



HOLICONG DAY BEFORE SCHOOL UPDATE

Holicong Community,

We hope you are enjoying the Labor Day weekend and starting school the day after Labor Day is just one of the changes we are facing this year. And while we are starting the year virtually, there is still the same level of anticipation and excitement...at least on our end! Some of the reasons for our anticipation may be different (Will my computer work on the first call? What if I accidentally hang up during class?) but most will be the same (What should I wear the first day? How will I make new friends? Will we have a lot of homework? And how many times should I raise my hand in class...or should I raise my hand at all? (yes, this is a reality in any classroom setting and you are not alone!).

At Holicong, we don't ignore or minimize the nervousness that comes with change and new beginnings. It is quite the opposite. We embrace it and have honest and open communications with our entire community! And trust us, we are excited and nervous just like all you! But I have said it for 6 years and will continue as long as I am here – the group of teachers & staff we have in our community at Holicong is extremely dedicated and passionate about their work...and yes, they want everything to be 100% perfect on tomorrow. And while we can never guarantee perfection, I can guarantee that when tomorrow morning comes and they have the chance to "get back in the game" and do what they love with our students - **THAT IS** perfection! They are here to teach you, but more importantly for now, you need to know they are here to *welcome you, support you, and build relationships with you*. That is the **MOST IMPORTANT** thing we can do for our students right now...and asking that you do the same with them by communicating and engaging with them.

As far as tomorrow's schedule: tomorrow will be an "**A Day**" and we do have a welcome video and announcement that will go out at 7:20 through email. On our first day, teachers will cover a variety of topics with students throughout the day to familiarize students with technology instruction & Holicong expectations, including: Canvas, Teams, Office 365, Computer 101 Basics, Virtual Learning Expectations, Colonial Cores, and more. We realize that our students our coming to us with different levels of understanding for "all of this" and will ensure that everyone is exposed to the same information and has access afterward as needed.

That is all for now! As our students will see tomorrow in one of our videos – a good night's sleep is essential every night! Tonight you may have more butterflies tonight than normal, but we ask you to embrace these feelings. You are about to embark on a new chapter...and a new journey...in your life and you are surrounded by a great community filled with people who care about you and are thrilled to go on this journey with you. It will be a journey to remember and we are ready to get started!

GO COLONIALS!

Kevin Shillingford, Principal

Mike Canelli, Assistant Principal

Holicong Mission

Holicong Middle School will foster a climate of academic, social, and emotional learning with an emphasis on respectful, responsible, considerate, and healthy behaviors.



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WEEK OF AUGUST 7, 2020

MONDAY: LABOR DAY – Schools Closed

TUESDAY: 1st Day of School!

ANNOUNCEMENT & UPDATES

- ✓ **Technology & Class Meetings for Tomorrow** – We are hoping that everything goes smoothly tomorrow but also realize that there may be “kinks” along the way. Please help us by seeing the communication sent by the Technology & Innovation department this afternoon.
- ✓ [Holicong 2020-2021 Webpage](#) – Please continue to use this page as your home base for virtual learning resources.
- ✓ [Technology & Innovation Page](#) – We will keep this link in our updates for the next few weeks as our students & parents are getting accustomed to virtual learning!
- ✓ [Holicong Athletics & Family ID Registration](#) – We reviewed this at our Welcome Night and here is a direct link to the Family ID website. For physicals – you can scan and email these directly to Mrs. McCusker at dmccusker@cbsd.org to save a trip to Holicong. Please just review the Family ID information to ensure that all paperwork is completed as it is a requirement for participation!
- ✓ **Holicong Communication** – If you have not done so, please make sure to sign up for Holicong Twitter & Blackboard Connect Accounts. We typically post our communications on the website, but these will allow you to get information quickly!
 - **Holicong Twitter**
You can follow us on Twitter at @CBHolicongMS. We have tied our Twitter account to the homepage so everything we post will be visible on the website.
 - **Blackboard Connect**
This feature allows you to receive all communicate from Holicong we send on your mobile device. Please see here for details on how to set this feature up on your phone – [Blackboard](#).

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Date	Time	Event
September 8	7:30 AM	STUDENT FIRST DAY (Will review first day schedule in detail)
September 9	2:50 PM	Leadership Meeting
September 14	2:50 PM	Faculty Meeting
September 17	9:00 AM	Parent Council (Look for invitation & information on Parent Council)
September 17	7:00 PM	Back to School Night (All Grades)
September 23	2:50 PM	Department Meetings
September 28	ALL DAY	NO SCHOOL (Yom Kippur)