



Holicong Middle School

August 24th, 2016

Dear Holicong Ninth Grader,

Congratulations! In one week you will officially enter your final year at Holicong. This is sure to be an exciting time in your academic journey, and we are eager to see you here on August 31st! As many of you saw last Thursday, we have been very busy over the summer during the 4th phase of the renovation process. The areas that will most affect the 9th grade are the science classrooms, FCS room, fitness and team rooms, and the bus platform and lobby. We have also added a few other surprises in the hallways based on your input from last year. Please see below for important information to start the year.

Your first day official school day is August 31st and we will follow the “A” day schedule. When you arrive to school, you will report directly to the gymnasium and will then be dismissed to your homeroom/1st period teacher. Your teachers will provide you with more information that morning.

One piece of news that we wanted to share in advance of the first day is that Mrs. Kleeman will be retiring the first week of October. We realize she has been your counselor for two years and we have plans to speak to the whole class the first week about her experiences with you and an overview of your 9th grade year (and advice for life beyond middle school!). As Mrs. Kleeman makes this transition, the 9th grade students (by last name alphabet) will work with Mrs. Louderback (A-D), Mr. Striano (E-G), and Mrs. Blankenberg (H-Z) who is joining the Holicong team this year. The counselors have already been working and communicating with one another this summer and will continue to do so in September to ensure the transition is a smooth one and all of our students’ needs are met.

One of the most important things about entering 9th grade is that you are now a freshman, and your academic achievements will be recorded as part of your high school transcript. Your transcript is your record of academic achievement, which is vital for those of you continuing your education after your senior year in high school. With that said, it is extremely important that you start the year off strong in the classroom.

While academics are important, you now know how much we value character and integrity at Holicong, and we will continue to follow the traits of the Elite 8: **Honest, Open-Minded, Loyal, Inclusive, Considerate, Optimistic, Non-judgmental, and Genuine**. Our goal is for all of us in the Holicong community – students, staff, administration, and parents – to model and instill these values in others. As 9th graders, many of the 7th & 8th graders will look to you as leaders. They will see how you treat others and that will shape many of their behaviors – they are watching even though you may not know it. We hope you value this role and trust you will represent the Holicong community proudly!

Most of you have been here for two years, which means you are aware of what it is that makes Holicong such a special place to be as a student. It is more than the classroom experience. It is about possessing outstanding character attributes, being involved in school and extracurricular events, and treating everyone with respect. Your class has done much to make Holicong a more “student empowered” culture, and we hope you will build on the momentum from the first two years and continue to get involved. Please enjoy the rest of your summer, and we will see you back here soon!

Sincerely,

Kevin T. Shillingford
Principal

Donna S. Dome
Assistant Principal

Deborah Kleeman
Guidance Counselor

BACK to SCHOOL Fact Sheet

Locker combination – This is included on your schedule. Please choose “Schedule by Term” on the Parent Portal to easily view this information. Do not share this information with anyone.

Breakfast and Lunch – This is provided by Aramark Education. There are two different options for lunch. Regular (Tier One) meals are \$2.95, premium meals and market fresh bistro meals (Tier Two) are \$3.45. Breakfast is available for \$2.15. Parents can put money in your account on our school website, 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. 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 16, 2016. This form ensures that student information is accurate. [Family Census Information](#)

Athletics & Physical Forms – Please see the CB East Athletics Page for this information. [CB East Athletics](#)

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

Summer Reading & Supply Lists – These can be found on the Holicong homepage.

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. You may purchase them as a bundle for \$11.70 or separately (shorts - \$4.00, shirt - \$2.30, and lock - \$5.40). **Mr. Cochran is going to send out an email to all students and parents to explain this process and let you know when the items are available on My Payments Plus.**

Important dates:

Picture Day: September 7th

8th & 9th Grade Back to School Night: September 1st 7:00 p.m.

Spirit Night: September 23rd 7:00-9:00 p.m.