

Holton Public Schools

"Rooted in Community, Reaching for Excellence, Ready for the Future"

Elementary Office – (231) 821-1825 • Middle School Office – (231) 821-1775 High School Office – (231) 821-1725 • Athletic Office – (231) 821-1930

January 21, 2022

Dear Holton Community,

MDHHS continues to require school districts to report on positive COVID-19 cases. Below is this week's COVID-19 Dashboard which includes new and current school associated COVID-19 cases. Due to new recommendations from MDHHS regarding school quarantine and isolation, we will no longer be reporting students and staff in quarantine. School associated close contacts are able to stay in school with testing and masks. This allows for many students and staff to remain in school as long as they remain symptom free.

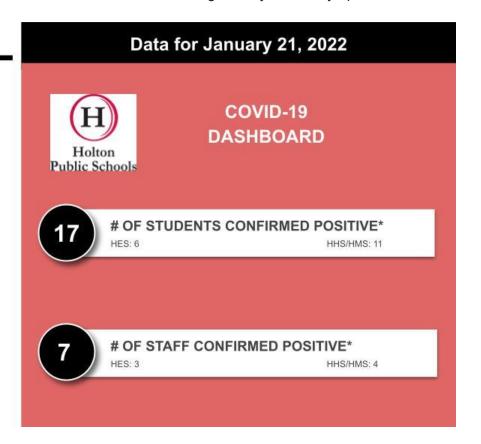
The COVID-19 Dashboard will be updated weekly to keep our community informed of school associated cases.

In accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), personal information on COVID positive individuals will not be provided.

ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE

- Wear a mask (covering mouth and nose) while in public places or if people who do not live with you must visit your home.
- Practice social distancing (maintaining a distance of 6 feet apart).
- Practice frequent handwashing (using soap for 20 seconds or hand sanitizer with 60% alcohol).
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or with the inside of your elbow and immediately wash your hands.
- Stay home if you are sick; you can also get tested.
- Get vaccinated if you are able.

NOTE: With changes to MDHHS K-12 Recommendations we will no longer be reporting quarantine cases. With "Test to Stay" options and testing, many close contacts can continue to come to school.



We continue to provide Rapid Antigen Testing in partnership with MDHHS. To test, a <u>consent form</u> must be on file. Testing is completely voluntary and you can sign up and discontinue participation at any time. It is recommended that testing occurs once per week for unvaccinated students and staff. The weekly testing schedule is as follows:



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Building/Group	Day/Time	Location
Elementary Students	Mondays 8:30AM-9:00AM	Elementary Locker Room
MS/HS Students	Mondays 7:30AM-8:00AM	MS/HS Gym

We recommend taking action to help limit the spread of COVID-19 including:

- Wear a mask (covering mouth and nose) while indoors.
- Practice social distancing (maintaining a distance of 6 feet apart).
- **Practice frequent handwashing** (using soap for 20 seconds or hand sanitizer with 60% alcohol).
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or with the inside of your elbow and immediately wash your hands.
- Stay home if you are sick; you can also get tested.
- Stay home if you have or have been exposed to COVID-19 by someone at home.
- Participate in our weekly Rapid Antigen Testing Program if unvaccinated.
- Get vaccinated if you are able. Children ages 5-11 are now eligible to receive a Pfizer vaccination. <u>The COVID-19 Vaccination Communication Handbook</u> has information about vaccination for COVID-19. You can also contact your pediatrician's office to learn more about this vaccine.

Thank you for understanding that, due to medical privacy laws, we are not able to release the names of the individuals with COVID-19. We will continue to communicate changes and updates with you. With your participation, we can maintain a safe environment while also providing quality, undisrupted education.

If you have any questions, contact Public Health - Muskegon County at (231) 724-1203. For answers to your COVID-19 questions, please call the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services COVID-19 Hotline at 888-535-6136 or visit Michigan.gov/coronavirus.

Thank you again for your support. With your partnership, we can keep our students, staff, and community safe and our schools open throughout the 2021-22 School Year!

Sincerely,

Dr. Adam Bayne Superintendent