



HOLLEY MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

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Dear Holley Families,

The staff and I cannot wait to see our students on Wednesday, September 6th for the first day of school. We look forward to hearing about each student's summer and working together with you to ensure success. We also would like to welcome our incoming seventh-grade students and hope they find our school community fosters a sense of belonging, pride, and academic success.

Beginning a new school year sometimes comes with a mix of emotions from excitement to nervousness. We hope some of the information below helps to ease the nerves some may face and leave families with a sense of confidence in our ability to keep each child safe.

Holley has shown time and again, that it is a community that gives without hesitation. Its ability to show empathy and offer hope to others in their time of need is nothing short of amazing. The best way to teach our young people is to model our expectations. The Holley community models compassion every day for our students, and it leaves me quite hopeful for our future.

This year we are committed to ensuring various opportunities for our students to learn and grow. For them to access these opportunities, we need them here every day. For the past few years' schools have been forced to send students home with what pre-pandemic would most likely be characterized as 'mild symptoms.' We are not encouraging families to send students to school when they are ill. If your child is sick, please consult your doctor and have them return to school when they are better with a doctor's note. However, we are very concerned as a school district about chronic absenteeism. Students who miss 18 or more school days per year are considered chronically absent. A student who misses school on average two days per month is considered chronically absent. School attendance is a leading factor in student success. Between 8th and 12th grade, a student who is chronically absent is 7.4 times more likely to drop out. We need each student here every day, trying to be the best version of themselves. We ask that each student does their best to be in school every day, and our families support us in that endeavor.

Attached you will find information regarding our *Student Handbook*, important documents, and information regarding *Back-to-School Night*. The changes highlighted are based on input from several stakeholders, including staff, students, and families. We hope you find the information useful and any changes beneficial to improving the quality of teaching and learning at Holley Middle/High School. Our primary goal is always to ensure our school is a safe, rigorous, learning environment where each student feels a sense of belonging and purpose.

Please note the following updates in our *Student Handbook*:

- ✓ Grading – Students' final course grades are calculated by averaging each of the four quarters and the final exam. Each score is 20% of the final grade. To receive course credit, students need to have at least a 65 as a final grade. New York State Regents exams will not count as a final exam in a course. Each marking period students take a benchmark assessment which counts as 15% of their quarter grade. The purpose of the assessment is to give an accurate portrayal of student understanding in the skills and content that quarter.
- ✓ Please keep backpacks in lockers. There is nothing more important than providing a safe and secure environment for our students. Last year there were allegations made in our school regarding threats to student safety. Each threat was investigated thoroughly, and an assessment was conducted each time. There was never a substantial threat to student safety. However, during the process and with rumors, many students noted being scared about bookbags. They were nervous an individual could conceal something in a bag that could be potentially dangerous to others. We do not want students to have these fears.
- ✓ Cellphones – Students in grades 7 and 8 must have their cellphones off and away all day. Students in grades 9 and 10 must turn their cellphones off and put them away during instructional periods. Students in grades 11 and 12 may use their cellphone based on individual teacher practice in the classroom.

Important Documents:

- ✓ *Schedules and Locker Combinations* – Please do not share your locker combination with other students. Students may not share lockers. Each student is responsible for all items in their locker.
- ✓ *Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Household Income Eligibility Form* – This form must be completed to ensure we continue to offer free breakfast and lunch for all students at Holley MS/HS
- ✓ *Student Emergency Form* – Ensures we have updated address and phone numbers. In case of an emergency only the people you list on this form can sign out your child. Please ensure we have an updated email address.
- ✓ *Device User Agreement Policy and Protection Plan* – Must be filled out to use the laptop. If you are purchasing insurance, please bring cash or check to *Back to School Night*. If families choose not to purchase insurance, they are responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged computers.

Important Events:

- ✓ Tuesday, September 5th – Back-to-School Night from 4:30PM-6:00PM
- ✓ Wednesday, September 6th – First day of School for students in grades 7-12

Arrival: The doors to the building will open at 7:10. Students in grades 7&8 will enter through door 17 (Cafeteria Door) and report directly to the cafeteria. Students in grades 9-12 will enter through Door 1 (Main Entrance) and wait in the foyer. At 7:17 the bell rings and students can go to their lockers. After 7:17 all students should enter through Door 1 (Main Entrance). All students must be in class by 7:25. Any student not in class by 7:25 is considered late and needs to get a late pass from the attendance office.

Dismissal: Students are dismissed at 2:20PM. All students must exit the building unless they are staying with an adult. Students who are waiting for sports practice are eligible to stay for *Hawk's Athletic Nest* in the cafeteria. Students who stay after will receive a bus pass from the teacher they are staying with and will walk down and dismiss from the elementary school at 3:15PM.

Meals: Grab-and-Go Breakfast is available to students in the foyer. Breakfast and lunch are free to all students. During lunch there are items for sale. Students staying after school for an extracurricular event may get snacks in the cafeteria. To continue our free meal programs, each family needs to complete the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) form and return it on *Back-to-School Night*.

Back-to-School Night: *Back-to-School Night* is Tuesday, September 5th, 2023, from 4:30-6:00. We ask families to come explore all Holley Middle/High School has to offer. All extra-curricular and athletic groups will have tables set up in the cafeteria and gymnasium. Our goal is to have each student in at least one extracurricular activity this year. Please come and sign up! Students can also set up their lockers and meet teachers. Most of our staff will be in the gymnasium or cafeteria. However, students can still walk through their schedule, set up their locker, and meet their teachers!

Visitors: We welcome visitors to Holley Middle/High School. We ask visitors not to enter the building until 7:30AM. During the morning our staff monitors students. Please know we are here to assist you. Our priority is always the safety of our students, and we want to ensure we are properly supervising them.

I truly look forward to working with each of you this year in ensuring our Hawks have a memorable experience. Please know we are here to serve you and our students. It is our mission to work together to provide the opportunity and means for all students to acquire the skills, knowledge, and attitudes to become responsible and productive citizens in a diverse and changing society. The ideal is to instill a passion for lifelong learning. As a community we take this mission seriously. We want each student to feel a sense of belonging at Holley Middle/High School. If at any time you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. We can speak on the phone or meet face-to-face. Simply contact Kaitlyn Andrews at 585-638-6335 ext. 5500 or call me directly on my cellphone at 585-815-5459.

Thank you,

Matthew Feldman

Matthew Feldman
Principal
Holley MS/HS

Extra-Curricular Offerings

Middle School	High School
Middle School Yearbook	High School Yearbook
Middle School Student Council	High School Student Council
Musical*	Musical*
Marching Band*	Marching Band*
National Junior Honor Society	National Honor Society
Spanish Club*	Spanish Club*
Academic Challenge Bowl	Master Minds
Technology Club*	Technology Club*
Ski Club*	Ski Club*
Multicultural Club*	Multicultural Club*
GSA Club*	GSA Club*
Art Club*	Art Club*
Interact Club*	Interact Club*
Library Club*	Library Club*
Jazz Band*	Jazz Band*
Drama Club*	Drama Club*
Fall eSports*	Fall eSports*
Spring eSports*	Spring eSports*

*Denotes a club offered for both Middle and High School students

Athletic Offerings

Season	Offerings
Fall	Modified, JV, Varsity Boys and Girls Soccer Modified, JV, Varsity Girls Volleyball Modified A and Varsity Football Modified and Varsity Cross Country Varsity Fall Cheerleading
Winter	Modified, JV, Varsity Boys and Girls Basketball Modified, JV, Varsity Wrestling Modified A and Varsity Cheerleading Unified Sports
Spring	Modified, JV, Varsity Baseball and Softball Modified and Varsity Track Golf Modified and Varsity Tennis