposite side of a divided highway. Drivers must stop, whether they are approaching the bus from the front or the rear. When the red lights stop flashing or when the bus driver signals, drivers may resume driving. Drivers must yield to flashing yellow lights on a bus, slow down and be prepared to stop.



Penalties for passing a school bus involve fines, points added to your license and possible jail time. Refer to the table below.

By Conviction	Minimum Fine	Maximum Fine	Possible Imprisonment
First Conviction	\$250	\$400	Up to 30 days
Second Conviction (within 3 years)	\$600	\$750	Up to 180 days
Third or Subsequent Convictions (within 3 years)	\$750	\$1,000	Up to 180 days

For more information, visit https://trafficsafety.ny.gov/operation-safe-stop.

For more information on the rules and regulations, visit the Transportation Department page: http://www.holleycsd.org/Transportation.aspx.

#### Safe Riding Rules

#### Be Respectful

- Keep hands and feet to yourself.
- Keep noise level down and use respectful language.

#### Be Responsible

- Keep the aisle clear at all times.
- Wear face mask before entering bus, and while riding and exiting bus.
- Sit in assigned seat.
- Be at your stop at least five minutes early and ready to load the bus.
- Boarding of authorized passengers at authorized stops is allowed; unauthorized passengers are not allowed.
- Eating and/or drinking are **not allowed** on the bus.

#### Be Safe

- Remain in your assigned seat at all times until the bus is stopped.
- Wait for the driver's signal before crossing at least 10 feet in front of the bus.
- Go back to where you started if you hear the horn while loading/unloading from the bus.
- Wear headphones or earbuds while using electronic devices. **Remove them** while loading/unloading from the bus for your safety.

### Holley Students in Grades K-12 Have Free School Meals Again This School Year

During the 2020-21 school year, all Holley students in grades Pre-K-12 will receive free breakfasts and lunches. This includes students who are remote learning from home. Holley Central School District (HCSD) was approved by the New York State Education Department to participate in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program beginning in the 2019-20 school year. Schools that are in high poverty areas that currently participate in the School Breakfast and National School Lunch Programs are eligible for the CEP program. HCSD will be in the CEP program for four successive school years, ending at the conclusion of the 2022-23 school year. Students may still purchase a la carte items, such as chips, ice cream, cookies, etc. Such items may not be charged. Visit the Food Services Department page http://www.holleycsd.org/FoodServices.aspx for more information on a la carte pricing and monthly menus.

For more information on the 2020-21 Reopening Plans for HCSD Cafeterias and Meal Services, visit http://www.holleycsd.org/2020-21ReopeningPlansforCafeteriasandFoodServices.aspx.

For any questions, contact Assistant Superintendent for Business Sharon Zacher at (585) 638-6316, extension 2001 or szacher@holleycsd.org.

### School Board **Recognition Week**

New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo proclaimed School Board Recognition Week as Oct. 19-23, 2020. To quote Governor Cuomo's proclamation, "members of local school boards are dedicated to children, learning, and community, and devote many hours of service to elementary and secondary public education as they continually strive for improvement, excellence, and progress in education"; this is an accurate description of the Holley Board of Education. Thank you to the members of the board for all you do to support the Holley community. At the October board meeting, the board members were recognized for their service.



Holley board members are, from left, Melissa Ierlan, Vice President John Heise, Anne Winkley, Anne Smith, President Robin Silvis, Mark Porter and Andrea Newman. This photo was taken in August 2019.

### Soaring Award

Sal DeLuca received the "Soaring to New Heights" award at the Holley Board of Education (BOE) meeting on Sept. 21. This award is given monthly to deserving students and adults who go above and beyond expectations, and lend their skills and abilities to help others. DeLuca received the award from BOE President Robin Silvis for volunteering his time to prepare meals for students during the



From left, Sal DeLuca and Robin Silvis.

school closure last spring. He helped regularly with all aspects of the emergency food service. Thank you, Sal, for all you do for our students!

# **Retirees Honored at Board** Meeting

On Sept. 21, five Holley faculty and staff members were honored at the monthly Board of Education meeting for their years spent working in education. Accounts Payable Clerk Buffie Gleason, MS/HS science teacher Dan Burke, elementary cafeteria aide Janine Kraatz and MS/HS school nurse Donna Lenz all retired this summer. MS/HS special education teacher Lynnette Short was also honored even though she was unable to attend the meeting. Congratulations to all of you on your retirements!







Ruffie Gleason

Janine Kraatz

Donna Lenz

### Staff Receives Tenure

At the Sept. 21 Board of Education meeting, four Holley teachers and two administrators were granted tenure. Teachers Zachary Busch, Crystal Elliott, Mark Hill and Carrie Rebis completed the four-year process to become tenured teachers for the district. Assistant Elementary School Principal Tim Artessa and Director of Special Programs Stephanie Sanchez also received tenure. Congratulations to all!







Tim Artessa

Crystal Elliott





**Carrie Rebis** 

Stephanie Sanchez

### **American Red Cross** Blood Drive Oct. 27

The Holley High School Student Council is hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, Oct. 27 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the MS/HS Auditorium. To participate, please make an appointment by visiting https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipS ponsor=10nyp&cid=siebel&med=email&source=bdc\_email&utm\_ source=siebel&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=bdc\_email. If you have guestions, contact Jim Di Sessa at jdisessa@holleycsd.org or 585-507-1623. Thanks for your support!

### How We Communicate with Parents and Residents

The Holley Central School District has a variety of communications tools we use to communicate with parents and residents on a regular basis. Here's an overview of the tools we rely on to share important information.

- Connect-Ed this electronic messaging system is how we tell you about breaking news that is urgent in nature and may require your immediate attention. For this reason, it is important that we have your current phone number and/or email address. If your number or address has changed or if you haven't provided this information previously, please be sure to do so now. Simply call your child's school and tell us your current number and address.
- SchoolTool this is our student management system which allows parents to see student information online, including student schedules, attendance, interim and report card grades, discipline information, and more. If you have not already registered with SchoolTool, do so today at http://www.holleycsd.org/SchoolTool.aspx. You will find a sign-up form on the website that you will need to complete and return to your child's school. You only need to register once to have access to this secure online system. If you have registered in the past and your email address remains the same, no further action is required; you still have access to this site.
- Website the district website (http://www.holleycsd.org/default.aspx) is a comprehensive and continually updated resource for parents and residents alike. Refer to it often for everything from Board of Education meeting minutes to school lunch menus, athletic schedules, news and more. We also employ social media on our website, so be sure to "like" us on Facebook

### New Staff Join Holley Central



Hannah Harris ES Second Grade Teacher



**Rhian O'Dell** *MS/HS Special Education Teacher* 



Heather Rickman ES Second Grade Teacher



Kaitlyn VanSkiver Transportation Clerk



Johnathan Warne MS/HS Science Teacher



Meaghan White ES Nurse

(www.facebook.com/Holley-Central-School-District-332907976725723/) and follow us on Twitter. There are four Twitter handles to follow:

- District: @HolleyCSD
- Superintendent: @HolleySupt
- Elementary School: @HolleyElem
- Middle School/High School: @Holley\_MS\_HS
- Electronic Bulletin Board our electronic bulletin board in front of the Elementary School enables us to share upcoming important dates with you.
- District Newsletter throughout the school year, we publish a districtwide newsletter on a quarterly basis so you can see what has happened and what's ahead. As a cost saving measure, we post this newsletter online at http://www.holleycsd.org/Dimension.aspx. Newsletters are mailed to district residents and provided to local businesses.
- District Calendar the 2020-21 Holley Central School District calendar is
  posted online. To view or export the calendar, visit http://www.holleycsd.
  org/calendar.aspx. This calendar will be updated throughout the year
  to include new events or changes in locations, times and dates. Please
  check the calendar regularly and use the filtering options to customize
  your calendar view.
- Local News Media we regularly share our news with local news publications including Westside News, The Daily News (Batavia) and Orleans Hub.
- Parent Handbook parent handbooks have been updated and are available online at http://www.holleycsd.org/ParentHandbooks.aspx.

### School Tax Payments



**Note:** No Internet payments of any kind can be accepted. A copy of your bill must accompany your payment.

There is a change in the address for where school tax payments can be made this year. Tax payments can be made in person at the Holley Central School District Office - Lockbox, located at 3800 North Main Street, Holley, NY 14470. Payments can also be mailed to this address. Make checks payable to Holley Central School District.

October 1 through October 31: Pay full amount plus 2% penalty.

On **November 1**, taxes revert to the county and are no longer payable through the school district.

# Family Fitness Center

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Holley CSD is not opening the Family Fitness Center at this time. Opening the Center will be reevaluated at a later date, and the public will be notified if and when we are able to reopen it. Thank you for your understanding.

### **Counseling News**

### College Preparation News from the MS/HS Counseling Office

College-bound high school juniors and seniors are encouraged to participate in the events below. Save the dates for the following SAT and ACT exam and registration dates.

#### SAT:

Exam Dates	Regular Deadline
Nov. 7, 2020	Oct. 7, 2020
Dec. 5, 2020	Nov. 5, 2020
March 13, 2021	Feb. 12, 2021
May 8, 2021	April 8, 2021
June 5, 2021	May 6, 2021

Fees: with essay \$68, without essay \$52 Late registration: additional fee \$30

Students can register online at

https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register. Holley CEEB CODE: 332-415.

#### ACT:

Exam Dates	<b>Regular Deadline</b>
Dec. 12, 2020	Nov. 6, 2020
Feb. 6, 2021	Jan. 8, 2021
April 17, 2021	March 12, 2021
June 12, 2021	May 7, 2021

Fees: with writing \$70, without writing \$55 Late registration: additional fee \$35

Students can register online at www.actstudent.org/regist/. Holley CEEB CODE: 332415.

If students need a fee waiver for either exam, they should contact their guidance counselor.

#### NCAA Division I and II Sports

It you are interested in playing college sports at Division I or II schools, you must register for the NCAA Clearinghouse at www.ncaa.org/student-athletes.

#### **Financial Aid**

To apply for any need-based aid or federal loan programs, students and their parents/guardians will need to file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form online between October 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. Please register for an account at https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa prior to submitting the FAFSA form.

#### Scholarships

Visit the Scholarships page on the Holley website: http://www.holleycsd.org/Scholarships.aspx. Scholarships are listed as they are received. Feel free to review these scholarships and pay particular attention to the deadline dates. Listen for scholarship announcements and drop by the Counseling Office for information starting in mid-December. Also, consider visiting www.fastweb.com for national scholarship searches. Don't wait until March or April – you might be out of luck!

**SENIORS** should now be narrowing their search on colleges they'd like to attend. They should register to take the **SAT and/or ACT** sometime in the fall. Online registration is available for the SAT at www.collegeboard.org and for the ACT at https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act.html. Seniors should be working on their college applications and aim to complete them by Thanksgiving. Check the application deadline of each college you are applying to, as they may differ. When requesting letters of recommendation from teachers as part of the college application process, please allow them ample time to complete them. Students are encouraged to register with each college's Educational Opportunity Program (EOP). More information will be given to juniors and seniors in regards to eligibility for EOP. Any questions, please contact each college directly.

**JUNIORS** that plan on attending a four-year college: the SATs/ACTs are required for admission at many colleges. Check and see if any of them have waived this requirement due to tests being canceled during the COVID-19 pandemic. If needed, please register for these exams! Students should contact their counselors with any questions.

Please visit the counseling website (http://www.holleycsd.org/MSHSCounseling.aspx) for additional information. For questions, contact Kristina Tese at ktese@holleycsd.org or Andy Ruff at aruff@holleycsd.org.

### Reminder of Parent/Teacher Conferences

- Thursday, Nov. 19 3-6 p.m. MS/HS
- Monday, Nov. 23 3:30-6:30 p.m. ES
- Tuesday, Nov. 24 12:30-3:30 p.m. ES

There will be early dismissal at 11:30 a.m. from the ES on Nov. 24 to accommodate the parent/teacher conference times. ES Report Cards will be distributed at the parent/teacher conferences. MS/HS Report Cards will be mailed home on Nov. 20. At the MS/HS, teachers will be contacting parents to schedule conferences. You are welcome to schedule one for yourself by contacting Penny Cole at 638-6335, ext. 5510, or contacting your student's teacher. To locate your student's teacher in the **Staff Directory**, click the **people** icon on the lower right corner of any page on the district website (http://www.holleycsd.org/).

### How to Access Dimension Newsletters on the District Website

If you'd like to access past issues of the Dimension online, visit http://www.holleycsd.org/Dimension. aspx or click the **Dimension** box on the Home page of the website. A list of newsletter editions displays, categorized by year. Click the link to a specific issue to view that newsletter.

### Security Keeps Holley Safe

The men walking the hallways and grounds of the Holley campuses are there to serve one purpose: to keep everyone safe. They are the security force at Holley, employed by C.O.P. Security. The three men are retired deputies and officers from local law enforcement agencies. They spend their days, evenings and weekends patrolling the Holley school properties inside and out, monitoring the security cameras and supervising the various events on campus. They enjoy working with the students and staff. The officers who keep our schools safe are:



Chris Vigliotti ES

Vigliotti is a retired lieutenant with the Monroe County Sherriff's Office with 25 years of service.



Mike Roffe MS/HS

Roffe is a retired sergeant from the Greece Police Department with 24 years of service, including 12 years as a criminal investigator.



Drew Frate MS/HS

Frate is a retired sergeant with the Monroe County Sheriff's Office with 25 years of service.

### High School Yearbook News

Yearbooks can be ordered online through www.jostens.com for \$50 each.

Senior photos, quotes and baby ads are due by Oct. 31. Contact Kristen Pelkey for details at kpelkey@holleycsd.org.

Please send senior submissions and all high school remote learning photos to HolleyYearbook@gmail.com.

Jostens, our yearbook company, has turned on an image share link for you to share images with the yearbook staff. The uploaded images will go directly to a folder in our image library, and Mrs. Pelkey will be able to review submissions. Here is the link: https://images.jostens.com/415603970. Our school ID is: 415603970.

Thank you for your help with the yearbook this year!

# Pre-K Hosts Grandparents' Day

Amie Callen's Pre-K class celebrated Grandparents' Day on Sept. 22 by inviting students' grandparents to a tea of punch and cookies in the Elementary School Café. Callen and teaching assistant Alexa Downey taught the children songs and dances that they performed for the grandparents. The grandparents sang and danced to one of the songs their grandchildren taught them. The children presented keepsakes to their grandparents, which included a photo, a bookmark with their footprint on it, and a card with their handprint on it. This celebration helped the children complete their classroom unit on families.



### Sixth Graders Examine the Whys of Learning

Students in Dustin Gardner's sixth grade class started off the school year talking about the "why." Why do we study history? Students heard six different reasons why we study history (for example, we can improve lives, prepare for the future, learn fun facts, etc.). Then, they decided whether they strongly agreed, agreed, strongly disagreed or disagreed with each reasoning, and discussed their decisions in groups.





Brian Bartalo

#### **Board of Education**

Robin Silvis, *President* John Heise, *Vice President* Melissa Ierlan Andrea Newman Mark Porter Anne Smith Anne Winkley

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### Mission Statement

We, the students, parents, staff and community of the Holley Central School District, will work together to provide the opportunity and means for all students to acquire the skills, knowledge and attitudes to become responsible and productive citizens in a diverse and changing society. The ideal is to instill a passion for lifelong learning.

#### HOLLEY STRONG

### **DISTRICT CALENDAR**

The Board of Education approved the following dates for the 2020-21 school year:

Veterans Day – No School	Nov. 11
Thanksgiving Holiday – No School	Nov. 25-27
Pre-K-Grade 12 Half Day for Staff Development	
Holiday Recess – No School	Dec. 24-Jan. 1
Martin Luther King Jr. Day – No School	Jan. 18
Regents Exams	Jan. 26-29
Pre-K-Grade 12 Half Day for Staff Development	
Mid-Winter Recess – No School	Feb. 15-19
Pre-K-Grade 12 Half Day for Staff Development	March 12
Spring Recess – No School	March 29-April 2
Superintendent's Conference Day – No School for Students	April 30
Memorial Day – No School	May 31
Regents Exams	June 2, 15-24
Last Day for Students	June 24
Rating Day	June 25
Class of 2021 Graduation	

For athletic events, please visit http://www.holleycsd.org/SportsSchedules.aspx for a full schedule, as these dates and times may change.

Consult the district calendar online to find the latest information about district events. Note that dates and times are subject to change due to factors beyond the control of the district including, but not limited to, COVID-19-related matters and weather conditions.