326 E Kellogg
Holyoke, CO 80734
970-854-3411

Holyoke Elementary School
August 2026 Newsletter

August Important Dates

- 8/12 - First Day of School!
- 8/14 - No School
- 8/18 - School Board Meeting at 7PM
- 8/21 - No School
- 8/25 - Picture Day!
- 8/28 - No School
- 8/31-9/10 - DIBELS and NWEA Testing

Greetings from the Principal:
Mrs. Andrea Kammer
Phone: (970) 854-3411
Email: kammeran@hcosd.org

August

August is here!

I hope your child(ren) enjoyed summer! The teachers and staff worked hard to make sure this year is the best yet! I am excited to share that we have most of our positions filled to start this year. We are still looking for an art teacher. Help me welcome our new staff for the 2026-2027 School year!

- Ms. Sasha Lopez - 1st Grade Teacher
- Mr. Luke Gregory - 1st Grade Teacher
- Ms. Karlie Martin - 5th Grade Teacher
- Mrs. Jeanine Uptain - 4th Grade Teacher (moved from Music)
- Ms. Fenly Asas - K-6 Music
- Mrs. Nichole Hightower - Special Education Paraprofessional
- Mrs. Lorena Mares - Special Education Paraprofessional
- Miss Evelyn Mendoza - Special Education Paraprofessional
- Miss Aleida Millan - Special Education Paraprofessional

We are very fortunate to have an amazing staff who are excited to work with us to support our future!

If you have any questions or would like to visit with me, please call the elementary office at (970) 854-3411 or email me at kammeran@hcosd.org.

Thank you for your partnership in the education of your child.
Mrs. Kammer

Counselor Corner - Mr. Hines

Guidance Counseling will begin the first day of school. Mr. Hines will be using the Random Acts of Kindness curriculum and Sources of Strength this year. If you would like your child to visit with Mr. Hines, please reach out to him by phone or email; (970) 854-3411 and by email hineslo@hcosd.org.

Breakfast and Lunch

Breakfast and lunch are free this year. You are welcome to join your child(ren) for lunch. We enjoy having parents join their kid(s) for lunch, but we ask that you wait until after September 10th so your child(ren) can get used to the lunch schedule and routine of the school day. Lunch times are below.

- 1st/2nd Grade: 11:10 AM - 11:35 AM
- Kindergarten: 11:40 AM - 12:05 PM
- 5th/6th Grade: 12:10 PM - 12:35 PM
- 3rd/4th Grade: 12:40 PM -1:05 PM

If your child(ren) gets seconds or an additional milk the following prices will apply.

- Extra milk $0.50
- Additional breakfast $2.00
- Additional lunch entree $2.00

Beginning and End of the Day

Students will be monitored and allowed to enter the school at 7:45 AM. Students are allowed to eat breakfast and then head outside for recess until 8:00 AM. Your child(ren) will be considered tardy after 8:05 AM. If your child(ren) is tardy, a parent or guardian will need to come into the office and sign your child(ren) in for the day. There will not be supervision before 7:45 AM.

Please call our secretary, Mrs. Juarez, before 3:00 PM, if you have a message for your child(ren). We have around 300 students and we have to start getting messages out early. We do understand that last minute emergencies come up.

Important Information

Please make sure to call our secretary, Mrs. Juarez, before 9 AM if your child(ren) will not be at school. Students will be dismissed at different times.

- 5th/6th Graders - 3:38 PM and will exit through the front doors
- 3rd/4th Graders - 3:39 PM and will exit through the front doors
- 1st/2nd Graders - 3:40 PM and will exit through the library doors
- Kindergarteners - 3:40 PM and will exit through the doors to the far northwest of the school building

The staggered dismissal allows for older siblings to meet or pick up their younger siblings before joining parents, guardians, or walking home.

Student Safety Before and After School

It is the goal of the city, police department, and the school that we have a great and safe start to the school year! We are providing you with information about the safest routes, rules, and helpful hints.

1. When walking or biking, please use the sidewalks.
2. Avoid alleys and parking lots.
3. Do not walk or ride in the middle of the street.
4. Travel in groups if possible, especially when crossing major intersections. This allows cars to not only see you, but make them stop on time.
5. When riding a bike, scooter, or skateboard, you are required to stop at the stop signs just like a car.
6. Utilize the designated routes which are patrolled and shared with the public as streets to be watching for pedestrians and bikers.
7. Wear a bicycle helmet.
8. Always assume cars cannot see you and will not be stopping.

No Toys Please

Students come to school to learn. Toys are distractions and can create problems. Some teachers allow students to bring toys as a reward for the class. If this is the case, the teacher will communicate to you ahead of time. Thank you for your help!

S.O.A.R.

We are The Dragons and we Soar to excellence! SOAR stands for…

- Safety
- Ownership
- Achievement
- Respect

We will cover all these skills throughout the school year.

L.E.A.R.N.E.R.S.

LEARNERS is a word we will be focusing on at Holyoke Elementary. LEARNERS stands for…

- Learn from mistakes
- Evaluate work
- Ask questions and accept challenges
- Receive and respond to feedback
- Never give up!
- Effort matters
- Reach goals
- State what we're learning

For the months of August and September, we are focusing on "L". Learn from mistakes.