

# Holden R-3 School District



Feb/Mar  
2026

Eagle Expression  
Eagle Strength  
TARGET Projects  
Distinguished Alumni  
Donation Drive

## Eagle Expression

Speech, Debate, and Theatre are taking the stage at Holden High School in 2026. Recognized by the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA), the new Speech & Debate and Theatre teams are coached by Mrs. Angie Smith, HHS Business Teacher who has served as HHS Theatre Assistant Director in the past. Students will compete in events such as Informative Speaking, Humorous Interpretation, Poetry Reading, and Original Oratory. Bringing a positive mindset to grow the team, Mrs. Smith shares, “I expect this year to go well, anticipating the group of talented students to break expectations as a brand new team starting at year one.” With a shared roster of fifteen students, the teams began competing in late January.



## Eagle Strength

The Holden High School Powerlifting Team’s season began with meets at Piper & Basehor-Linwood in January. Powerlifting teaches discipline while helping students increase their strength as well as mental and physical toughness. Currently, there are sixty-three students participating in the club. The next competitions are at Liberty North on February 28 & Kearney on March 21.



## TARGET Students Explore & Collaborate

Students in the TARGET (Together we’re Achieving and Reaching our Goals and Enriching our Talents) gifted program have been busy exploring the world, sharpening critical thinking skills, and learning through hands-on experiences across grade levels. At the elementary level, students completed their own version of The Amazing Race. Each student researched a country and created a quiz, complete with “roadblocks”, for classmates to complete. High school foreign exchange students joined the unit for a question-and-answer session, giving elementary students a chance to learn directly from peers about life and culture in other countries. The unit wrapped up with a tasty finale, as each student selected a recipe from their chosen country and prepared it during class with the help of dedicated volunteers. Middle school TARGET students stepped into the courtroom, learning about the preparation and process behind real court cases. Working in groups, students wrote scripts for mock trials to retry the historic “Old Drum” case.



The trials were presented to sixth grade social studies classes, with selected students serving as jurors. Plans are also underway for students to visit the Justice Center in Warrensburg to observe a live court session. In addition, all TARGET students toured the Titanic exhibit at Union Station in November, connecting classroom learning with a powerful real-world experience.

## 2025-2026 CALENDAR At-A-Glance

Feb 13	No School - Teacher Inservice	May 17	Class of 2026 Graduation Ceremony
Feb 16	No School - Presidents’ Day	May 21	Last Day of School - Early Release
Mar 9-13	No School - Spring Break	May 22	Teacher Inservice/Workday
Apr 3 & 6	No School - Easter Break	<i>Some make-up days/hours are built into the schedule.</i>	

“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.”

# February 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>  We're on Instagram! @holdenschools	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> HS Boys/Girls Wrestling Varsity Triangular @ HHS 5:30pm *matwarming* *senior night* HS Boys/Girls Bball - Varsity Only @ Carrollton 5:30pm	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>  HS Boys Bball @ Warsaw 4:30pm	<b>6</b> HS Girls Wrestling Varsity Tournament @ Buffalo HS Girls/Boys Bball v. Richmond @ HHS 5:30pm *courtwarming* HMS Valentine Dance @ MS Gym 6-8pm	<b>7</b> HS Boys Wrestling Varsity Tournament @ Albany  HHS Court/Matwarming Dance @ HS 7:30-9:30pm
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> PreK Activity Night @ HES 6pm Board of Education Meeting @ MS Library 7pm	<b>10</b> HS Girls Bball Varsity Only v. Barstow @ HHS 5:30pm HS Boys Bball @ Lone Jack 5:30pm	<b>11</b> Scholar Bowl Varsity Quad @ Richmond 5pm	<b>12</b> Special Olympics @ Lafayette Cupid Classic HS Girls Bball @ Knob Noster 5:30pm	<b>13</b> NO SCHOOL Teacher Inservice HS Girls Wrestling Varsity Districts @ Buffalo HS Girls/Boys Bball v. Sherwood @ HHS 5pm *senior night*	<b>14</b>  HS Math Team @ Cole Camp Math Reays HS Girls Wrestling Varsity Districts @ Buffalo
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> NO SCHOOL Presidents Day HS Girls Bball @ Lexington 5:30pm	<b>17</b>  HS Boys Bball v. Lexington @ HHS 5:30pm	<b>18</b> MRVC Band Chair Placements @ Oak Grove	<b>19</b> HS Boys/Girls Bball @ Lafayette Co 5:30pm	<b>20</b>  HS Boys Wrestling Varsity Districts @ Butler	<b>21</b> HS Band @ UCM Jazz Festival HS Boys Wrestling Varsity Districts @ Butler
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  HS Boys Bball Varsity Districts @ Lone Jack	<b>24</b> HS Girls Bball Varsity Districts @ Cole Camp MRVC Band Chair Reassembly & Concert @ Oak Grove	<b>25</b> HS Boys Bball Varsity Districts @ Lone Jack HS Boys/Girls Wrestling Varsity State @ Columbia	<b>26</b> HS Fieldtrip to WWI Museum HS Girls Bball Varsity Districts @ Cole Camp Spring Picture Day @ HES & HMS HS Girls/Boys Wrestling Varsity State @ Columbia	<b>27</b> District Theatre @ Smith-Cotton HS Boys Bball Varsity Districts @ Lone Jack HMS PTO Kids' Night Out @ MS Commons 5-8pm	<b>28</b> HS Girls Bball Varsity Districts @ Cole Camp MS/HS Science Olympiad Regionals @ William Jewell Powerlifting Meet @ Liberty North
Holden R-3 and area districts have Hudl cameras which catch many of our sporting events LIVE for you to watch from anywhere! Check it out by scanning the code. To watch away games, go to fan.hudl.com and search for our opponent's school.				Please check the school website for the latest calendar information at <a href="https://holdenschools.org/calendar">holdenschools.org/calendar</a>		

Our CHARACTERplus Trait of the month is

## Compassion - caring how others think and feel

"There is no better compass than compassion." ~ Amanda Gorman

# March 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>  HS Boys Bball Sectionals PreK Activity Night @ ES 6pm	<b>2</b> HS Boys Bball Sectionals PreK Activity Night @ ES 6pm	<b>3</b> HS Girls Bball Sectionals	<b>4</b> Blood Drive @ HS Library 10am-2pm Transition Fair @ HHS Cafe 5-7pm	<b>5</b>  MS Choir & Band Concert @ HS Gym 7pm	<b>6</b> HS Boys Bball Quarterfinals	<b>7</b> HS Girls Bball Quarterfinals Scholar Bowl Varsity Tournament @ Odessa 8:30am 
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> HS Boys/Girls Bball Varsity State HS Band - State Pep Band @ Mizou Arena
 <b>NO SCHOOL - Spring Break</b>						
<b>15</b> <div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;">                         Please check the school website for the latest calendar information at <a href="http://holdenschools.org/calendar">holdenschools.org/calendar</a> </div>	<b>16</b> Board of Education Meeting @ MS Library 7pm	<b>17</b>  Baseball Varsity Jamboree @ HHS 4pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  HS Band & Choir Concert @ HS Gym 7pm	<b>20</b>  HMS PTSO Kids' Night Out @ MS Commons 5-8pm	<b>21</b> HS Track Varsity Meet @ UCM
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  Baseball @ Sherwood 4:30pm	<b>24</b> Baseball v. Nevada @ HHS 4:30pm Boys Tennis @ Lexington 4:30pm	<b>25</b>  Golf Varsity Quad v. Odessa @ Shirkey Golf Course, Richmond	<b>26</b> Author Visit @ HES Taryn Souders HS Band - Large Group Instrumental Music Festival @ Grain Valley HS Track Varsity Meet @ Butler 9:30am Baseball @ Harrisonville 4:30pm	<b>27</b> MS Track Meet @ Butler 4pm HMS Spring Dance @ MS Gym 6-8pm	<b>28</b> HS Band - District Solo & Ensemble Festival @ Grain Valley
<b>29</b> 	<b>30</b> Golf Varsity Tournament @ Carrollton HS Track Varsity Meet @ Summit Christian Baseball @ Knob Noster 4:30pm Boys Tennis Varsity Match v. Carrollton @ HHS 4:30pm	<b>31</b> HS Track Varsity Meet @ Warrensburg 4pm Baseball C Team Doubleheader @ Nevada 4:30pm Baseball JV/V v. Windsor @ HHS 4:30pm 	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px; background-color: #f0f0f0;"> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; color: #000080;">Coming in April...</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #000080;">GRANDPARENT ART NIGHT</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; color: #000080;">4/2 6-8pm @ HES</p> </div>			

Our CHARACTERplus Trait of the month is

## Perseverance - never giving up despite difficulty or delay

*"Patience, perseverance, and mental strength - they are your biggest armour against all odds." ~ Sujata Chatterjee*

# Contact Us

## Central Office

1612 S Main (816) 732-5568  
Dr. Mike Hough, Superintendent  
Dr. Christy Harrison, Asst. Supt.

## High School

1901 S Main (816) 732-5523  
Grant Guevel, Principal  
April Placht, Asst. Principal  
Spencer Gudde, Activities Director

## WINGS 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  
Paige Farmer, Principal  
Tyler Narron, Asst. Principal

## Transportation - Ecco Ride

2000 S Clay Street (816) 732-6541  
Amanda Beach, Terminal Manager

## General Questions

[comments@holdenschools.org](mailto:comments@holdenschools.org)

## School Website

<https://www.holdenschools.org>



HOLDEN SCHOOLS

## Nominate a Distinguished Alumni



Do you know a Holden graduate making a difference in the world? We're accepting nominations for our Holden High School Distinguished Alumni Award. This honor recognizes graduates of Holden High School who have made meaningful contributions to their community or profession, or who have achieved something truly impactful through their work or service. Nominating someone is simple—and a great way to celebrate the lasting influence of our Holden Eagles. Nomination forms are available at each school building office, Central Office, and online at [www.holdenschools.org/community/alumni](http://www.holdenschools.org/community/alumni). Completed forms are due by March 16, 2026.

**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 by: **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)

## Donation Drive



Have a gently-used formal dress or attire you don't need?

Consider donating it to Bright Futures Holden for

"Operation Dress Hanger"! Prom can be an important milestone, but the cost of formal attire can be a barrier for some families. Donated dresses and formal wear will go directly to Holden-area students who need them. Your donation can make a meaningful difference and help a student feel included on a memorable night. Donations can be dropped off at Holden High School at 1901 S Main St.



Feb 13: NO SCHOOL - Teacher Inservice

Feb 16: NO SCHOOL - Presidents Day

Mar 9-13: NO SCHOOL - Spring Break



Feb/Mar  
2026

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

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. Postage

PAID

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HOLDEN, MO