



September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017

Dear Holicong Seventh Grader:

We are now less than a week away from your first day as an official Holicong Colonial! We are very excited to have you join our family, and know that along with the excitement of coming to middle school also comes many questions. We are here to answer all of them!

As we have noted from our previous emails, this is an exciting time to be a new student to Holicong. We are completing renovations in our library, commons area, classrooms, and other areas. We also have new electives courses, such as our Integrated Technology and Innovation and Creativity courses. Many of you had an opportunity to visit us last spring during our orientation day, or at schedule pickup or our open house and have seen your lockers and classrooms, but if you have not or are nervous about any your 1<sup>st</sup> day – **please don't be!** Our teachers spend a lot of time with you the first day (and days following) going over the routines, classroom locations, and information that you will need to get comfortable at your new “second home.” The information below will provide help to make the transition to middle school easier and hopefully answer any questions you may have. Please make sure to read the second page for our FAQ's and navigate the Holicong website for more information, such as our school policies, facts and history about Holicong, and more!

**Student 1<sup>st</sup> Day – September 5<sup>th</sup>:** Your first official school day is Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> and we will follow the “A” day schedule. When you arrive to school, you will report directly to the auditorium. We will have plenty of teachers to help you find your way. You will be sitting with your new teams – we will have signs for you and our teachers will be there to guide you so you know exactly where to go. This will be our first gathering as a 7<sup>th</sup> grade, which is very exciting! We will review the schedule for the day and then you will go to your lockers and your first period class. During your advisory period you will have your first team meeting, where you will meet all of the teachers and students with whom you will spend the rest of the year.

At Holicong you will be introduced to the **Elite 8**. The Elite 8 are personal qualities that our Holicong students and staff feel best exemplify what the Holicong community represents: **Honest, Open-Minded, Loyal, Inclusive, Considerate, Optimistic, Non-judgmental, and Genuine**. You will hear much more about the Elite 8 in the first weeks of school, and our goal is for every member of our community – students, staff, administrators, and parents – to model these traits and encourage them in others.

You are about to embark on a three-year journey that you will remember for a lifetime. We realize that most of you are feeling several emotions – excited, nervous, and wondering “who am I going to sit with at lunch?” This is natural and we can assure you that all of you are feeling the same way – **you are not alone!** But don't worry, our teachers are here to support you and make you comfortable here. And they are also here to challenge you to achieve great things in and out of the classroom. Being a Holicong Colonial means more than getting good grades and doing homework. It is helping to create a positive culture and continuing the tradition of school spirit we have created over several years. At Holicong, we are nice to each other, treat others with respect and dignity, and are open to the views and opinions of others, and hold each other to our values at all times. Yes, we have high expectations! This is what makes our school truly special and such a great place to be. You will find this to be true from your very first day. We do hope you enjoy your Labor Day weekend with your families and friends and are excited to see you at Holicong next Tuesday! On behalf of the entire Holicong community...***WELCOME!***

Sincerely,

Kevin T. Shillingford  
Principal

David J. Newdeck  
Assistant Principal

## **BACK to SCHOOL Fact Sheet**

**Lunch** – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch is from 11:21 – 11:51. Please see the bell schedule and other middle school information here: [Holicong Information](#).

**School Policies & AM/PM Procedures** – Please visit our Parents and Students page for our cell phone, dress code and attendance policies: [Parents & Students](#).

**Breakfast and Lunch** – This is provided by Aramark Education. Please click here to see the homepage - [Aramark](#). Parents can put money in your account on this website - [MySchoolBucks](#) and you can pay with your student account number at the register.

**Assignment/Plan Book** – You will be given an assignment book on the first day of class during your Advisory period. Please use this to record your daily homework and long-term assignments. This also serves as the passbook for leaving class, so it is imperative that you do not lose your books. Replacements are available in the guidance office for \$5.

**Census Verification Forms** – Please complete this form online by September 20, 2017. This form ensures that student information is accurate and is a CBSD requirement – [Census Information](#).

**Athletics & Physical Forms** – Please see the Athletics page for information on the Family ID system and turn in Section 6 of the CIPPE form to Mrs. McCusker in the guidance office.

**Student Handbook** – This is available in your student planner and will be made available on the Holicong website.

**Gym shorts, t-shirt & lock** – These may be purchased through My Payments Plus. If parents have not done so, please set up an account with [www.mypaymentsplus.com](http://www.mypaymentsplus.com). Our Health & PE department sent an email about this a few weeks ago and Mr. Cochran, Mrs. Davidson, and Ms. Goldstein will review this with you.

### **Important dates:**

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Back to School Night:** September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm

**Picture Day:** September 11<sup>th</sup>

**1:1 Laptop Handout Day:** September 12<sup>th</sup>

**Holicong Spirit Night:** October 6<sup>th</sup>