

# BRONCHO PRESS

Official Newsletter of Holly Area Schools

Fall 2019



BACK TO  
SCHOOL  
EDITION

### 3 Bond projects take shape

Improved safety features, a new playground, and an updated wireless network were all part of the new improvements.

### 4 Broncho school safety

Oakland County Sheriff's Office trains faculty and staff how to respond to school security scenarios.

### 5 Developing the leaders of tomorrow

"Leader in Me" program empowers elementary students to work as a team and give back to their community.



Superintendent Scott Roper

Welcome back!

There has truly never been a better time to be a Broncho.

This edition of the *Broncho Press* provides a one-stop shop for all things Bronchos as the 2019-2020 school year kicks off.

In this edition, we provide an update on our bond projects — made possible by the generosity of our community — coming to life throughout our district, and our summer learning programs that keep the minds of our Bronchos sharp.

This edition also provides an update on our “Leader in Me” program, which teaches leadership, problem-solving and other key life skills in all four elementary buildings and our middle school, news about an exciting new community education partnership and a homecoming preview.

This school year, we will continue promoting a culture of kindness, compassion and respect with an even greater emphasis on civility. Look for announcements on our new initiatives to encourage #BronchoPride and #BronchosUnited!

As always, it is an honor serving as your superintendent. As one Broncho family, we will continue making Holly an exceptional place to learn, grow and inspire this school year and beyond.

Go Bronchos!

Sincerely,

Scott M. Roper, Superintendent

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Richard Kinnamon

## Holly Area Community Connection announced

**H**olly Area Schools has partnered with Holly Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director **Richard Kinnamon** to expand community education programming to include new activities, enrichment programs and other events across the district.

Mr. Kinnamon will be director of the new **Holly Area Community Connection**. New programs will be provided at the Karl Richter Campus and at other buildings and facilities districtwide.

More information on the new program is expected in early October.



## Bond projects take shape



Districtwide safety, building and technology upgrades and improvements began taking shape this summer, thanks to the generosity of the Holly Area Schools community.

Planning began for secure entrances and site work that will take place in the summer of 2020 at Davisburg and Rose Pioneer elementary schools. Design work will begin in early winter for summer 2021 safety projects at Holly and Patterson elementary schools, Holly Middle School and Holly High School.

This fall, new door hardware with easy locking switches and additional security cameras will be installed at all buildings across the district.

“At Holly Area Schools, the safety of our students, families, teachers and staff is our number one priority, and these improvements will help keep our schools safe before, during and after school,” said **Scott Roper**, Holly Area Schools superintendent.

The new Davisburg Elementary playground was installed this summer, featuring a large slide tower and jungle gym — both in Broncho red. Benches will soon be installed around the playground.

Preliminary work began on the high school pool, as did mechanical upgrades at the high school and kitchen improvements at the middle school.

The district’s wireless network was updated, allowing better internet speeds and coverage. A total of 500 Chromebooks have been purchased for the new school year, and 280 iPads have been purchased for Young 5s and first-graders.

“Our technology upgrades demonstrate our continued commitment to providing all Bronchos with the most up-to-date instructional technology that helps them achieve and succeed, from our youngest students to our high school seniors,” Roper said.



## Building community over breakfast

The Broncho New Student Breakfast will take place Tuesday, Sept. 17, at the high school, and Thursday, Sept. 19, at the middle school. Both events take place 7:45-8:45 a.m.

The annual event is an opportunity for new Holly Area Schools students and parents to meet with teachers, staff and administrators to learn more about the Broncho Difference. In addition to breakfast, activities include ice breakers and raffles for prizes.

“The New Student Breakfast is an opportunity for new Broncho families to get to know our teachers and staff, and enjoy some good food and community building in the process,” said **Scott Roper**, Holly Area Schools superintendent

*In addition to breakfast, activities include ice breakers and raffles for prizes.*



## Homecoming 2019 on the horizon



Holly Area Schools will celebrate homecoming the week of Sept. 30. Broncho Pride homecoming events include:

### Monday, Sept. 30

- > Annual Junior vs. Senior Girls Powder Puff Game, 6 p.m. All proceeds support Junior-Senior Prom.

### Friday, Oct. 4

- > Homecoming parade, 5 p.m. The parade will begin at the Holly Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall and end at Holly Elementary School.
- > Varsity homecoming football game vs. Kearsley High School, 7 p.m.

### Saturday, Oct. 5

- > Homecoming dance, 7-10 p.m. in the high school gymnasium



## Broncho school safety: Priority No. 1

At Holly Area Schools, safety is our top priority.

With that in mind, the district partnered with the Oakland County Sheriff's Office on Aug. 28 to provide school security training to more than 400 faculty and staff members. The daylong training was part of the new districtwide security initiative.

Faculty and staff learned how to respond in several school security scenarios during the training led by sheriff's deputies. The training

included simulation drills based on ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate).

"The safety of our students, families, faculty and staff is our number one priority at Holly Area Schools, and we thank the Sheriff's Office for providing this critical training," said **Scott Roper**, Holly Area Schools superintendent. "Our ALICE training event was the first of many ongoing efforts to ensure our schools are safe before and after the school bell rings."



## Leadership by the book

In late July, Bronchos learned the fundamentals of leadership during **Life is Your Playbook**, a rigorous training program led by Greg Jones of the 2012 Superbowl champion New York Giants, who was previously a two-time All-American linebacker at Michigan State University.

Jones worked with the Broncho football and boys cross country teams and the Holly High School Student Athlete Advisory Council, each for a three-hour training session. Bronchos learned about conflict resolution, handling adversity and making wise decisions — all critical life skills that prepare students for college and successful careers.

Broncho athletes joined forces in teambuilding drills and games. The program was provided in conjunction with the **Holly Area Youth Coalition**.

“Life is Your Playbook provided a hands-on, outside-the-classroom learning opportunity led by a proven leader on and off the gridiron,” said **Casey Lombard**, Holly High School athletic director. “We hope to continue this program in future years as part of our continued commitment to athletics and leadership in a well-rounded, 21<sup>st</sup> century education.” 



## Developing the leaders of tomorrow

The Broncho elementary “Leader in Me” program, expanded last school year to include all elementary schools, equips students with teamwork, problem-solving, conflict resolution and other key life skills that help shape tomorrow’s leaders.

Throughout the school year, students at Patterson, Holly, Rose Pioneer and Davisburg elementary schools participated in safety exercises and a recycling program, and gave back to their community through service projects. Students also participated in food drives and a Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser.

They chronicled their leadership activities in an electronic yearbook.

Holly Elementary School, the first “Leader in Me” school in the district, is also a Lighthouse school, which means students have demonstrated achievement in the program’s key life skill areas. “Leader in Me” is also provided at Holly Middle School, the first middle school in Michigan and second in the country to earn Lighthouse certification.

New “Leader in Me” activities and events will be announced throughout the new school year.





## Health and Enrollment Fair part of commitment to health, wellness

On Aug. 3, Holly Area Schools welcomed more than 300 current and prospective Bronchos to the Back to School Health and Enrollment Fair. The event is part of the district's commitment to student health as a critical first step to learning.

Throughout the day, prospective Broncho families had the opportunity to enroll their children, and both prospective and current Bronchos received free health screenings, lunch and school supplies and enjoyed family friendly activities.

Attendees enjoyed a performance by the Holly High School Drumline and had the opportunity to meet with local first responders.

"Our Health and Enrollment Fair provides the opportunity for prospective Broncho families to learn about the Broncho difference and how our district is preparing all students for bright futures," said **Scott Roper**, Holly Area Schools superintendent. "Our event is also an opportunity to ensure all Bronchos start the year off healthy and ready to learn."



## Summer's also a time for learning

Holly Area Schools was proud to provide summer learning opportunities in all four of its elementary schools, part of the district's commitment to keeping student minds sharp year round.

**Rose Pioneer Elementary** – More than 30 second- and third-graders participated in Rose Pioneer's two-week summer learning program, which included STEM activities, problem solving exercises and math and writing projects.

**Holly Elementary** – More than 50 first-through fourth-graders participated in Holly Elementary's three-week summer program, which included an emphasis on reading, writing and math skills and included hands-on social studies and science activities.

**Davisburg Elementary** – Nearly 30 second- and third-graders participated in Davisburg's two-week summer program, which focused on improving reading and math skills and included playtime to encourage teamwork and problem solving.

**Patterson Elementary** – Patterson Elementary students built on their math, reading and writing skills both inside and outside the classroom throughout two summer learning sessions that ran from late July through August.



## Holly community drives out student hunger

On Aug. 18, the Broncho community hit the links for the fifth-annual **Golfing Fore Backpacks** at the Coyote Preserve Golf Club in Fenton. The annual golf outing raises money to provide nutritious meals to Holly Area Schools students in need.

Proceeds from the event were donated to **Blessings in a Backpack**, which provides meals for more than

400 children attending Holly's four elementary schools and middle school. Backpacks are filled with food to keep students fed over weekends and ready to learn each week.

Golfing Fore Backpacks is coordinated by volunteers and sponsored by local businesses. This year's sponsors included **Engineered Combustion Systems, Chartwells Food Services** and **Mark Carney State Farm**.

"Golfing Fore Backpacks is another example of our Broncho community working together to make sure no student goes hungry," said **Scott Roper**, Holly Area Schools superintendent. "A big thank you to all our golfers and sponsors who gave their time and energy to support our kids."

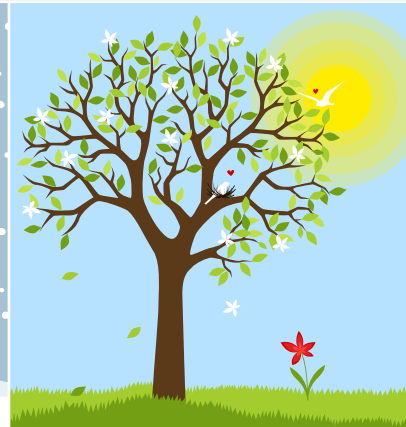


Golfing FORE Backpacks RESULT			
Team	Score	Team	Score
#1A Team Serra	70.1	#7A Team Lemons	71.0
#1B Team Stewart	69.0	#7B Team Roper	71.0
#2A Team Buechel	66.0	#8A Team Cancello	74.0
#2B Team Parker	68.0	#8B Team DeSosa	68.0
#3A Team Williams	78.0	#9A Team Bartlett	65.0
#3B Team VanderGriff	66.0	#9B Team Newcomb	58.0
#4A Team Philip	69.0	#10A Team McNamara	75.0
#4B Team Smith	62.0	#10B Team E.C. 2	74.0
#5A Team Pritchard	77.0	#11A Team Subanski	67.0
#5B Team Algo	76.0	#11B Team Sophia	68.0
#6A Team Carney	69.0	#12A Team LeMessurier	61.0
#6B Team Richter	70.0	#12B Team Rathenberg	64.0

**Winners**  
 Longest drive WOMEN: Amy "Neer" Stewart  
 Longest drive MEN: Adam Muen  
 Closest to pin WOMEN: Cassie Stone  
 Closest to pin MEN: Dan Williams

# Important 2019-2020 school year dates

Date of event	Information about the event
Oct. 18	No students: Districtwide professional development
Nov. 22	Half-day students and staff, end of first trimester
Nov. 27	No students: Districtwide professional development
Nov. 28-29	Holiday break
Dec. 6	Half-day students, half-day staff professional development
Dec. 23-31	Winter holiday break
Jan. 1-3	Winter holiday break
Jan. 6	School resumes
Jan. 17	Half-day students and staff
Jan. 20	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday break
Feb. 17-18	Mid-winter break
Feb. 18	All staff districtwide professional development
March 13	Half-day students and staff, end of second trimester
March 20	Half-day students, half-day staff professional development
March 30-April 3	Spring holiday break
April 10	Good Friday holiday break
May 8	Half-day, students and staff
May 25	Memorial Day holiday break
June 12	Half-day students and staff, last day of school





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