

BRONCHO PRESS

Official Newsletter of Holly Area Schools

End of Year 2021 Edition



END OF
YEAR
2021
EDITION

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More than 7,000 COVID-19 vaccinations have been administered at the Karl Richter campus.

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Holly Area Schools offers summer learning programs for students of all ages.

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Bond projects are moving forward full steam ahead this summer.



Superintendent Scott Roper

Welcome to the End of Year 2021 edition of the Broncho Press! We are excited to return our newsletter to your mailboxes after a year of unprecedented challenges, obstacles and successes.

First, I'd like to thank our amazing students, families, teachers, support staff and administrators for your patience, cooperation and flexibility as we continue facing the numerous challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Working together, we achieved our number one goal: reopening our buildings for in-person learning. We reopened before many school districts across Michigan, and continue to offer the virtual learning option for students and families.

Broncho Pride has never been stronger, and we have pulled together as one community to continue providing a world-class education to all students in a safe, nurturing learning environment.

This is truly a special edition of the Broncho Press.

Inside, you'll read about our safety, technology and building improvement bond projects slated for this summer, as well as summer learning programs to help keep the minds of students sharp year-round. I'm particularly excited to tell you about our new Holly Construction Trades program. Starting next school year, the program will provide our high school students the opportunity to earn professional certifications for successful careers in the skilled trades.

We also provide a recap of the many successes over the past year, including our proactive safety measures, Chromebooks 1:1 program and food distribution program that has helped make sure no Broncho family goes hungry during the pandemic.

As always, we will continue promoting a culture of kindness, compassion and respect that encourages #BronchoPride before, during and after school.

There's truly never been a better time to be a Broncho.

#BronchosUnited!

Sincerely,

Scott M. Roper
Scott M. Roper, Superintendent

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Bronchos in the HEADLINES

Stay up to date on all the latest exciting Broncho news at hask12.org/district/news-superintendent/press-releases.



Laying the building blocks for success

— (Tri-County Times, April 13)

Holly schools boasts over 7,000 vaccinations at Karl Richter Campus — (Oakland County Times, April 5)

A message from the superintendent: Bronchos giving back through COVID-19 vaccination program

— (Tri-County Times, Feb. 26)

Holly Area Schools receives 'A' credit rating ahead of latest bond sale — (Lasco Press, Feb.4)



Oakland County Health Division nurses Michelle Murphy, left, and Cindy Keshavarz have provided COVID-19 safety training to students and staff this school year.

Health, safety priority No. 1

Holly Area Schools prioritizes the health and safety of our students, families, teachers, staff and community above all else. In addition to Oakland County and state-mandated protocols, we have provided:

COVID-19 screening training for athletic coaches

Since June of last year, all Broncho athletic programs have continued while recognizing spectator limitations, game modifications and other health and safety measures.

Coordination with Oakland County Health Division

Holly Area Schools has partnered with Oakland County Health Division nurses **Michelle Murphy** and **Cindy Keshavarz** to provide COVID-19 safety training to students and staff throughout the 2020-2021 school year. This partnership has included training on what causes COVID-19 transmission, following CDC recommendations for quarantine and isolation, and proper personal protective equipment usage.

Following all protocols

Our facility coordinator and district leaders have evaluated every classroom in all of our buildings. When needed, Holly Area Schools has replaced tables with single student desks to allow for proper distancing. Holly Area Schools has also implemented an effective and efficient process to conduct contact tracing and enforce quarantine restrictions.



“Through our strategic efforts, we are one of the few districts in Oakland County to offer in-person learning for most of this school year,” said Scott Roper, Holly Area Schools superintendent. “We will continue to update our Broncho community on our plans for the 2021-2022 school year and beyond.”

More than 7,000 COVID-19 vaccinations administered at Karl Richter

In February and March, more than 7,000 COVID-19 vaccines were administered at the Karl Richter Campus, one of the latest examples of Broncho Pride during the public health crisis. Holly Area Schools began hosting the vaccination site for eligible Holly and northern Oakland County residents in February.

Holly Area Schools partnered with the Oakland County Health Division and Village of Holly Fire Department to support the administration of the vaccine in the Karl Richter gymnasium. The district answered the call after learning the former Village of Holly

Fire Department station had limited capacity to administer vaccines.

All Broncho employees, including our teachers, support staff and others were provided the opportunity to receive the vaccination at either the Karl Richter campus or elsewhere. This helped reduce the need for our staff, students and families to quarantine.

“At Holly Area Schools, we are committed to the health and safety of our entire Broncho community, and that goes well beyond the walls of our school buildings,” said **Scott Roper**, HAS superintendent. “With that in mind, we jumped at the opportunity to help

facilitate the vaccination of eligible residents as we continue taking all necessary safety precautions in our buildings and beyond.”

“We are proud to partner with Holly Area Schools in supporting the Oakland County Health Division in administering as many vaccines as possible during the continuing pandemic,” said Village of Holly Fire Department Chief **Steve McGee**. “We’re seeing a tremendous turnout so far and working together we’ll continue to make all efforts to help protect the health and safety of our entire Holly community.”



Food Distribution Update

At Holly Area Schools, part of our mission is to help ensure no Broncho family goes hungry. We have proudly served more than 508,000 free meals to children and families throughout our community since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. We provide both breakfast and lunch to local families in need.

Meals are available for all students age 18 and under and those with special needs age 26 and under, regardless if they attend Holly Area Schools. Meals include healthy, nutritious options including fruit, vegetables and milk. As a part of our commitment to a culture of kindness, our district will remain dedicated to ensuring every member of our community has access to healthy meals during and after school.

The meals will also be available this summer for the entire community. Specific distribution points and schedules will soon be announced at hask12.com.



Summer learning opportunities for all Bronchos

At Holly Area Schools, learning is a year-round activity.

With that in mind, we are offering summer learning programs to help Bronchos achieve and succeed over the summer and beyond. All programs follow Oakland County Health Division safety protocols.

With **Summer Kids**, students ages 6 weeks old to age 12 have the opportunity to participate in arts, crafts, sports, games, nature exploration and more. The program includes special field trips on Fridays. Learn more and register at bit.ly/BronchoSummerKids.

Camp Invention motivates elementary school students to think, move, explore and create, while utilizing Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and reading skills. The program helps build confidence while promoting problem solving and encouraging collaboration with other students. Students use problem-solving skills to design solar-powered crickets, test rubber duck launch devices and more.

Through **Invention Project**, middle school students participate in high-energy, hands-on activities and learn to bring inventions to market using teamwork, communication and collaboration. Projects include developing a personal transportation device, building and programming robots, creating an innovative video game and more.

This summer, current Young Fives to fifth-grade students can enter the **ST Math Challenge** with Jiji the penguin, and get rewarded with amazing prizes. Everyone wins with this engaging game-based approach to learning important math skills.

Kids Read Now has proven to reverse the summer reading slide. All current Young Five to third-grade students will receive nine books over the summer to continue their journey to a lifelong love of reading. All books are free and are for students to keep at home in their personal libraries. Students in fourth and fifth grades will have the opportunity to check out summer reading books over the summer. Happy reading!

Our **Credit Recovery Program** allows students in grades 9-12 who struggled with virtual learning during the pandemic to recover class credits and stay on track to graduate. Our program uses a project-based learning approach to engage students.



Bond projects moving full steam ahead

Our districtwide safety, technology and building improvement bond projects are moving full steam ahead this summer.

This summer's projects include the following:

Safety

- Installation of safe, secure entries at Holly Elementary, Patterson Elementary, Holly Middle School and Holly High School office areas.
- Partial roof replacement at Holly Elementary, Patterson Elementary and Holly High School.
- New playground equipment at Holly Elementary and Patterson Elementary.
- New parking lot, sidewalks, lighting and signage at Holly Elementary. This project will move the parent drop-off and pickup loop to the back of the building, and the bus loop to the front of the building.

Building improvements

- Installation of new windows, carpet, countertops, sinks, fire alarms and digital signage at Holly Elementary and Patterson Elementary.
- Heating and cooling improvements through replacement of select equipment and building management system upgrades.
- Partial exterior finish replacement at the high school and installation of an ornamental fence outside the middle school.

Last summer's projects included installation of safe and secure entryways, traffic improvements, lighting, heating and cooling improvements, and front office upgrades at Davisburg and Rose Pioneer elementary schools; media center relocation at Rose Pioneer Elementary School; and pool improvements at Holly High School.



Summer 2020 bond projects included installation of safe and secure entryways, traffic improvements, and front office upgrades at Davisburg and Rose Pioneer elementary schools, pool improvements at Holly High School, and much more.

“Our safety, technology and building bond projects are part of our continued commitment to providing a safe, nurturing learning environment that helps all Bronchos succeed,” said **Scott Roper**, Holly Area Schools superintendent. “These projects focus first and foremost on the safety of our Broncho students, families and staff and were made possible by our community’s long-term investment in school safety, building enhancements, and technology upgrades that help prepare all Bronchos for bright futures.”

Keep up to date on all district bond projects at hask12.org/has-bond/2019-2022-bond-project-updates.



HHS ranks at top of U.S. News & World Report list

Our Broncho Pride is getting national recognition. U.S. News & World Report in April included Holly High School on its 2021 Best High Schools list. It's yet another example of our commitment to preparing all Bronchos for the jobs of the future.

The magazine's Best High Schools rankings take into account data from nearly 24,000 public high schools nationwide. For this year's report, nearly 18,000 schools were ranked on six factors based on their performance on state assessments and how well they prepare students for college.

A big congratulations to all Holly High School teachers, staff and students for showing the world what Broncho Pride is all about!



1:1 Chromebooks update

Over 3,000 1:1 Chromebooks were distributed to Bronchos in grades 1–12 this school year as part of our continued commitment to providing all students with cutting-edge technology that prepares them for bright futures. Young Fives and Kindergarten students received age appropriate iPads. Students are using the devices every day to support their learning both in-person and virtually, and we're proud of how well they are taking care of their devices. All Bronchos receive support from their teachers and a full-time technology integrator who promotes productive, responsible use of digital resources — transforming the way students learn and participate in the classroom and beyond.



Students are using the devices every day to support their learning both in-person and virtually, and we're proud of how well they are taking care of their devices.

Holly Construction Trades Program kicks off next year

The Holly Construction Trades Program will launch next school year and offer opportunities that prepare students in grades 9-12 for successful careers in the skilled trades. The program will be supported by local industry professionals and provide students the opportunity to earn industry certifications for potential careers in construction management, carpentry, architecture, plumbing, masonry, engineering and more.

“This is truly an exciting and first-of-its-kind opportunity for Bronchos to chart a path for a successful career in the skilled trades,” said **Samantha Burns**, Holly Area Schools career coordinator. “Our program will be supported by local industry professionals and help prepare students for a variety of in-demand and rewarding careers in the skilled trades.”

The course will include introductory tool and job safety training, and teach techniques used in the construction field. The program will focus on safety, planning and identifying appropriate materials and tools to complete construction-related tasks.

Students will complete a variety of take-home projects such as carved signs, handmade utensils, rustic gifts and basic furniture. Students will attend trade presentations and job shadow industry professionals as part of the course.

To learn more or enroll your child, please call (248) 328-3200 or visit hask12.org.



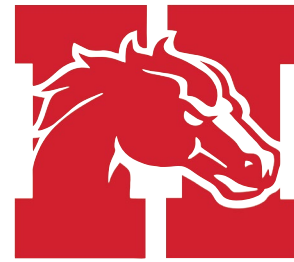
Behavior support program will help youngest Bronchos succeed

The Holly Area Schools Behavior Intervention Support Program was launched in March to help our youngest Bronchos improve their academic progress. The program provides targeted services to elementary school students struggling in their schoolwork due to the underdevelopment of age-appropriate social and emotional skills.

The program helps identify students who require additional support for behavior management and aims to grow positive behavior support systems at school. In preparation for the rollout, the district hired four behavior intervention coaches who completed a week of professional training.

The elementary school social workers and behavior coaches work in collaboration with building administrators, teachers and special education staff to implement the program.

“At Holly Area Schools, we are committed to helping every Broncho achieve and succeed,” said **Scott Roper**, Holly Area Schools superintendent. “Our Behavior Intervention Support Program helps us identify kids who might need a little boost in the classroom and beyond, and we’re here to support them.”



Congrats Class of 2021!

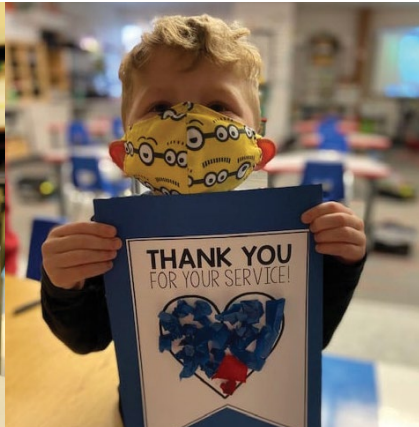
Holly Area Schools is committed to honoring the Broncho Class of 2021, regardless of the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. To ensure we honored this year’s senior class in style, the district secured DTE Energy Music Theatre in Clarkston for a special commencement ceremony. This was made possible by the lifting of outdoor restrictions across Michigan.

We are proud to honor the Class of 2021 with this special event that recognizes their hard work, dedication and perseverance as they prepare for the next phases of their lives.





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