

Holden R-3

School District



**Oct/Nov
2025**

Unified Champion School
Hudl Live Sports
School Closing Notifications
HMS Oz Book Fair
Coats & Costumes, for Kids
District Honor Choir

Steps Towards Becoming a National Unified Champion School

Article by: Abby Miller, Communications Intern

Photos by: Emily Ringen, Special Olympics Coordinator

The Holden R-3 School District has been a proud partner with the Missouri Special Olympics for over 15 years. Students with intellectual disabilities have the opportunity to compete in sport and job-related competitions, strengthening confidence and building lasting friendships.

Competing in unified activities, students with and without intellectual disabilities compete alongside each other in team activities. In the past few years, Holden has competed and attended Unified Basketball, Unified Track & Field relays, Unified Prom, Night at the Disco, worked in the Holden High School Coffee Shop, unified team building day (X-Games), Unified eSports, and Fans in the Stands. These activities have allowed our community to connect to better empower students and provide ongoing opportunities.

Holden has been a Unified Champion School for over two years, which is earned at the state level. Special Olympics Coordinator Mrs. Emily Ringen notes that being unified is having the "whole student body coming together, not just with Special Olympics but anyone with special needs to include everyone." As a district, our goal is to become a Unified Champion School with *National Banner* recognition.

To achieve this, Ringen notes, we will "[continue] to include everybody as inclusion is key, provide opportunities to bring students together, and bring in the community for many consecutive years... making this a norm." In our future trajectory, "our district is taking the right steps to become a very inclusive school across all platforms and aspects.

Mark your calendars for April 22, 2026! Come cheer on your Holden Special Olympics athletes as they compete in Track & Field events against area competitors at the Holden High School track.

Catch the team on the road:

Oct 1 @ Odessa, Track & Field
Oct 8 @ Carrollton, Track & Field
Oct 28 @ Warrensburg, Bowling

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.



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 **SOCIAL MEDIA** - Holden R-3 Schools Facebook & Instagram accounts **TV** - WDAF (Channel 4), KCTV (Channel 5), KMBC (Channel 9), KSHB (Channel 41)

2025-26 CALENDAR At-A-Glance

Oct 6	No School - Teacher Inservice	Feb 13	No School - Teacher Inservice
Oct 20 & 23	Parent Teacher Conferences	Feb 16	No School - Presidents' Day
Oct 24	No School - Teacher Inservice	Mar 9-13	No School - Spring Break
Nov 3	No School	Apr 3 & 6	No School - Easter Break
Nov 24-28	No School - Thanksgiving Break	May 17	Class of 2026 Graduation Ceremony
Dec 19	Early Release - Winter Break Begins	May 21	Last Day of School - Early Release
Dec 22-Jan 2	No School - Winter Break	May 22	Teacher Inservice/Workday
Jan 5	No School - Teacher Inservice/Workday		
Jan 19	No School - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day		

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

"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."

October 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Please check the school website for the latest calendar information at holdenschools.org/calendar			1 Special Olympics Track Meet @ Odessa MS/HS Cross Country @ Oak Grove 4pm Girls Tennis @ Lafayette Co 4:30pm Softball @ Lexington 5pm MS Volleyball v. Lexington @ HMS 5pm	2 Girls Tennis @ Carrollton 4:30pm Softball @ Lafayette Co 5pm MS Volleyball v. Carrollton @ HMS 5pm HS Volleyball v. Richmond @ HHS HS Cheer Parent/Athlete Meeting @ MS Library 5:30pm	3 Varsity Football @ Lafayette Co 7pm	4 HS Band @ Smith-Cotton Invitational HS Volleyball JV Tournament @ Odessa 8am
	5 Girls Tennis @ Knob Noster 4:30pm JV Football @ Lafayette Co 5:30pm	6 NO SCHOOL Teacher Inservice Girls Tennis @ Knob Noster 4:30pm JV Football @ Lafayette Co 5:30pm	7 ASVAB Testing Day @ HHS MS/HS Cross Country @ Excelsior Springs 4pm Softball v. Richmond @ HHS (Varsity Only) 5pm MS Football v. Carrollton @ HHS 5:30pm	8 Special Olympics Track Meet @ Carrollton Girls Tennis Varsity Tournament Youth Cheer Clinic @ ES Gym 3:45-5pm MS/HS Choir Concert @ HS Gym 7pm	9 Girls Tennis Varsity Districts @ Odessa Youth Cheer Clinic @ ES Gym 3:45-5pm Softball @ Carrollton 5pm MS Volleyball @ Lone Jack 5pm HS Volleyball @ Knob Noster 5pm	10 Ready, Aim, Write Assembly @ ES Gym 8am Varsity Football v. Richmond @ HHS 7pm *Military Appreciation Night* *FFA Alumni Hog Roast* *Youth Ccheer Night*
11 HS Band @ Odessa Marching Invitational Girls Tennis Varsity District @ Odessa MS/HS Cross Country @ Lexington 9am HS Volleyball Varsity Tournament @ Sherwood 9am	12 	13 Girls Tennis Varsity District @ Odessa MS Volleyball v. Sherwood @ HMS 5pm HS Volleyball @ Richmond 5pm JV Football v. Richmond @ HHS 5:30pm Board of Education Meeting @ MS Library 7pm	14 Girls Tennis Varsity Districts @ Odessa HS Volleyball v. Lexington @ HHS 5pm MS Football @ Knob Noster 5:30pm	15 Softball Varsity Districts @ Hartville Girls Tennis Varsity District @ Odessa MS Volleyball v. Richmond @ HMS 5pm	16 Softball Varsity Districts @ Hartville Girls Tennis Varsity District @ Odessa MS/HS Cross Country @ Warrensburg 3:45pm HS Volleyball v. Lafayette Co @ HHS C Team Football @ Harrisonville 5:30pm	17 Book Fair @ HMS Softball Varsity Districts @ Hartville HES PTO Family Movie Night @ HHS Football Field 6pm MS Halloween Dance @ MS Gym 6pm Varsity Football @ Carrollton 7pm
18 	19 	20 Book Fair @ HMS Girls Tennis Varsity Sectional Cash for College Night @ HS Library 4pm Parent/Teacher Conferences 4-8pm JV Football @ Carrollton 5:30pm	21 Book Fair @ HMS Girls Tennis Varsity Sectionals HS Volleyball Varsity Districts @ Knob Noster	22 Book Fair @ HMS Picture Retake Day @ All Buildings MS/HS Cross Country @ Richmond 2pm	23 Book Fair @ HMS Girls Tennis Varsity State HS Volleyball Varsity Districts @ Knob Noster Parent/Teacher Conferences 4-8pm	24 NO SCHOOL Girls Tennis Varsity State Varsity Football v. Knob Noster @ HHS *Senior Night* *Cancer Awareness Night*
25 HS Band @ UCM Homecoming Softball Varsity Quarterfinals HS Cross Country @ St. Michael 8am 	26 PreK Activity Night @ HES HS Volleyball Varsity Districts @ Knob Noster	27 Special Olympics @ Warrensburg Bowling Meet	28 StuCo Movie Night @ HHS Football Field 7pm	29 Girls Tennis Varsity State HS Volleyball Varsity Sectionals	30 Softball Varsity State Girls Tennis Varsity State Varsity Football Districts @ HHS 7pm	31 HALLOWEEN

Our CHARACTERplus Trait of the month is

Responsibility - taking ownership of what you say and do

"Concern yourself more with accepting responsibility than with assigning blame.
Let the possibilities inspire you more than the obstacles discourage you." ~Ralph Marston

November 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Cross Country Varsity Districts @ Platte Ridge Park Softball Varsity State HS Volleyball Varsity Quarterfinals
Follow us on LinkedIn! @holdenschools			Please check the school website for the latest calendar information at holdenschools.org/calendar			
2	3 NO SCHOOL Teacher Inservice	4	5	6 HS Volleyball Varsity State 4th & 5th Grade Music Concert @ HS Gym 6pm	7	8 Cross Country Varsity State @ Gans Creek Rec Area
9	10 Board of Education Meeting @ MS Library 7pm	11 Veterans Day Breakfast 7:30am & Parade 9am 	12 We're on Instagram! @holdenschools	13	14 HS Girls Bball Varsity Jamboree @ Pleasant Hill 5:30pm Varsity Football Districts @ HHS	15
16 	17 Book Fair @ HES PreK Activity Night @ HES Cross Country Banquet @ HS Cafe 6pm	18 Book Fair @ HES Open Late 4-6pm! MS Girls/Boys Wrestling Triangular @ HMS 5pm HS Boys Bball Varsity Jamboree @ HHS 5:30pm	19 Book Fair @ HES	20 Book Fair @ HES	21 Book Fair @ HES Grand Event 7:15am HMS PTSO Kids Night Out @ MS Cafe/Gym 5-8pm Varsity Football Quarterfinals Annie, Jr. Performance @ HS Gym 7pm	22 MS Boys/Girls Wrestling Tournament @ Harrisonville HS Annie, Jr. Performance @ HS Gym 7pm
23 /30	24	25	26	27 THANKSGIVING	28	29
NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break						
		Girls Varsity Wrestling Tournament @ Versailles HS Girls/Boys Bball @ Concordia 5pm MS Boys Wrestling Tri @ Pleasant Hill 5:30pm			Varsity Football Semifinals	

Our CHARACTERplus Trait of the month is

Citizenship

- being a responsible member of a community

"The burden of citizenship is accepting that what is neither your fault nor your responsibility may be your problem." ~Anand Giridharadas

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, AD

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

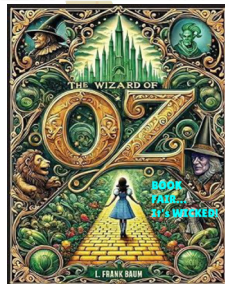
School Website

<https://www.holdenschools.org>



HOLDEN SCHOOLS

Oz Book Fair @ HMS



*Fri, Oct 17
through
Thu, Oct 23*

*OPEN LATE
during
conferences*

The HMS Book Fair is
coming your way,
For every book you buy,
games you will play.
Celebrating Oz and the
adventure it brings,
Come by, take a look,
there's lots of great things.

Costumes & Coats, for Kids

*Mon, Oct 20 & Thu, Oct 23
4:00-7:00pm*

Come check out the Bright Futures
Hub during conferences - it houses
clothes and supplies FREE of charge
for those in our school family.
Eagles, do you need a costume or
winter coat? We've got you covered.

See you at the Hub!

District Honor Choir

Eighteen Holden students auditioned for the West Central District Honor Choir, and thirteen were selected. This is a tremendous accomplishment and a reflection of their talent and hard work. Congratulations to each of these students on earning their place among the area's best young musicians!

Treble Honor Choir:

- Vanessa Turner
- Annalissa Ray
- Madison Speakman
- Danyelle Samilin
- Elly Gutridge

All-District Honor Choir:

- Jolyn Hagston
- Hayden Iglehart
- Samantha McCulloch
- Benjamin Ferguson
- Logan Carpenter
- Evan Robinson
- Benjamin West
- Shadrach Weiss



October 6: NO SCHOOL - Teacher Inservice
Oct 20 & 23: Parent/Teacher Conferences 4-8pm
Oct 24: NO SCHOOL
Nov 3: NO SCHOOL - Teacher Inservice
Nov 24-28: NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break



Oct/Nov
2025

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

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