

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

August 11, 2021

Dear Holton Families:

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to navigate public health recommendations and requirements during the ongoing pandemic. The situation remains fluid and public health measures may change in response to our local circumstances. Ultimately, Holton Public Schools remain committed to the safety and welfare of our students and staff. This commitment is what has informed our Back to School Plan. The Back to School Plan can be found on our website and has been emailed to parents.

The primary question we have received is if masks will be required for students. As recommended by Public Health -Muskegon County, all students are **highly recommended** to wear masks indoors at school. Masks are effective at reducing the spread of COVID-19. Parents who choose to not have their child wear a facial covering should understand this decision reduces protection from the spread of the virus and increases the potential for a quarantine from Public Health - Muskegon County if a school exposure occurs. All students are **required** to mask while on district transportation. This is a requirement by the CDC and the district is advised to follow this by our legal counsel. There are also a number of other mitigation measures in place that are outlined in the Back to School Plan.

The Back to School Plan also explains our enrollment options for this school year including the new Muskegon County Virtual Academy operated by the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District. With principal approval, all students in grades K-12 can enroll in this virtual option while remaining connected to the district including participating in sports, extracurricular activities, and enrichment classes such as band.

We are ready to support your child's success during the 2021-2022 school year while keeping all of our students and staff as safe as possible. Holton Public Schools looks forward to our continued partnership and shared desire to make our schools the best they can be!

Be sure to join us for the District Open House on August 25, 2021 from 4PM-7PM. You can meet your child's teachers, tour the buildings, meet new staff, enjoy a community cookout, and have some ice cream. A variety of organizations will be available to connect with you including Project Focus, HealthWest, Hackley Community Care, and Public Health - Muskegon County will be on campus to give vaccinations for anyone ages 12 and over.

Wishing you an amazing school year!

Respectfully,

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Dr. Adam Bayne Superintendent