

The HMs Library

A library is not a luxury but
one of the necessities of life.
Henry Ward Beecher



What's new...

- New seating area replaced to be COVID Safe
- Outdoor Classroom finished and in use
- Implemented COVID safety precautions
- New Classic Game Theme in the library
- Wi-Fi added for the Outdoor Classroom



Circulation and more...

The library is the heart of the middle school. This learning space not only serves as a library, but students use it for collaboration, projects, and for studying.

- 6,310 transactions since beginning of school year
- SORA app for students to read eBooks and audio books
- Help students with items in the Studio and STEAM lab
- Collaborate with students and staff
- Laminate, do binding, and make copies if needed
- Students use library for quiet place to work on projects and collaborate
- Catch up on classroom projects if behind due to absence



The Collection

The fiction section is much newer than the nonfiction. With the move to 1:1, our print nonfiction is not a main focus as the information becomes outdated quickly and the digital resources are much more current. We use SORA to host our online books. The collection includes current books and a large selection of classics.

Holden Middle School Library Collection

Grades 6–8; 361 Students

JANUARY 20, 2021

Items in collection

8,175

Average age

2007

Items per student

22.4

Resource-rich school libraries play a key role in promoting both information literacy and reading for information and inspiration.

Distribution of Resources

Here's just a glimpse of how our library stacks up.

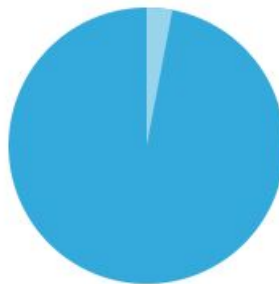
Print, Audiovisual & Digital

Resource-rich school libraries play a key role in promoting both information literacy and reading for information and inspiration.

Physical vs. digital resources

98%
Print

AVG. AGE: 2007



2%
Digital

AVG. AGE: 2012

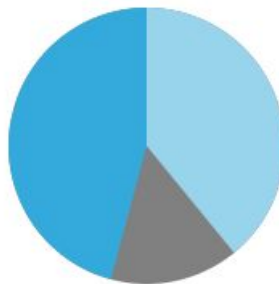
Fiction & Nonfiction

Reading comprehension requires more than just decoding and knowing the meanings of words — background knowledge is essential.

Literary vs. informational texts

46%
Fiction

AVG. AGE: 2010



39%
Nonfiction

AVG. AGE: 2005

The Breakdown

The fiction section requires constant monitoring so that series are kept up to date and popular authors' new releases are readily available. The students are valuable assets in helping with this. Having a varied selection enables the students to become lifelong readers. We have reading levels as low as 1.5 so that even our struggling readers have choices in the library. Having selections at that low of number will skew our average reading level.

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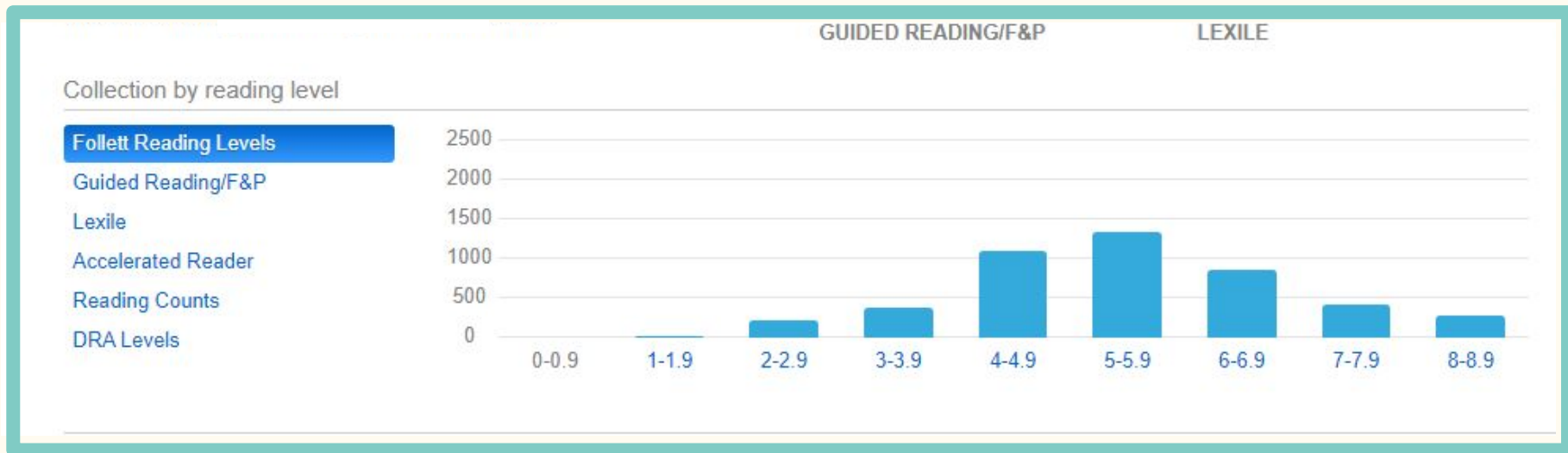
Reading Levels

Match students to texts that can be read with success, thus assisting them to grow as readers

AVERAGE **LEXILE** 750 AVERAGE ACCELERATED READER 5.3

Reading Levels

The HMS library strives to provide books at everyone's level. As you can see the majority fall between the 4th grade level and 8th grade level, but we do have books so that everyone can find their "just right book".



By the Numbers

Chromebooks offer access to our reliable databases.

Classification	Avg. Age	Items
Computer Science, Information & General Works	2009	81
Philosophy & Psychology	2007	49
Religion	2002	52
Social Sciences	2005	583
Language	2002	11
Science	2005	249
Technology	2005	317
Arts & Recreation	2010	886
Literature	1999	296
History & Geography	2002	671
	2005	3,195

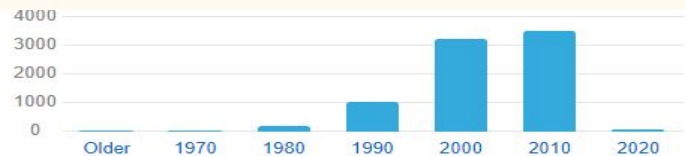
[Dig into the Dewey divisions by 10s »](#)

Fiction

Classification	Avg. Age	Items
General Fiction	2010	3,747
	2010	3,747

Other classifications

Classification	Avg. Age	Items
Audio	2002	67
A/V	—	—
Biography	1999	364
Easy	2000	2
Non Fiction	—	—
Professional	2004	372
Reference	2005	119
Video	2005	206
Unrecognized	2011	103



Aged titles

37%

2,989 ITEMS

2016 and newer

12%

968 ITEMS

Collection by interest level



Genres

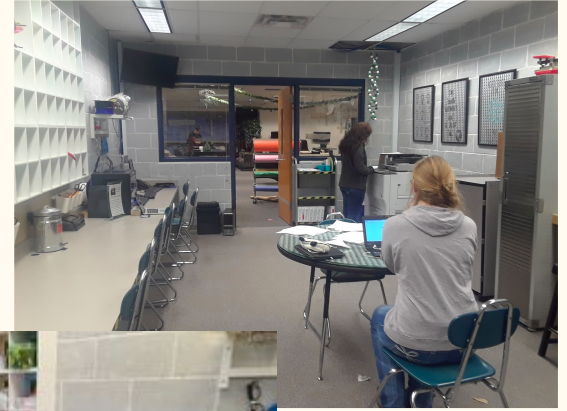
We have continued to hear from our students that they love the way the books are now classified by genre. They can always find the type of book they are searching for, but when they want to be adventuresome, they can easily locate something new.



- Students enjoy the ease of having their books organized by genre
- Genres are color coded
- Although it takes a little more time to get shelf ready, saves time searching for the perfect book

STEAM Lab

- 3D printer
- Workbench
- Printing area
- Art area
- Electronic lab items
- CSI lab items
- Robotics
- Periodic table shelf



The Studio

The studio is used daily. The students make infomercials, book trailers, choir and play practice and more.



- **Video recording studio with green screen**
- **Audio studio with mixer, microphones, guitar and keyboard**
- **Used by Soar, core classes, T.A.R.G.E.T., choir and more**

1:1 Chromebooks

Technology is a large part of the librarian's day.. Each morning, we checkout student devices to those students whose Chromebook are in for repair or to those students who may have left their device at home. This is done on a first come, first serve basis with broken computers having priority. Typically, the first part of each day includes helping several students who need assistance with their Chromebook. We try to troubleshoot and fix as many issues as I can before I send them to be serviced by the tech department. The first half of this school year, I have sent in 268 trouble tickets/tech requests, in addition to placing numerous calls and emails for tech support.

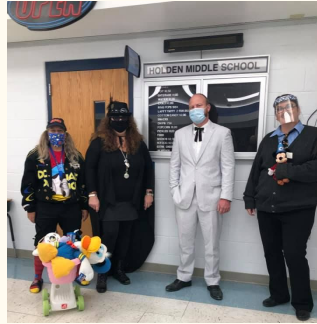


- Ten extra checkout computers housed in library
- Troubleshoot as many as possible before tech involvement
- Middle school students have a high percentage of breakage
- Not all students can take home so most teachers do not assign homework
- 268 Tech tickets sent in this school year on behalf of the teachers
- and students. There are many more emails and calls during the day.

Fall Book Fair

In the ten years that I have been at Holden Middle School, we have built our book fair, and as a result have built a library we are very proud of. The funds we earn from the book fair are used to buy the extra items the budget does not allow for. The comfortable seating areas where smaller classes may come and watch CNN 10 or a group can meet and have a book talk have added a sense of community to our media center. Although we only hosted a virtual book fair this year, our library was still able to purchase over \$200 worth of books with the revenue.

- Promotes literacy
- Funds special projects
- Exposes students to new books
- Creates excitement about reading
- Virtual book fair due to the pandemic



The book fair portal will be open
October 16th through the 29th.
Check out what is available using the
login below.

Let the shopping, travel and
games begin!

All proceeds from the
book fair go directly back to
our school.



Library League

Students join the league for a nominal fee. We have lunch in the library the second Thursday of every month. We supply a small dessert and we talk about books we have read or would like to read. Members put a bookplate in their favorite book in the library and sometimes we will place sticky notes in some of the books in our library so other students will find them and read comments like “grab the tissues, you’re going to need them” or “you won’t believe what is going to happen next”. We also have an after school party once a year.

- Library Fundraiser
- Book club
- Read ins with pizza party
- Library League lunches
- Special privileges for members
- Open to all grades

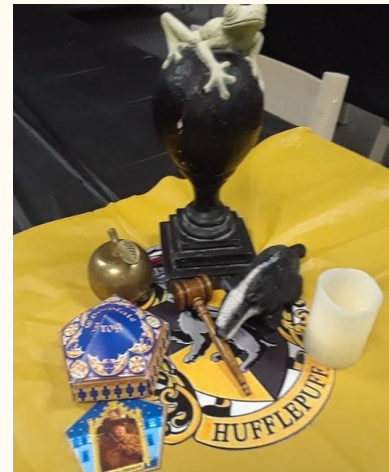
This year we were unable to have a Library League due to COVI restrictions. The library did not have student helpers either. We hope to resume this next year.



Career Day

Career Day is in May at the Holden Middle School.

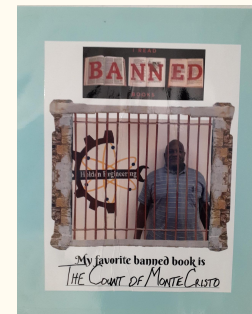
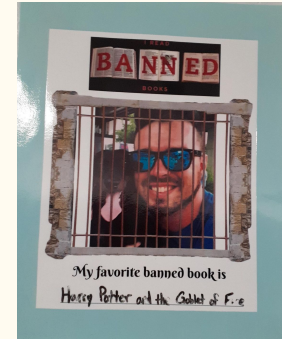
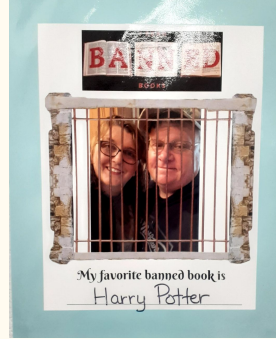
The HMS library welcomes Career Day presenters to enjoy lunch in the library each year. A different theme is chosen yearly to make their dining experience more fun. Our 2020 Career day did not happen since we did not return from spring break. Here a couple pics from previous career days.



Banned Books Week

During banned book week this year, we had a display with a fireplace that was fueled by banned books. There were also pics of books and why they were banned on the windows outside the library. All staff had a photo of them in jail with a banned book title of their choosing showing why they ended up in the "book jail".

An annual event celebrating the freedom to read. The books featured during Banned Books Week have all been targeted for removal or restrictions in libraries and schools. Banned Books Week highlights the value of free and open access to information.



Read Across America Week



During the week of Dr. Seuss' birthday, the HMS library promoted reading in a variety of ways.

- Book quote bingo
- Advisories competed in global themed challenges
- Classes competed by acting out a scene from a book
- Learned about and ate different countries favorite cuisine
- Won points for reading selected books
- Which Book? Name the book a given quote is from.



Read Across America the WORLD Spirit Week (March 2th-6th)

Monday: Oh the Places You'll Go...Dress like the people in a country you would like to visit.

Challenge: The Amazing "FOOT" Race

Tuesday: Horton Hears a Who and welcomes you to the Jungle...Dress as your favorite school appropriate vine/meme.

Challenge: The Sounds and Sights of Africa

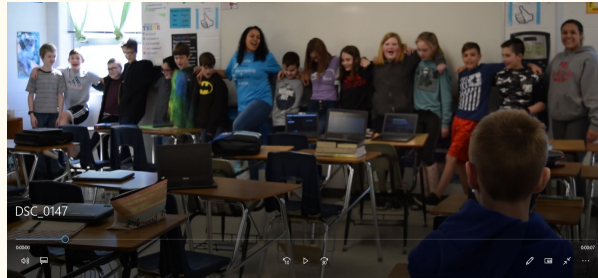
Wacky Wednesday: The Cat in the Hat reads across America. Show you spirit with a crazy hat.

Challenge: The Taste of Europe

Thursday: Thing One, Thing Two....dress like twins whatever you do.

Challenge: The Japanese Game Show

Friday: Great Day for "Dress" Up. Advisory wars...pick a book theme for your room.



Goals

Goals for the HMS Library Media Center include creating a space where everyone feels welcome to learn, use their imagination, and freely collaborate with other students and teachers while keeping COVID safety in mind. We want them to feel that it is their home away from home. A place where they can escape to another world through a fiction book, find out about their world through a nonfiction resource or create a new world using the STEAM Lab or Studio. We want to inspire them to be the best they can be and reach for their goals. Throughout the LMC, we have quotes for students to ponder and make them think outside of the box. We want our learning space to evolve to the needs of our students and staff.

- Everyone feels welcome
- Safe place to learn, imagine and create
- Collaboration and networking are the norm
- Grow with ever changing needs of the LMC
- Help every student find a perfect book to read

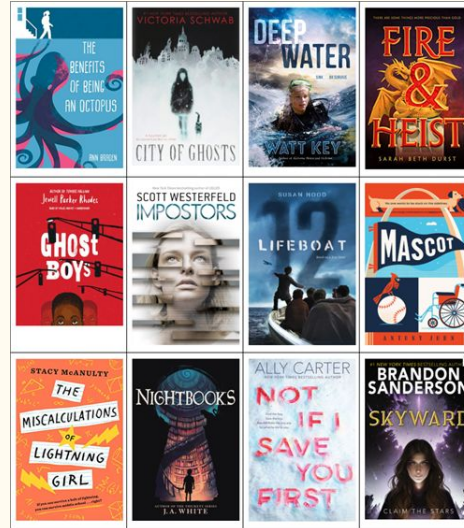


“Google can bring you back 100,000 answers. A librarian can bring you back the right one.” — Neil Gaiman

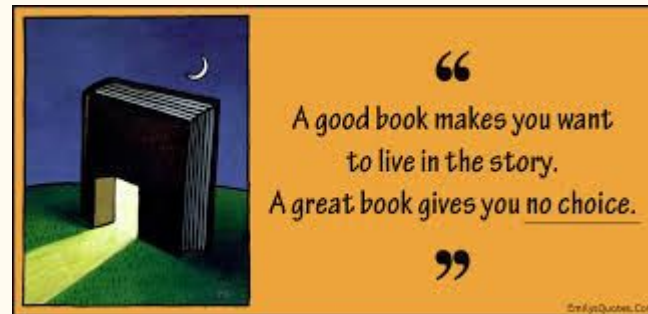
And the Winners are...

- Mark Twain and Truman nominees proudly placed at front of LMC
- Read the Truman nominees so I may share enthusiasm when having a book talk
- Pizza Party for those who read all 12 from one category
- May vote for favorite after reading four

Truman Nominees

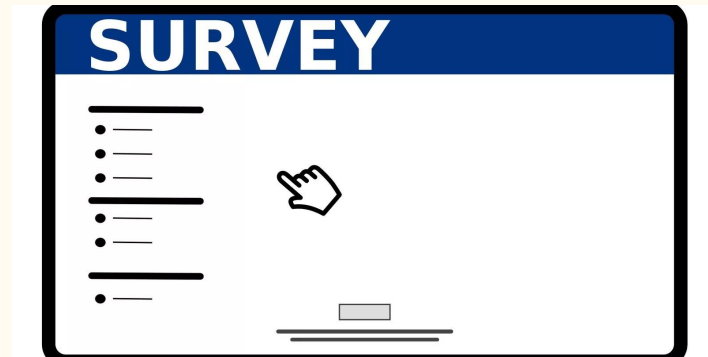


Mark Twain Nominees



Collaboration with Teachers and Students

- Order book requests made by students
- Fulfill staff requests as budget allows
- Survey staff and students



Public Libraries

- Work in conjunction with Trails Regional to promote literacy
- Promote upcoming events
- Encourage use of public library
- Promote getting library card



Outdoor Classroom

Our school received a \$1995 grant from The Holden Foundation. This grant enabled us, with the help of many other generous businesses to build this outdoor classroom. Now that outdoor wi-fi has been added, it is truly an additional classroom that is widely used and enjoyed.



FUTURE PROJECTS



- Expand offerings in the STEAM lab and Studio
- Updates to non fiction
- Add COVID glass barrier to desk
- More seating for outdoor classroom
- Address needs as they arise

Budgets

The HMS Library Media Center budgets have been cut over the last several years. We have always spent our budget fully and thoughtfully to make this library the best resource it can be. Although spending on nonfiction has decreased due to database access and our 1:1 initiative, we feel it is essential to have a wide variety of fiction books in our collection to inspire students to become lifelong readers and learners. The current teacher survey overwhelmingly supports the need for audio books. The Sora app provides this resource. The cost is \$1000 dollars a year (which we buy reading resource content with) and is available to the middle school and high school.

- Funding of \$1000 needed in budget to keep use of Sora (audio books)
- Fully and thoughtfully spend budget
- Library needs to be adequately funded to provide a wide variety of literature so students become lifelong learners and readers
- Budgets are used to fulfill requests from students and staff
- Keeping up with series and award winners require a large portion of the budget



MASL Spring Conference

I would just like to say how grateful I am that I am allowed to attend these amazing conferences. Although my conference was cancelled due to the pandemic this year, I am in hopes that I will be able to attend again soon. The classes I attend reignite my passion for making the library the best it can be. Once back, I begin to utilize what I have learned. The breakout boxes, Library League, STEAM Lab, Studio, and new trends in literature and libraries would not have happened without these informational and inspiring classes. Again, THANK YOU!



"I think kids are incredibly savvy readers. I think we should give them all the credit in the world. They want to know the truth."

Alan Gratz

Future Training

- iMovie, WeVideo and GarageBand
- Able to attend Staff technology in services and collaborate with certified staff
- More training with green screen software use

