

School Pride Newsletter

February/
March 2017

Superintendent Selected
School Board Election
Kindergarten Screening
Parent-Teacher Conferences
Feb/Mar Calendar

Holden R-III Selects Superintendent for 2017-2018

The Holden R-III Board of Education is pleased to announce that Dr. Michael Hough has accepted the position of Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Hough, who resides in the district with his family, is currently the Middle School Principal at the Holden R-III School District and will begin his duties as Superintendent on July 1, 2017.

"The Holden R-III Board of Education is extremely pleased with the selection of Dr. Hough as Superintendent. After interviewing several excellent candidates, the Board felt we had a very valued candidate right here working for the Holden R-III School District. We are pleased to offer this opportunity to Dr. Hough and appreciate his commitment to the Holden community and to student excellence during the past nine years as Middle School Principal," stated Board President David Loveall.



Dr. Michael Hough

In conjunction with working as Middle School Principal for the District, Dr. Hough has served as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Central Missouri teaching school

law courses to graduate students. Prior to working in the Holden R-III School District, Dr. Hough taught high school chemistry and physical science at the Lee's Summit R-VII School District from 2006-2008 and at the Knob Noster R-VIII School District from 1993-2006.

Dr. Hough's education includes a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education in Chemistry and Biology earned from the University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, MO, in 1993. Dr. Hough earned his Master's degree in Secondary Education Administration in 1998 from University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, MO. He earned his Educational Leadership Specialist's degree in 2006 and his Doctorate degree in Educational Leadership in 2007 from MO-St. Louis University.

Kindergarten Screening

April 6 & 7

The Holden R-III School District will conduct its annual kindergarten screening April 6 and 7 at the Forward Community Church, 298 SW 131 Highway, Holden. Appointments are available from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. on April 6 and from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on April 7. Children who will be five before August 1, 2017, will be screened by appointment only. Appointments can be made by calling the elementary office at 816-732-6071 or 816-850-4444 ext. 3250 beginning March 1.

Parents will need to bring copies of the following information to the screening:

- the child's official state issued birth certificate;
- proof of residency (utility bill, bank statement, or pay stub with current address);
- immunization record;
- proof of a vision exam;
- proof of a physical exam (recommended).



Please note that children will not be assigned to a class list in the fall if their immunizations are not current and recorded in the office of the school nurse. It is essential that all children residing in the Holden School District who will be entering kindergarten the fall of 2017 attend this screening. District personnel use the results of this screening to make important staffing decisions for the next school year. We look forward to seeing you there!

April School Board Election

Four candidates have filed for the three open positions on the Holden R-III Board of Education. Filing closed for Holden R-III Board of Education candidates on Jan. 17. The candidates, in order of filing and as their names will appear on the ballot, are:

- Tonyea Inglis
- Bill W. Faust, Jr.
- Michael Wakeman
- N. Ray Briscoe

The school election will be held on Tuesday, April 4, 2017. The terms of Bill Faust, David Loveall, and Tom Haun expire in April. Voters will be voting for three candidates from the above list to take office at the April 10, 2017 school board meeting. Board of Education members are elected to three-year terms.

:: Important Dates to Remember

Feb. 16	Early Release @ 1:00 p.m.
Feb. 16	Parent Teacher Conferences 1:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Feb. 17	No School
Feb. 20	No School / President's Day
Feb. 27	No School / Teacher In-service
Mar. 20-24	No School / Spring Break

“The mission for Holden R-III School District is for all students, upon graduation, to have marketable skills or the basis to be eligible for post-secondary educational opportunities.”

School Pride Newsletter

Spring Parent Teacher Conferences

Feb. 16, 1:30 to 8 p.m.

As the second semester gets underway, Spring Parent Teacher Conferences are quickly approaching. Spring Conferences are scheduled by teachers and school staff as needed or at the request of parents.

Spring Conferences will be held on February 16 from 1:30 to 8:00 p.m. at all schools. If a conference has not already been scheduled for your child at this time and you would like to have one, parents may contact their child's school to schedule an appointment.

Communication between parents and teachers is crucial for academic success. Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact the school at any time with questions or concerns.

Freshman Enrollment Night

March 6

Holden High School will host a high school orientation night for 2017-2018 Freshman students on March 6 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the High School Gym.

Incoming ninth grade families will receive important information regarding high school graduation requirements, block scheduling, activities, athletics, the A+ Program and more. At the conclusion of the presentation, students will turn in their enrollment forms for their freshman year.

Please contact Mrs. Angela Brown, School Counselor, at the high school office if you have any questions.

Scholarship Application Forms Due March 1

It's scholarship season for seniors! Local Scholarship forms are available in the high school office. The generic local scholarship form is due March 1.

Other local scholarships using their own form are due either March 1 or April 1. Please be sure to check the due dates on the scholarship application forms. Links to all forms are on the Scholarship page of the high school guidance website at holdenschools.org/guidance

M.S. Band & Choir Concert

February 6

The Middle School bands and choirs will perform a variety of splendid selections during their concert on February 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the High School gym. The concert is open to the community and admission is free. Come enjoy the music!

4th & 5th Grade Concert

March 9

The Holden Elementary fourth and fifth grade students and staff are pleased to announce their upcoming spring music concert. The program will feature an array of wonderful songs. This free concert will take place at the Holden High School gym on March 9 at 6:30 p.m.

H.S. Band & Choir Concert & Middle School Art Show

March 14

The Holden High School choirs and bands invite the community to their March 14th concert starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Holden High School Gym. This is a free concert for all to enjoy.

Please join us prior to the concert from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the High School cafeteria to enjoy the middle school and art show with artwork created by our middle school art students.

Middle School Book Fair

March 13-17



You are invited to **EXPLORE** the Holden Middle School's

Book Fair Wilderness on March 13-17. DISCOVER a

vast array of books that hold amazing **ADVENTURES** for all

ages. But beware...you might get **LOST** in a book!

Parent/Family Involvement in Instructional Programs Policy

The Holden R-III School District Board of Education believes that engaging parents/families in the education process is essential to improved academic success for students. The Board recognizes that a student's education is a responsibility shared by the district, parents, families and other members of the community during the entire time a student attends school. The Board believes that the district must create an environment that is conducive to learning and that strong, comprehensive parent/family involvement is an important component. Parent/Family involvement in education requires a cooperative effort with roles for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), the district, parents/families and the community.

Parent/Family Involvement Goals and Plan

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of eliminating barriers that impede parent/family involvement, thereby facilitating an environment that encourages collaboration with parents, families and other members of the community. Therefore, the district will develop and implement a plan to facilitate parent/family involvement that shall include the following six (6) goals:

1. Promote regular, two-way, meaningful communication between home and school.
2. Promote and support responsible parenting.
3. Recognize the fact that parents/families play an integral role in assisting their children to learn.
4. Promote a safe and open atmosphere for parents/families to visit the schools their children attend, and actively solicit parent/family support and assistance for school programs.
5. Include parents as full partners in decisions affecting their children and families.
6. Use available community resources to strengthen and promote school programs, family practices and the achievement of students.

The district's plan for meeting these goals is to:

1. Provide activities that will educate parents regarding the intellectual and developmental needs of their children at all age levels. This will include promoting cooperation between the district and other agencies or school/community groups (such as parent-teacher groups, Head Start, Parents as Teachers, etc.) to furnish learning opportunities and disseminate information regarding parenting skills and child/adolescent development.
2. Implement strategies to involve parents/families in the educational process, including:
 - Keeping parents/families informed of opportunities for involvement and encouraging participation in various programs.
 - Providing access to educational resources for parents/families to use together with their children.
 - Keeping parents/families informed of the objectives of district educational programs as well as of their child's participation and progress within these programs.
3. Enable families to participate in the education of their children through a variety of roles. For example, parents/family members should be given opportunities to provide input into district policies and volunteer time within the classrooms and school programs.
4. Provide professional development opportunities for teachers and staff to enhance their understanding of effective parent/family involvement strategies.
5. Perform regular evaluations of parent/family involvement at each school and at the district level.
6. Provide access, upon request, to any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.
7. If practical, provide information in a language understandable to parents.

Title I, Migrant Education (MEP) and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Programs

The Board also recognizes the special importance of parent/family involvement to the success of its Title I, MEP and LEP programs. Pursuant to federal law, the district and parents will jointly develop and agree upon a written parental involvement policy that will be distributed to parents participating in any of these programs.

Title I Program Parent Involvement

The district and parents of children participating in the Title I program will jointly develop and agree upon a written parent involvement policy that will describe how the district will:

1. Involve parents in the joint development of the Title I program plan and in the process of reviewing the implementation of the plan and suggesting improvements.
2. Provide the coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
3. Build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement.
4. Coordinate and integrate Title I parental involvement strategies with those of other educational programs.
5. Conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content of the parental involvement policy and its effectiveness in improving the academic quality of the schools served. This will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by law, particularly by parents who are economically disadvantaged, have disabilities, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background. The district will use the findings of such evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise, if necessary, the parental involvement policies.
6. Involve parents in the activities of the schools served.

Each school receiving Title I funds will jointly develop with and distribute to parents of children participating in the Title I program a written parental involvement policy agreed upon by such parents in accordance with the requirements of federal law:

1. The policy must be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.
2. The policy shall contain a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff and students will share the responsibility of improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children.
3. Each school participating in the Title I program will convene a meeting annually to inform parents about Title I and to involve parents in the planning, review and improvement of Title I programs, including the planning, review and improvement of the school parental involvement policy.

Migrant Education Program Parent Involvement

Parents of students in the MEP will be involved in and regularly consulted about the development, implementation, operation and evaluation of the Migrant Education Program.

Parents of MEP students will receive instruction regarding their role in improving the academic achievement of their children.

Limited English Proficiency Program Parent Involvement

Pursuant to federal law, parents of LEP students will be provided notification regarding their child's placement in and information about the district's LEP program. Parents will be notified of their rights regarding program content and participation.

Policy Evaluation

The district, with parent/family involvement, will review and evaluate the content and effectiveness of this policy and each school-level policy at least annually. The district will revise this policy as necessary to improve or create practices that enhance parent/family involvement.

School Pride Newsletter

Eagle Times...Taking Flight & Engaging Students

2017 looks to bring several changes to the Holden R-III School District, as the school district continues to offer the students of Holden a safe and positive learning environment. The District continues to offer a front line education through continued professional growth along with the full implementation of technology into the curriculum.

The "Take Flight" 1:1 technology program has been successful and has brought about change. We are seeing technology used in classrooms like never before, opening the possibilities for students and staff alike as they reach new levels of comfort with this new tool for learning. While the district did have technology in the past, this is the first year where every student has a device on a daily basis. It is exciting to walk through the school buildings and see students, that in the past struggled to stay engaged, are now successfully staying on task simply because they have a new tool for learning.

The use of online resources such as the "Google Classroom" has changed, for the better, how classroom assignments and quick assessments are administrated and evaluated. This is providing students timely feedback, leading to dynamic classroom

instruction and meeting students' needs quickly. We are excited to see what possibilities will continue to come to the forefront as classroom instructors continue to grow and evolve with these new technology tools. Technology is still just a tool and will never take the place of the work required by a dedicated instructional staff.

Want to know what you can do to help a child as we move into the spring? If you have children or grandchildren, encourage them to read. Have them read something aloud to you. Having a child read something every evening is a great way to show that you too understand the value of a good education. Please remember to stay up-to-date with all district activities by visiting the district website at holdenschools.org

As always, "SOAR Like an Eagle!"

*Wade Schroeder,
Superintendent*



Holden High School Seeking Employers for Supervised Business Experience (SBE) Program

Holden High School is inviting employers to participate in the SBE (Supervised Business Experience) program for the 2017-2018 school year. The SBE Program gives students an opportunity to be employed in a business environment during part of the school day. The students earn high school credit, get paid, and gain valuable work experience in a professional setting. Employers gain employers with a good work ethic, general office skills, and a desire to learn. SBE Supervisors are consistently pleased with the knowledge and skills of the students placed.

Through the Supervised Business Experience (SBE) program, students will acquire the necessary business and technology skills needed to enter the workforce upon graduation. Students will be able to connect the information they receive in school and apply it immediately to the workforce. Interpersonal skills, critical thinking, workplace initiative, and good work

ethics are some of the skills students will be able to develop in the SBE program. The SBE program will make transitioning from the classroom to the workplace easier and allow them to develop relationships with local and the surrounding area business owners.

Students must apply to be accepted in the program and they go through the interview process to be employed. Cinthia Darden, SBE Coordinator, sets up interview appointments. Employers conduct the interviews and choose the student they want. Students must have taken a previous business class and they are required to enroll in the Emerging Business Technology business course.

The process to place students for the 2017-2018 school year will begin in April. Businesses interested in learning more about the program can contact Cinthia Darden by calling 816-850-4444, ext 7136 or by email at cdarden@holden.k12.mo.us

February 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Visit the school website for the latest calendar information at holdenschools.org		1 Varsity Scholar Bowl @ Lexington, 5pm C/JV/V Boys Basketball @ Smithton, 5pm JV/V Girls Basketball vs. Richmond, Home 5:30pm	2 FFA Chapter Officers Meeting, 7am Varsity Wrestling Tri @ Richmond, 5:30pm PTO Meeting, 6pm, Elementary Library PTO Fundraiser, Casey's Cards, Feb. 2-9	3 JV/V Boys & Varsity Girls Basketball @ Richmond, 5pm	4 Varsity Wrestling Tourn. @ Richmond FBLA @ Crown Center Ice Skating
5 National FBLA Week Feb. 5-11	6 MS Band & Choir Concert, HS Gym, 7pm	7 FBLA Districts @ UCM, 8am-3:30pm JV/V Boys & Varsity Girls Basketball vs. Carrollton, Home, 5pm Varsity Girls Basketball @ Carrollton, 6pm	8 CTE Legislative Day @ Jefferson City Varsity Scholar Bowl @ Harrisonville, 5pm	9 JV Boys & Girls Basketball vs. Knob Noster, Home, 5:30pm FFA Chapter Meeting, Ag Building, 7pm	10 Varsity Wrestling Districts Varsity Girls & Boys Basketball vs. Knob Noster, Home, 5:30pm [Courtwarming] MS Valentine Dance MS Gym, 7-9pm HS Courtwarming Dance HS Cafeteria, 9-11pm	11 Varsity Wrestling Districts MS Band & Choir Contest @ Richmond FFA Ski Trip @ Snow Creek
12 Youth Wrestling Tournament, HS Gym, 7am-8pm	13 JV/V Girls Basketball vs. Lexington, Home 5:30pm Board of Education Meeting, HS Library, 7pm	14 C/JV/V Boys Basketball @ Lexington, 5pm	15	16 EARLY RELEASE @ 1:00 p.m. Parent-Teacher Conferences 1:30-8:00 p.m. JV/V Boys & Girls Basketball vs. Higginsville Home (JV, 5pm V, 5:30pm) Holden Foundation Meeting @ Holden Inc., 6pm	17 NO SCHOOL Varsity Wrestling State Tournament	18 Varsity Wrestling State Tournament
19 National FFA Week Feb. 19-25	20 NO SCHOOL <i>President's Day (Scheduled Make-Up)</i>	21	22 FFA Business Breakfast @ HS 6:30-7:30am MRVC Conference Band Auditions @ Oak Grove MRVC Conference Choir @ Knob Noster	23 HS Field Trip to National World War I Museum & Memorial	24 FFA @ Western Farm Show, American Royal	25 HS Band Jazz Festival @ UCM
Varsity Boys & Girls Basketball @ District Tournament						
26	27 NO SCHOOL <i>Teacher In-service</i>	28 Our CHARACTER TRAIT of the month is... COMPASSION: Caring how others think and feel			Follow Us on Twitter: @ACTIVITIES_HHS for the latest updates on Holden R-III Activities!	

March 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<div> Visit the school website for the latest calendar information at holdenschools.org </div>		1 Local Scholarship Application Forms Due	2 2nd Grade Field Trip to Kaleidoscope FFA Chapter Officers Meeting, 7am FFA Area VII Contest Workshop @ Harrisonville, 4pm MS Math Team @ Knob Noster, 4pm	3	4 HS Band @ MRVC Band Performance @ Harrisonville MS Choir @ UCM MS Math Team @ Richmond PTO Father/Daughter Dance @ Elementary Gym, 6:30-8:30pm
5	6 PTO Mixed Bag Design Fundraiser, March 6-17 Preschool Dr. Seuss Activity Night, 6:30pm <div> Freshman Enrollment Night for Class of 2021 H.S. Gym 6-8 pm </div>	7 MS Math Team @ Sherwood, 4pm FFA Area VII & State Officer Selection @ Clinton, 4:30pm Holden Elementary Night at McDonald's @ Pleasant Hill	8 Spring Picture Day @ Elementary	9 MS Math Team @ Cass Midway, 4:30pm 4th & 5th Grade Spring Concert, HS Gym, 6:30pm FFA Chapter Meeting, Ag Building, 7pm	10 Spring Picture Day @ Middle School 5th Grade Living Museum Showcase, Elementary Gym 2:15-3pm	11
12	13 PTO Mixed Bag Design Fundraiser, March 6-17 MS Book Fair March 13-17 Board of Education Meeting, HS Library 7pm	14 Scholar Bowl @ MRVC Tournament @ Blue River Community College MS Art Show @ HS Cafeteria, 4:30-7:30pm HS Band & Choir Concert, HS Gym, 7pm	15 4th Grade Field Trip to Jefferson City	16 MS Math Quest @ Holden MS, 4-8pm MS Book Fair Family Night, 4-8pm FFA Alumni Leadership Development @ HS, 4pm Foundation Meeting, Holden, Inc, 6pm	17 End of 3rd Quarter FFA @ Archie Judging Day	18 Varsity Baseball @ Warsaw Van Horn, 1pm Warsaw, 3pm
19	20 NO SCHOOL <i>Spring Break</i> <i>(Scheduled Make-Up Day)</i> Varsity Track @ UCM JV/V Baseball, Home Sherwood, 4:30pm	21 NO SCHOOL <i>Spring Break</i> <i>(Scheduled Make-Up Day)</i> FFA Area VII LDE's @ Clinton, 3:30pm C Double Header, Home Grain Valley, 4:30pm	22 NO SCHOOL <i>Spring Break</i>	23 NO SCHOOL <i>Spring Break</i> Varsity Track @ California Inv. C Double Header, @ Harrisonville, 4:30pm	24 NO SCHOOL <i>Spring Break</i>	25
26	27 JV/V Baseball, Home Knob Noster, 4:30pm	28 FFA Central District CDE Contest @ UCM Varsity Track @ Warrensburg, 4pm	29 Varsity Baseball vs. Summit Christian Academy @ Kauffman Stadium, 3:45pm	30 FFA Central District LDE Contest @ UCM MS Track @ Holden, 4pm JV/V Baseball, Home vs. Lexington, 4:30pm	31 Career Fair @ Elementary Varsity Track @ Belton Inv., 3pm MS Dance @ MS Gym, 7-9pm	
<div> Follow us on Twitter: @ACTIVITIES_HHS for the latest updates on the Holden R-III Activities! </div>				<div> Our CHARACTER TRAIT of the month is... PERSEVERANCE: Never giving up </div>		

Please check the school website for the latest calendar information: <http://holdenschools.org>

Contact Us

Central Office

1612 S. Main (816)732-5568
Wade Schroeder, Superintendent
Donna Fizer, Asst. Superintendent

Elementary School

1903 S. Market (816)732-6071
Sarah Burks, Principal
Angela Grammer, Asst. Principal

Middle School

301 Eagle Drive (816)732-4125
Mike Hough, Principal

High School

1901 S. Main (816)732-5523
Ginger Jones, Principal
Ardy Dehdasht, Asst. Principal
Joe Parkhurst, Activities Director

Transportation

2000 S. Clay Street (816)732-6541

General Questions

comments@holden.k12.mo.us

Website

<http://holdenschools.org>

Visit the school website to sign up for
Text Alerts & Email Updates to receive
important messages regarding school closings,
early dismissals and event reminders.



Holden R-III Seeks Distinguished Alumni Nominees

The Holden R-III School District is seeking nominations for its Distinguished Alumni Award. The Distinguished Alumni Award will recognize Holden High School graduates graduated at least 10 years who have made a significant contribution to their community or their field of work, or have been recognized for an outstanding achievement, accomplishment, contribution or act that has had a profound and positive effect. Supporting documents (i.e. newspaper articles, stories, letters of recommendations) are encouraged.

Anyone may nominate a graduate for consideration. All nominees will remain on a nominee list for induction. Nominations will be considered by the Distinguished Alumni Selection Committee. Nomination forms are available at the school offices and on the district website at holdenschools.org/alumni. The deadline for nominations is March 1, 2017.

The Distinguished Alumni Recipient(s) will be recognized during the Holden High School Graduation Ceremony on May 21, 2017, at 2 p.m. at the Holden High School Gymnasium.

Holden School Foundation: A Good Investment!

The Holden R-III School Foundation would like to send out a special thank you to all of this year's members and donors! As a result of your support, the Holden R-III School Foundation was able to award \$2,000 in teacher grants this past Fall! Now, the Foundation is ready to award \$4,000 in teacher grants this spring! The spring teacher grants will be awarded the first week in March.

Your donations are an investment in the education of Holden R-III students. Teacher grants can provide tools that will continue to teach and train a child, provide books that will transport students to a new place and stimulate their minds, provide field trips to see and experience new things, or provide that one manipulative that turns the bell on for a child to learn. Where else can you invest \$50 or \$100 and affect hundreds of children for years to come?

In addition, another way to support Holden's student today, tomorrow and for the rest of their lives is by establishing a scholarship. Creating a scholarship with the Holden R-III School Foundation is simple and easy. For more information, contact the Foundation at 1612 S. Main, Holden, MO 64040 or by calling 816-732-5568.



Feb. 16 - Early Release @ 1 p.m., Parent-Teacher Conferences 1:30-8:00 p.m.

Feb. 17 - No School / Feb. 20 - No School, President's Day

Feb. 27 - No School, Teacher In-service / March 20-24 - No School, Spring Break

Feb/Mar
2017

Holden R-III School District
1612 S. Main
Holden, MO 64040

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