

# Holden R-3 School District



Dec 2024/  
Jan 2025

Robotics Gets Festive  
Students & Sustainable Agriculture  
School Closing Notifications  
Veterans Day at Holden R-3  
Foundation Awards Grants

## Robotics Team Gets Festive



The ScrapHeads 21485 Robotics Team has brought their programming and building expertise to life with an impressive 3,500-square-foot holiday light display, set to be featured at Powell Gardens' annual Festival of Lights! This project showcases their engineering and technical skills, with over 28,000 LED lights meticulously programmed to holiday music and displayed across more than 36 custom-built props, crowned by a breathtaking 20-foot Christmas tree. The Festival of Lights runs from November 14th through January 4th. Tickets are available at [powellgardens.org/festival-of-lights!](http://powellgardens.org/festival-of-lights!)



Interested in attending an upcoming robotics competition? The team would love your support!

**NOVEMBER 23, 8AM**  
@ F.L. Schlage High School  
2214 N. 59th Street, Kansas City, KS

**December 21, 8am**  
@ The Pembroke School  
5121 State Line Road, Kansas City, MO

## Soil, Seeds, and Sustainability

Our W.I.N.G.S. Academy students recently had the opportunity to volunteer at the Midwest Center for Regenerative Agriculture at Powell Gardens. During their visit, they learned about ways to improve soil health and helped collect seeds from native plants. The students also met some of the livestock that play an essential role in the farm's ecosystem



by grazing to remove invasive plant species and naturally working the soil. We are grateful our students are able to have these firsthand experiences with sustainable farming practices. Supporting regenerative agriculture helps protect our local ecosystems, boosts soil health, and fosters a healthier environment for everyone. Our students can't wait to volunteer again soon!

**SCHOOL CLOSING NOTIFICATIONS:** We take this opportunity to inform parents of the procedure used in the dismissal of school due to inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances. Many factors are considered when determining to close including temperature, road conditions, staffing shortages, or facility issues, with student and staff safety being a top priority. Closings are announced using the following avenues: **TEXT** - Text messages sent through ParentSquare **PHONE** - A recorded message will be sent to all Holden R-3 families **EMAIL** - An electronic message will be sent to all Holden R-3 families who have an email on file with our office **WEBSITE** - [holdenschools.org](http://holdenschools.org) **SOCIAL MEDIA** - Holden R-3 Schools Facebook & Instagram accounts **TV** - WDAF (Channel 4), KCTV (Channel 5), KMBC (Channel 9), KSHB (Channel 41)

## 2024-2025 CALENDAR At-A-Glance

Dec 19	Early Release - Winter Break Begins	Mar 10-14	No School - Spring Break
Dec 20-Jan 3	No School - Winter Break	Apr 18 & 21	No School - Easter Break
Jan 6	No School - Teacher Inservice/Workday	May 18	Class of 2025 Graduation Ceremony
Jan 20	No School - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	May 21	Last Day of School - Early Release
Feb 14	No School - Teacher Inservice	May 22	Teacher Inservice/Workday
Feb 17	No School - Presidents' Day		

*Some make-up days/hours are built into the schedule.*

“The mission for Holden R-3 School District is for all students, upon graduation, to have marketable skills or the basis to be eligible for post-secondary educational opportunities.”

# December 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;">                     Please check the school website for the latest calendar information at <a href="http://holdenschools.org/calendar">holdenschools.org/calendar</a> </div>	<b>2</b>  MS Boys/Girls Wrestling Quad @ Knob Noster 5pm	<b>3</b> MS Girls Bball @ Lafayette Co 5pm MS Boys Bball v. Lafayette Co @ HMS 5pm HS Boys Bball @ Sherwood 5pm Varsity Girls/Boys Wrestling Quad @ California 5:30pm HS Girls Bball V @ Sherwood 6:30pm	<b>4</b> MS/HS Boys/Girls Wrestling @ Warrensburg 5pm Scraphead Robotics Culvers Fundraiser (1275 SE Oldham Pkwy Lee's Summit) 5-8pm 	<b>5</b>  MS Girls Bball v. Lexington @ HMS 5pm MS Boys Bball @ Lexington 5pm HS Girls Bball v. Crest Ridge @ HHS 5:30pm	<b>6</b> HS Boys Bball @ Crest Ridge 4:30pm HS Girls Bball v. Oak Grove @ HHS 5:30pm MS Holiday Dance @ MS Gym 6-8pm 	<b>7</b> HS Band @ State Band Auditions in Columbia Varsity Boys Wrestling Tournament @ Knob Noster
<b>8</b> 	<b>9</b> HS Boys Bball C Team Tournament @ Richmond Build It Club @ HES 3:45-5pm MS Girls/Boys Wrestling Triangular @ HMS 5pm HES PTO Christmas Store Family Night @ ES Gym 5:30pm Board of Education Meeting @ MS Library 7pm HS Choir/Band Winter Concert @ HS Gym 7pm	<b>10</b> HS Boys Bball C Team Tournament @ Richmond HS Boys Bball JV/V @ Carrollton 5pm MS Boys/Girls Wrestling Quad @ HMS 5pm Kindergarten & 1st Grade Music Concert @ HS Gym 6pm HS Girl Bball V @ Carrollton 6pm	<b>11</b>  Project Grad 2025 Meeting @ HS Library 6pm HS Football Banquet @ HS Gym 6pm	<b>12</b> HS Boys Bball C Team Tournament @ Richmond MS Girls Bball @ Richmond 5pm MS Boys Bball v. Richmond @ HMS 5pm MS/HS Girls/Boys Wrestling Dual v. Sherwood @ HHS 5pm	<b>13</b> Varsity Girls Wrestling Tournament @ Belton MS Girls/Boys Wrestling Tournament @ Lexington MS 4pm MS Girls/Boys Bball v. Carrollton @ HMS 5pm HS Boys Bball @ Knob Noster 5pm HS Girls Bball v. Pleasant Hill @ HHS 5:30pm	<b>14</b> Scraphead Robotics FTC Meet @ HMS 7:30am Varsity Girls Wrestling Tournament @ Belton JV Boys Wrestling Tournament @ Harrisonville
<b>15</b> 	<b>16</b>  HS Boys Bball Varsity Tournament @ Cass Midway HS Boys Bball C/JV @ Lone Jack 4:30pm MS Choir/Band Concert @ HS Gym 7-8pm	<b>17</b> HS Girls Bball Varsity Tournament @ Cass Midway MS/HS Girls/Boys Wrestling Triangular @ HHS 5pm	<b>18</b>  HS Boys Bball Varsity Tournament @ Cass Midway	<b>19</b> EARLY RELEASE @ 1:15pm HS Girls Bball Varsity Tournament @ Cass Midway MS Girls Bball @ Knob Noster 5pm MS Boys Bball v. Knob Noster @ HMS 5pm MS Boys/Girls Wrestling @ Higginsville MS 5pm	<b>20</b> NO SCHOOL Winter Break HS Boys Bball Varsity Tournament @ Cass Midway Varsity Girls Wrestling Tournament @ Eldon Varsity Boys Wrestling Tournament @ Missouri Fair Grounds	<b>21</b> HS Girls Bball Varsity Tournament @ Cass Midway Scrapheads Robotics League Meet @ Pembroke Hill Varsity Girls Wrestling Tournament @ Eldon Varsity Boys Wrestling Tournament @ Missouri Fair Grounds
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve	<b>25</b> Christmas Day	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Varsity Boys Wrestling Tournament @ Hallsville HS 
<b>NO SCHOOL - Winter Break</b>						
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> NO SCHOOL - Winter Break	<b>31</b>				

Our CHARACTERplus Trait of the month is  
**Gratitude** - being thankful

*"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them. ~ John F. Kennedy*





# Contact Us

## Central Office

1612 S Main (816) 732-5568  
Dr. Mike Hough, Superintendent

## High School

1901 S Main (816) 732-5523  
Grant Guevel, Principal  
April Placht, Assistant Principal  
Spencer Gudde, AD

## W.I.N.G.S. Academy

1901 S Main (816) 732-5523  
Emily Brockhaus, Director

## Middle School

301 Eagle Drive (816) 732-4125  
Kyle Stoecklein, Principal

## Elementary School

1903 S Market (816) 732-6071  
Sarah Burks, Principal  
Paige Farmer, Assistant Principal

## Transportation - First Student

2000 S Clay Street (816) 732-6541  
Kate Koch, Terminal Manager

## General Questions

comments@holdenschools.org

## School Website

<https://www.holdenschools.org>



HOLDEN SCHOOLS

## Veterans Day @ HR3



On Monday, November 11 - a bright, crisp autumn morning - many veterans joined us for breakfast in each of our school buildings. Students loved sharing their art and classwork and introducing their loved one to their friends and teachers. Following breakfast, a parade - led by our Holden High School Marching Band and local first responders - flowed through the bus lane on campus. We appreciate everyone who joined us for the occasion and we thank you for your service!



## Foundation Awards Grants

Thanks to the hard work members put in to fundraise throughout the community and coordinate with generous donors, the Holden R-3 Foundation is able to provide supplemental funding for our faculty through Teacher Impact Grants. These grants encourage innovation and excellence by providing materials, experiences, and equipment for our Holden Eagles. This fall, the following grants were awarded:

BRANDON PEMBURLIN:  
Calculator Upgrade \$1901.78

JANINE FERGUSON:  
Screen Printing equipment \$415.00

AMANDA ORTON:  
Science Olympiad \$315.40

MENDY BREWINGTON:  
Robotics and 3-D printing \$1793.00

DUSTIN ORTON:  
Powerful Learning Conference \$785.40

AMY FENNEWALD:  
Stand-up desks for learning \$960.00

ABBY WEBER AND TIFFANY GILMORE:  
Fiction Addiction Book Club \$1500.00

JOE HENDRIX AND AUDREY STEVER:  
Grow with FFA \$1345.00

CINDY KELLER:  
W.I.N.G.S. Outdoor Service Project \$3179.00

Dec 19: EARLY RELEASE at 1:15pm  
Dec 20-Jan 3: NO SCHOOL - Winter Break  
Jan 6: NO SCHOOL - Teacher Workday  
Jan 20: NO SCHOOL - MLK, Jr. Day

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

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Jan 2025



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