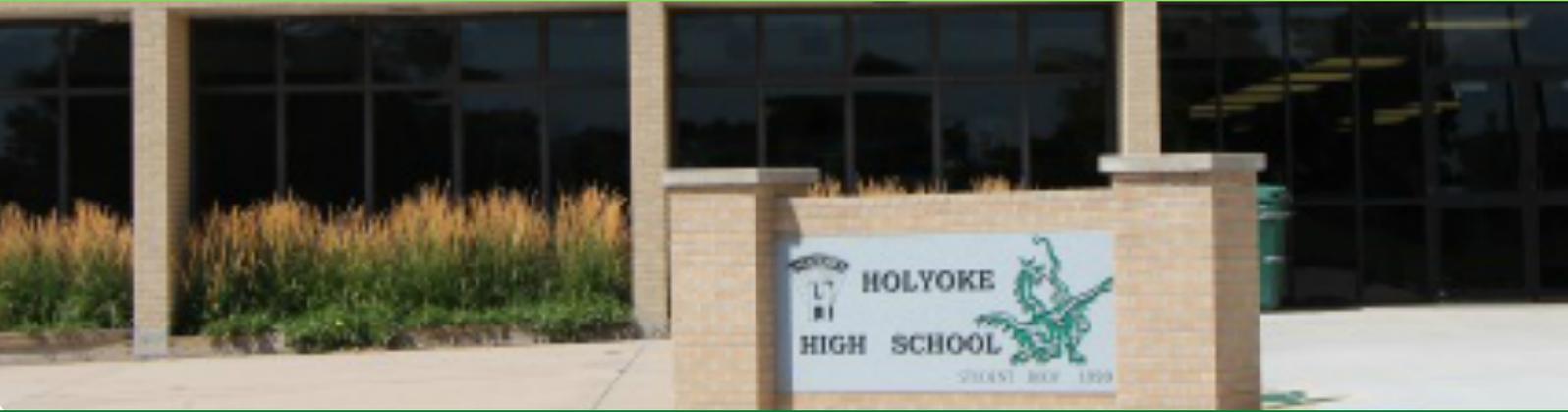


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HOLYOKE JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL

DRAGON TIMES



JANUARY 9, 2023

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT ~Mr. Timm

by Jackie Santiestaban



Mr. Kody Timm is one of the many teachers in Holyoke Colorado. He went to college in Tyler, Texas at Tyler Junior College. He teaches Computer Science, 3D Modeling, Animation, and TV Production. Mr. Timm loves teaching people about tech and giving them the skills to see what they can create. This is what made him a teacher. He grew up in the country about 20 minutes from Holyoke. He went to college to become a programmer and "when I came back this position was opening up and the school was looking to add STEM classes to Holyoke so it was a perfect fit." He majored in Computer Programs and Simulation and never changed his major. If Mr. Timm didn't choose to be a teacher, he would have been a programmer. He used to have a tech repair business in Holyoke before he taught at the school. While he doesn't have any kids, he does have seven nieces and nephews. Mr. Timm is not married and he doesn't think being a teacher interferes with his personal life because teaching is a part of his personal life. Some of Mr. Timm's hobbies are gaming with his friends, hanging out to watch sports with his family and friends, and working on cars.



GO
DRAGONS!

My Favorite Season

By Rubi Dominguez

In my opinion, winter is the best season of the year. You can still do lots of cool fun stuff. In the winter it snows beautiful snowflakes. It covers everything like a big fluffy blanket. You can do fun activities in the snow like throwing snowballs, skiing, sledding, tubing, building a snowman, and many more. Even though it is fun to play in the snow you need to lawyer up. Lawyering up is fun though because you wear all your clothes at once. You get to be warm and comfy that whole time of playing. The cold brings people together, human beings like the warmth, love, and connection of other people. You can eat warm delicious food in the winter. Some of the foods you can eat or drink are hot chocolate with marshmallows, hot delicious soups, all kinds of cookies, and snow cones from outside. You could also just chill in a hot tub with friends and family. You can have a bonfire with them and make smores. Sometimes you can even get a day off of work or school because of a snowy day. Why would you not like to be in bed all day, piled in fluffy pillows and blankets while watching a movie? You could be cozy all day! Also in the winter, there are ZERO bugs. Everybody knows winter as Christmas. But who doesn't love Christmas, Christmas is the best holiday. You get to be with your family and friends. You can also receive gifts or give gifts. Do you like winter?

Technology

By Audrey Beiber

Technology can both improve our lives, and affect our lives. It can help with solving problems and many other things, but it can tear people's relationships apart. It can be a way to contact people and check up on people, but it can also produce a negative effect on people because it is very addicting.

First, technology can help improve people's way of learning, teaching, and helping. It can help you learn if you take any online classes or want to take a class a long way away from you. It can also help teachers teach when they need that little boost to keep their students having fun while still learning. It can help with giving that extra boost some people need. It can also help communicate with their loved ones who may live far away. It can even allow you just check up on people to make sure they are ok.

Next, technology can be a negative thing in life. It can bring people further apart. For example, a family who are all on their phones or television. They have no bonding time and not even knowing how the others are doing. It can also be a distraction. If you are with your friends and you are on your phones, what is the point of being with each other? Therefore, there might be a fight because you want to do something but your friends are on their phones. Technology is very addicting and sometimes it may be hard to put it down. For example, you watch five minutes of a series starting on episode one, and then the next thing you know you are watching your eighth episode.

Technology can be addicting but they can also be a positive tool in learning and communicating. If you use technology wisely it will be a win-win. You could be learning a new language, figuring out a new skill, learning to play a new instrument. You can use technology when you feel it is appropriate, but next time you are addictively on your phone or television, think about what you might be missing out on.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

KYRAH McCONACHIE



Kyrah McConachie is one of the class of 2023 seniors at Holyoke High School. Kyrah plans on going to Pikes Peak Community College in Colorado Springs. She wants to go there because they offer Culinary Art classes, something she really enjoys doing. She isn't sure if she wants to do sports, clubs, or extracurricular activities but she would love to find new activities to try. One of her favorite memories at HHS is when she was in her junior year in Forensics class and they dissected a pig named Wilbur Frank Shrek III. They held a funeral for the pig, they brought food, sang songs, read a eulogy, and shared memories they had. Then they buried him in the dirt of the parking lot with a little headstone placed above him. Someone who helped Kyrah is Mrs. Clayton because she always was there for any questions even though she was constantly busy. A trusted adult who helped her get through HHS is Mrs. Bieber because she gave all of the people in her AP literature class a safe place where they could discuss all of our unusual thoughts without judgment. Kyrah will miss being able to see her friends every day and the bonds she made with some of her teachers. Advice she has for underclassmen is that "procrastination is not your friend...and don't listen to that part of your brain that says it is." Kyrah does not plan on returning to Holyoke instead she plans to move to Colorado Springs. She will try to find a job in the culinary arts industry. Good luck with everything Kyrah!

Dual Sporting

by Carter Sisseck

Have you ever had to choose between 2 sports because they are at the same time? What if I told you that it's actually better if you had the time it would be better to do both. Some benefits of doing two sports at same time are; Students who play multiple sports have a reduced risk of overuse injuries, are able to learn from multiple coaches, participate in cross-training which leads to better athleticism, have better mental development and teamwork skills, and have a reduced chance of burnout in sports. There are also downsides though like stress, reduced free time, and physical and emotional burnout. Rest and recovery play an incredibly important role in athletic performance, so when they are minimized, performance suffers. There's a reason even professional level teams tend to fare worse on the second night of back-to-back games. On the other hand, it greatly develops a strong sense of solidarity and a sense of belongingness for its players. Since this sport is played in pairs, it is necessary to rely on and work together with the other player in order to succeed. Some might say that it will increase your chance of injury but according to research doing two sports at the same time can actually increase your resilience against injury. According to Geisinger "Some of the best athletes play more than one sport. For muscles to grow, they need time to recover, and repeated use can cause long-term harm. By playing multiple sports, especially ones that are very different, your teen can develop different muscle groups. And that can lead to being a better overall athlete."

Winter or Summer

By Dayami Trejo

Do you like winter or summer better? They're both great seasons but my journalism class prefers summer. Out of 13 people only four prefer winter and nine prefer summer. Some people like summer because they can go to the pool, the park, walk or run, and hangout with friends outside. Unlike winter you mostly stay in, don't really go to the pool, or don't hangout with friends. I personally prefer winter because there's snow. Winter and summer both have cons. Some cons about summer is that there are a lot of flies and sometimes it's too hot. Some cons about winter is that sometimes it's too cold and most of the time you get sick during winter. Do you prefer summer or winter, and why do you prefer that season?

Favorite School Subject

by Kinley Spohrase

Have you ever wondered what your best friend's favorite subject is? Many people know their favorite subject but in a room of people it could be quite simple to figure out how similar you are to most. This tactic could also be used to find the most common favorite subject.

The way you may find this is to go around your classroom or event and ask people what their favorite subject is. It will also be easier if you stick to the basic fundamentals of school. For example, what I used was English, Science, Math, Social Studies, and P.E. for the Junior High students. As for High School students I added a Foreign Language into the mix. Now you must collect all the rest of your data. It helps if you 1. Know how many students or people are in your classroom, and 2. What grades there are (this one is not mandatory but it's helpful to figure out what you want to add in different subjects for different grades). After you collected the favorite subjects from each person, put it into a tally sheet. Then either on your own or looking it up, find percentages. The percentages are only if you want to know the average favorite subject.

When I did this, I had 16 people total in my class. 12 Junior Highers, 3 High Schoolers, and 1 teacher. By the end of doing all the math and data my results weren't too surprising. For English it was 31.25%, science was 6.25%, math was 18.75%, same goes for social studies, P.E. was 25%, and finally foreign language was 0%.

In conclusion, many kids in my class like English the most, then P.E., then math and social studies, science, and finally language arts. That is a little surprising. Don't get me wrong, I love English, but with P.E. being in there I was expecting a lot more for that.

My First Concert

By Jackie Santiesteban

My first concert was on November 26, 2022. That day was the best day of my life. I got to see my favorite singer, Ivan Cornejo. I've been wanting to see him forever. I asked my mom if I could go but then I found out that he is going on tour in 2023. So I told my mom that I just want to see him and no one else. So my mom ended up saying yes, we can go for his 2023 concert. Then I found out he wasn't coming to Colorado. I got so upset. I went to go talk to my mom and she said well we are going to the one on the 26 because you said no already. I was so upset that I couldn't get to go see my favorite singer. On the day of the concert, my brother was packing up to go with his girlfriend and to the concert. I was so so upset. Then my mom said "pack up we are going too!" I was so excited that I almost started to cry. My mom's friend is the one that bought us our tickets for my birthday. My mom was planning this all along. We were supposed to leave at 12 but that's the time I started to get ready. It took me a long time to do my hair, at least 2 hours because I was curling it. We ended up leaving around 5. We got to Denver just in time, but the line was so big that it was at least four blocks long. We were at the way in but then we remembered that my cousin was going too so we called them and went with them farther up in the line. We got up so far but then my mom's friend remembered that we were in line to buy tickets. So we went to the doors and got in so fast. We were at waiting in line for 2 hours. I didn't get to see one called "Los De Limite". I was honestly so upset but when Ivan came out I was so happy and excited. We were pretty close to the stage so I literally got to see him up close. He played all my favorite songs. When he had to leave so other groups could come out and sing, I was so sad.

Christmas

By Zander Gipson

Christmas is the time of new year's resolutions, presents, food, snow, and ice. People could argue that it has a deeper meaning such as, love, giving, spending time together but it's just not to me. If you are a Christian it is the day Jesus was born, and celebrate all the things he's done for us. But I'm talking about what Christmas is like for the average family.

Starting off, the food of Christmas, it's like a second Thanksgiving a big feast with all sorts of food while family members come over to celebrate with you. Everyone loves it, there are fancy plates, cups, and with the Christmas tree lights just puts it together.

Secondly, the presents, opening presents or watching someone open presents just puts joy in your heart. There is always the time when you get what you wished for and there are times you get socks, and underwear, but you're always thankful. The mess of the wrapping paper is always a hassle cleaning up as well as putting all the presents away in your room.

Thirdly, the snow and ice in winter. It snows like every night and in the morning you have to get coats, boots, gloves, and a shovel and go out and shovel snow. It is a lot of work if you're a young kid, but as you get older, it gets easier. Although the snow on Christmas is lovely it sucks to shovel it.

Lastly, new year's resolutions are a few days after Christmas, and many people do it, but a small amount stick to it. Either it's working out, or running every day, not many people actually do it. Out of 41 percent of Americans only 9% stay doing their resolutions. If you do the math there are 331 million Americans, 135 million make them it, and 12 million people actually follow through.

Jr High Cheer

By Sujey Bustillos

Have you ever cheered before? I have and this was in fact my second year trying it out. I have liked the cheer scene since I was six years old and always wanted to be a cheerleader, but I didn't know if that would come true. I tried out in seventh grade, but I really didn't like it but this year, my 8th-grade year, I decided to try it again. I liked it a lot this year because I had a wonderful coach that I could tell anything to. I was also captain, something I never expected to see myself doing. Jr High Cheerleading was an awesome experience I had during 8th grade and I am happy I joined. I only have a few games left and I'm really sad that I will not be able to do it anymore in Jr High. I don't think I will be cheering next year, in high school, but I will see what I decide. Would you ever become a cheerleader?

Divorced Parents

By Rut Espinoza

Having divorced parents can be hard sometimes but at the same time it can be nice. For example, I have divorced parents and I either spend my holidays with my mom or dad. I live with my mom but visit my dad sometimes. Most often just once a year. I don't really like the feeling of having to go here and there. He lives 3-4 hours away in Bangham, Nebraska and it seems so very far when driving. I like being with my mom more than my dad because I can tell my mom about my girl problem and she gives me life lessons about growing up to be a woman. I love my dad but there are some things he does I don't like. Having divorced parents doesn't mean you can't see your mom or dad whenever you want, it's just harder. Having to go to different houses, and even different families, if your mom or dad has a wife/ husband/ girlfriend/ boyfriend. But having divorced parents can be kinda nice because you get to celebrate two holidays and see the both sides of your family. For me I have a stepmom and I get along with her family. We are really close. For me this is what it's like having divorced parents.

What is it like riding the bus to school?

By Reese Steggs

Riding the bus to school can be very convenient but really difficult at the same time. Some reasons riding the bus can be very good and helpful are, you have a ride to school if your parents are busy and can't take you to work. There can be many good things about riding the bus. But some bad things are, it can be very dangerous if you get in a crash. Also my bus is very cold in the winter because my bus doesn't have any heaters. I get in trouble if I miss the bus because it comes at different times. Riding the bus can teach kids to stick to a certain schedule. Also older kids can get excited waiting for the time they get their license and drive on their own. I personally think school buses should add seat belts on the bus because if you get in an accident you need to be protected. Your parents have to have a lot of trust in the bus drivers to make sure your kids are safe riding the bus. Mainly because it can be very scary for your parents getting a call and saying that their kids got in an accident. But buses are seven times safer than a regular car because the school buses have stop signs and flashing lights. To become a bus driver, you have to take many tests to get a special license called a CDL. So that is what it is like riding the bus to school.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

JAXSON HUTCHES

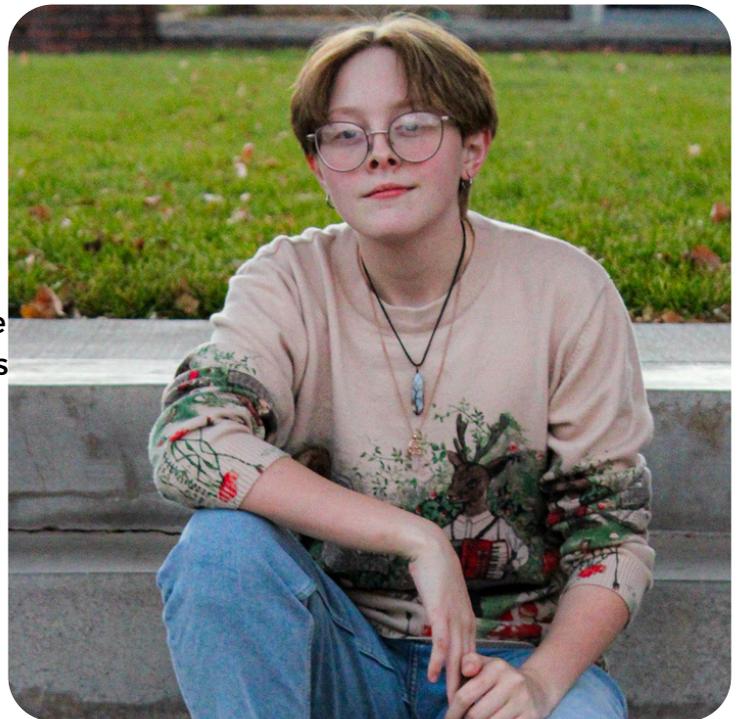
Jaxson Hutches is a very funny senior. Through his jokes he uplifts classmates and makes many people laugh! After high school he plans on going to college at Colorado State University to get his Masters of Business Administration. He does not plan on doing any sports, and he does not know whether he will return to Holyoke. When asked what will miss he said, "Nothing, get me out of here. Hahaha I will miss my friends." His favorite memory from high school is "Sleeping people don't want your tea, iykyk." He is very lucky to have a mom that works at the school. She helped him by feeding him, clothing him, and always caring and loving him. Not only that but he believes that he helped himself by not caring about consequences and focusing on his goals to motivate him. His advice to underclassmen word for word is, "You have five minutes to get to your next class, stop running." Jaxson will always be a part of Holyoke and I wish him the best of luck moving forward.



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

PIPER McCONACHIE

Piper McConachie is one of the seniors of 2023. She has many goals for the future. She wants to go to a college in Colorado, but she doesn't know where yet. Piper wants to join FBLA in college and any clubs that weren't in Holyoke. If she could give advice to younger classmen she said "apply for colleges your junior year. ..don't stress about your life after high school and enjoy the little things about high school." Her favorite memories from HHS are the A.P. literature class of 2020-2021 where they shared all the lasted drama as well the latest drama. The people that improved her HHS experience are Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Bieber, Mrs. Clayton, and her friends. The teacher she trusted during her time here was Mrs. Clayton because of how she helped her with school and made her feel comfortable asking questions and being herself. Piper will miss the teachers, and getting to see her friends every day. Her plans are are to not come back to Holyoke. She wants to live in the mountains specifically around Colorado Springs or Grand Junction. She is going to college and plans to pursue a career in archaeology or cultural studies. People at HHS will miss her very much. I hope you have a great time in college and have great adventures.



New Year's Resolutions

By Sadee Mosenteen

What is your new year's resolution? Let me guess, it's something to do with your looks or your friends? Those are very common new year's resolutions, but how many people actually follow and achieve their new year's resolutions? Why do people use the new year as a time to change and not a month?

A new year's resolution is when you set a goal for yourself to accomplish over the next year. People do this because they want to be better or improve at something over the upcoming year. Personally, I feel like the most common goal is to change something with your looks or to change or be better at something with your friends. People often choose this time to set a goal because it is a party and it is just a time to change your life in their opinion.

A question I have for many people is why not your birthday, because technically your birthday is the new year you're born. Having goals for yourself is both a good and bad thing. It can get to the point where if you do not complete your goal (s) you start to be negative to yourself. I also notice that some goals are set to change the negativity in your life. Goal setting for yourself is a good thing and is also positive to make yourself be the person you want to be as long as it stays confident and positive.

I would recommend you to set goals for yourself whether it is every month, on your birthday, each day, or on new years but make sure to always keep it positive and make sure it helps you be a better person and helps you become the person you want to be!

Themed Christmas vs. Scattered Christmas

By Lia Sprague

Have you ever noticed how your family decorates? Different families have different styles of decorating. The way you decorate most likely comes from your childhood and what you were raised around. Sometimes people will do something totally different than what they were raised around, and it is really based on personal preference. Your family may have an all-over Pinterest kind of look, or a scattered colorful messy theme. Common Pinterest themes are White Christmas, Nutcracker, and Polar Express. A great way to see what style your house is are through your trees. If a tree is full of personal things like pictures, ornaments made by kids, school ornaments, etc. that is what a personal tree would look like. Some people with personal themes just cover their house in things that represent their culture/religion. For example, some people might decorate their tree and their whole house based on Jesus and the cross. There are many different ways to decorate, and all of them are beautiful!