



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

November 23, 2021

Dear Holton Community,

MDHHS continues to require school districts to report on COVID-19 cases. Below is this week's COVID-19 Dashboard which includes new and current school associated COVID-19 cases and the number of students and staff in quarantine. Although an update was shared a couple days ago, due to the short week, I wanted to share our current cases of COVID-19. As you can see below, we have had an increase in the number of cases and quarantine. The level of spread in our community is high and is impacting students and staff. While our mitigation efforts, including facial coverings, help keep students and staff in school, the level of cases outside of school is impacting many families. The good news is that of the 52 students and staff currently out of school, 32 will return following the break. However, with the level of transmission in the community, we will need to monitor our attendance rates closely. Public Health - Muskegon County and MDHHS is encouraging everyone to be careful over the holidays to help slow community spread at this time.

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Holton
Public Schools
**COVID-19
DASHBOARD**

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).
- Follow capacity restrictions of social gatherings.
- 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.
- Answer the phone if the health department contacts you, as a contact tracer may be trying to reach you with important information.

Data for November 23, 2021

13	# OF STUDENTS CONFIRMED POSITIVE*	HES: 10	HHS/HMS: 3
2	# OF STAFF CONFIRMED POSITIVE*	HES: 1	HHS/HMS: 1
35	# OF STUDENTS QUARANTINED	HES: 30	HHS/HMS: 5
2	# OF STAFF QUARANTINED	HES: 2	HHS/HMS: 0

NOTE: A student or staff member in quarantine does not equal a positive case.
*Only school associated cases are reported on the dashboard.

When we return from the Thanksgiving Break, we will continue to implement our Rapid Antigen Testing Program in partnership with MDHHS. This program helps us avoid outbreaks by identifying positive cases quickly. To sign up, a [consent form](#) must be on file. The program is completely voluntary and you can sign up



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and discontinue participation at any time. It is recommended that testing occurs once per week for unvaccinated students and staff. The schedule is as follows:

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.**
- **Participate in our weekly Rapid Antigen Testing Program.**
- **Get vaccinated if you are able. Children ages 5-11 are now eligible to receive a Pfizer vaccination. [The COVID-19 Vaccination Communication Handbook](#) 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, uninterrupted 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](https://www.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