

# HHS NEWSLETTER

## OCTOBER 2022

Holdrege High School  
PO Box 2002  
Holdrege, NE 68949  
[www.dusters.org](http://www.dusters.org)



### IMPORTANT DATES AND TIMES:

Oct. 3 - NO SCHOOL - Inservice  
Oct. 14 - End of 1st Quarter

**NO SCHOOL MONDAY, OCT. 3**  
**There will be no school on Monday, October 3 as all HPS Teachers will be joining in some local inservice activities. Classes resume on the normal schedule on Tuesday, Oct. 4.**

**INFINITE CAMPUS:** Would you like to check your student's grades, attendance, and behavior at your convenience? All you need is an internet connection through a computer. The Infinite Campus

The image shows a screenshot of the Infinite Campus login interface. At the top left, the "Infinite Campus" logo is displayed. To its right, the tagline "Transforming K12 Education®" is visible. In the top right corner, there is a red button labeled "Campus Portal". Below the logo, there are two input fields: "Username" and "Password". A "Sign In >>" button is located at the bottom left of the login area. The text "HOLDREGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS" is displayed in red on the right side of the page.

Parent Portal gives you "real time" access to all of this information about your student. Those who are familiar with the program can access their student's information the same way as last year, those who are new to the district or system can get more information through the High School office.

## WEATHER CLOSING INFORMATION

When weather is a concern, parents ultimately have the final decision on whether or not to send children to school or to pick them up early.

An attempt will be made to have school every scheduled day. If, however, due to inclement weather or if unforeseen circumstances arise, Radio Station KUVR Holdrege and Television Station KHGI Channel 13 Kearney will carry information in relation to the school closing. Information will also be posted at <http://www.holdregebusters.org> and automated calls will be made.

School may be delayed to allow for additional assessment of weather conditions and/or for snow removal. Announcements will be made if food service (breakfast/lunch) schedules are disrupted.

If weather conditions develop during the day that warrant dismissal, the same procedure will be followed. Conditions may exist that children on bus routes will be dismissed and taken home, but school will remain in session.

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**AMERICAN RED CROSS:** Holdrege High School will host its fall Blood Mobile on Wednesday Nov. 2 in the commons area of the Tassel. The volunteers will start at 8:00 and take donations until 2:30pm. A student must weigh at least 110 lbs. and be in good health. Students now can donate at 16 if they have their parent's written permission. Staff and students are encouraged to sign up in the Guidance Office. If you are going to donate you must have your donor card or your ID or Drivers License with you. We challenge you all, donate blood and save a life. This is a great way to help others.



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## Holdrege FFA Chapter to conduct Harvest Meals for Local Producers

On Saturday, October 8th the Holdrege FFA Chapter will be providing harvest meals for local harvest crews. They will be handing out meals at several local grain terminals in Phelps County. Terminals where meals will be delivered include: CHS Agriservice in Loomis, CPI in Funk, Cargill in Holdrege, and Scoular Grain in Holdrege. Meals for local harvest crews will include sandwiches, fruit, cookies, chips, and a drink. These free meals will be distributed starting at 11:30 am and will be available until they are gone. Local harvest crews can request meals for their crews that can be left with truck drivers at a grain terminal or request a set number of meals be picked up or delivered by FFA Chapter members to the field if they contact an FFA Member of Jeff Moore (308-991-7951 or [jeff.moore@dusters.org](mailto:jeff.moore@dusters.org)) at Holdrege High School. This year Holdrege Chapter members and sponsors plan to prepare 200 meals for distribution. In the event that weather is an issue, the event will be postponed to a later date.



Harvest Meals is a project carried out by the Holdrege FFA Chapter to give back and show appreciation to the local ag producers and harvest helpers in the Holdrege area.

For the latest news, check out our  
updated web site!

<http://www.dusters.org>

**REPORTING ABSENCES:** If your child is going to be absent, please call the school office before 8:00 to inform us of the absence. If you know ahead of time that your student will be absent, please send a note, call the school office or e-mail the school secretary. We will attempt to contact you if your student is absent and you have not contacted us. If we do not have contact with you and are not informed of the reason for absence, the absence will be considered unexcused. It is also important that you inform us of the reason for the absence, especially when due to illness as we are required to report illnesses to the Health Department on Wednesdays.



**MANAGING ILLNESS:** Ashley Billeter, our school nurse, reminds all parents that if your child has a fever of 100 or above, flu-like symptoms, vomiting, or diarrhea, he/she needs to stay home from school. Also, if your child has a fever, it needs to be normal without taking Tylenol or ibuprofen (Motrin) for 24 hours before coming back to school. Please consult your Student Parent Handbook for more detailed information



## Holdrege FFA Chapter Sponsors Farm Safety Program

The Holdrege FFA Chapter sponsored its 22nd Annual Farm Safety Camp for over 150 Phelps County kindergartners and first graders on Wednesday, September 21st at the Phelps County Ag Center. The sessions consisted of students from Bertrand, Loomis, All Saints Catholic School, Legacy Christian and Holdrege Public Schools. Each student that attended the camp received t-shirts made possible through donations of twenty-four Phelps County businesses. FFA members presented farm safety demonstrations on several topics. Combine and equipment safety was presented using a combine donated by Landmark Implement. FFA members brought in ATVs and demonstrated safe riding and equipment features on large and small ATVs. A tractor and mower were used to point out the dangers of PTO safety, pinch points, and demonstrated safety features of farm tractors. Members demonstrated lawn mower safety by using riding lawn mowers and string trimmers. To simulate the effects of mower blades on hands and toes, members utilized a blender and hot dogs. Members brought in a horse and beef animal to demonstrate safe handling procedures and safety tips for large farm animals. The FFA Chapter used its grain bin safety display to show students the dangers of being trapped in grain bins and how quickly grain can trap people. Also demonstrated for students was the use of safety harnesses and a simulator to show how strong a person has to be to assist a person trapped in a grain bin. The students were also educated on safe handling of small animals. Members brought in dogs, rabbits, and poultry to demonstrate this.

The Camp would not have been a success without the support of numerous businesses that donated money and supplies. The FFA Chapter would like to thank the following businesses for their donations and sponsorships. South Central Diesel, The Screen Machine, Nebraskaland Aviation, Agwest Commodities, Central Valley Irrigation, Holdrege Veterinary Clinic, First State Bank of Holdrege, Dannull Engine Service, University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension; Phelps County, Southern Public Power, Livestock Feeders, Midwest Ag Insurance, First State Bank of Loomis, Landmark Implement, Farm Credit Services of Kearney, Scoular Grain, Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation, HAR Livestock Dispatch, CHAS Sargent Irrigation, Lee Janssen Motor Co., First Tier Bank, Keith Samuelson Land Leveling, Wagner Irrigation, Wells Flying Service, Bruning Bank, Ag Service Associates, and Husker Irrigation.

Many members of the Holdrege FFA Chapter will be competing at the Area Land Judging on October 5th in Harlan County, NE. Also in mid - October FFA members will be conducting their Annual Fruit Sales. The Fruit Sales program will again be featuring bulk fruit and meat and cheese products, along with Holiday Poinsettia plants from the High School Greenhouse.

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**SENIOR PICTURES:** The yearbook staff needs senior pictures ASAP. You may send a digital copy to



Mrs. Steen at [hannah.steen@dusters.org](mailto:hannah.steen@dusters.org), or deliver a print copy to Mrs. Steen at school. A "vertical" photograph is best for the senior yearbook page and the special graduation section in the Holdrege Citizen in May. A "head and shoulders" photograph looks best in the Citizen. IF YOU DO NOT PLAN ON TAKING SENIOR PICTURES, CONTACT MRS. STEEN IMMEDIATELY. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Steen.

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**MID-SEMESTER UPDATES – NOT REPORT CARDS:** HHS does not average a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr grade for the final semester grade that is placed on transcripts. The transcript grade is cumulative over the course of the entire semester. Therefore, we do not really have “Report Cards” at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr. The reports available are merely mid-semester updates to keep students and parents informed at the half-way point. Considering this, and considering how many families access the parent/student portal on Infinite Campus, many printed reports at mid-semester are never picked up by students or parents. To reduce waste and save time, any student or parent who wants a printed mid-semester report should request one from the guidance office (995-8988). Grades will be posted to Infinite Campus by Monday, October 17 and paper copies of Mid-Semester Updates will be available any time after that.



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## **FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE:**



### **Information For All Students**

- A list of peer tutors has been compiled and matches can be made for help with certain subjects. Stop in the Guidance office if you would like to be paired with a peer tutor.
- Remember, the grades you are getting now will have an impact upon your future. Don't close the door to future opportunities by neglecting your classes!

## Seniors

- For students planning some type of post-secondary education, it's time to finalize those plans. If you still need to do a campus visit, you can schedule those on each college's website.
- We had our "Apply to College" Day on Wednesday, September 28. This day is dedicated to helping seniors begin their college applications if they have not already done so. A total of 58 applications were completed by the students who participated.
- IMPORTANT FINANCIAL AID NEWS! The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) can be completed beginning October 1, using 2021 tax information. Families are encouraged to gather the necessary documents and complete the FAFSA as soon as possible. EducationQuest offers free services to assist you in the process. They are currently offering their services in a virtual format. Parents and students need their own FSA ID before completing the FAFSA. If you (parents) have completed the FAFSA in the past you should use your existing FSA ID.
- EducationQuest will be at HHS on Wednesday, October 5 to present information about the financial aid application process. They will present a session during first, second, and third periods in the media center. PARENTS ARE INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND ONE OF THE SESSIONS. Beginning times will be 8:00, 8:53, and 9:46. Seniors who are in an English class during one of those periods will be attending, and students who are in a different class period will, hopefully, make arrangements to attend one of the sessions.
- While many colleges and universities are moving to a "test optional" admission, it is my recommendation that college-bound seniors consider taking one or more ACT tests. Many colleges and universities use the ACT for scholarship selection and class placement decisions. The registration deadline for the December 10 test will be in early November. The December test date may be the last date for scores for most scholarship consideration. Sign up and additional information is available at [www.act.org/bts](http://www.act.org/bts).
- The John Baylor On To College ACT test prep program continues to be available to HHS students. The seniors still have access with last year's login information; the juniors will be able to access this at no charge as part of the preparation for the statewide ACT in the spring. This course is 12 sessions and gives students the opportunity to improve their test-taking strategies.
- It is best for college-bound seniors to have applied and sent transcripts to their top four college choices in October. This will help avoid deadlines and expedite the rolling admissions process. By November 15 all seniors should have college-specific scholarship applications completed.
- Seniors interested in competing in college athletics need to register at [www.playnaia.org](http://www.playnaia.org) or [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org) depending upon the level of competition at their intended college. Both the NAIA and NCAA need to have ACT scores sent directly to them. The NAIA code is 9876 and the NCAA code is 9999.
- The scholarship list is updated on a continual basis as we receive information about available scholarships. Students who have joined the Google classroom for the Class of 2023 receive an email each time new information is added. A scholarship list is also on the Guidance page under the High School section of the school's website [www.dusters.org](http://www.dusters.org).

## Juniors

- The PSAT/NMSQT will be given to the juniors who signed up for it on Wednesday, October 12. This is a pre-SAT and a qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship competition.
- The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) will be given to all juniors on November 8. This produces good information about career aptitudes and interests that can be used by everyone who takes it, regardless of intentions to enlist in the military.



Below are the selection procedures for the Holdrege High School chapter of the National Honor Society. It must be noted that nationally only about 10% of students qualify for membership. There are no quotas for membership in the National Honor Society, but it is not uncommon for less than half the students with the required GPA to be invited for membership. The selection procedures are dictated by the National Charter and the High School faculty has very little to say about how the procedure works.

### **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY SELECTION PROCEDURE**

It first must be noted that selection into the National Honor Society is a privilege, not a right. It is a misconception that students are inducted in the National Honor Society solely because of grades. Scholarship is just one of the four criteria that a student must excel in. The students must also **excel** in Service, Leadership, and Character as perceived by the high school faculty. Students who are average or weak in any of the four criteria may not be invited for membership.

While there are no set minimum or maximum number selected every year, it is not uncommon that less than half of the students with a GPA of 3.50 or greater are inducted as members. Again, students must excel in all four areas of the National Honor Society, Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character.

### **The Holdrege Chapter of the National Honor Society selection Procedure:**

1. At the end of the first quarter juniors and seniors with a GPA of 3.50 or greater will be identified.
2. A letter will be sent to these students asking them to fill out a Student Activity Information form.
3. Only students returning the Student Activity Information form by the date listed on the form will be considered for membership.
4. The faculty will then rate the students who returned the Student Activity Information form in the areas of Service, Leadership, and Character. The students have already met the minimum requirement for Scholarship in order to receive the Student Activity Information form. These ratings will be based on the content of the Student Activity Information form and on the faculty's acquaintance with the student.
5. A council made up of five faculty and non-voting NHS advisors will determine which students will be admitted into the Holdrege Chapter of the National Honor Society. The Principal appoints the faculty council and the NHS advisors.

The criteria for selection into the Holdrege Chapter of the National Honor Society include but is not limited to the following:

**SCHOLARSHIP** \* Must have at least a 3.50 GPA.

### **SERVICE**

- a. Is willing to uphold scholarship and maintain a loyal school attitude.
- b. Participates in some outside activity: Girl Scouts; Boy Scouts; church groups; volunteer services for the aged, poor, or disadvantaged; family duties.
- c. Volunteers, dependable, and well-organized, gladly available and willing to sacrifice to offer assistance.
- d. Works well with others and is willing to take on difficult or inconspicuous responsibilities.
- e. Cheerfully and enthusiastically renders any requested service to the school.
- f. Is willing to represent the class or school in inter-class and interscholastic competition.
- g. Does committee and staff work without complaint?

h. Shows courtesy by assisting visitors, teachers, and students.

## **LEADERSHIP**

- a. Is resourceful in proposing new problems, applying principles, and making suggestions.
- b. Demonstrates initiative in promoting school activities.
- c. Exercises influence on peers in upholding school ideals.
- d. Contributes ideas that improve the civic life of the school.
- e. Is able to delegate responsibilities.
- f. Exemplifies positive attitudes.
- g. Inspires positive behavior in others.
- h. Demonstrates academic initiative.
- i. Successfully holds offices or positions of responsibility, conducting business effectively and efficiently, and without prodding, demonstrate reliability and dependability.
- j. Is a forerunner in the classroom, at work, and in school or community activities?
- k. Is thoroughly dependable in any responsibility accepted.

## **CHARACTER**

- a. Takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously.
- b. Consistently exemplifies desirable qualities of behavior (cheerfulness, friendliness, poise, stability).
- c. Upholds principles of morality and ethics.
- d. Cooperates by complying with school regulations concerning property, programs, office, halls, etc.
- e. Demonstrates the highest standards of honesty and reliability.
- f. Shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others.
- g. Observes instructions and rules, punctuality, and faithfulness both inside and outside the classroom.
- h. Has powers of concentration and sustained attention as shown by perseverance and application to studies.
- i. Manifests truthfulness in acknowledging obedience to rules, avoiding cheating in written work, and showing unwillingness to profit by the mistakes of others.
- j. Actively helps rid the school of bad influences or environment.

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## **2022 HOLDREGE FFA FRUIT SALES**

The Holdrege FFA Chapter is holding its annual Fruit Sales fundraiser October 20th through November 10th. During this time Holdrege FFA members will be taking orders. Distribution of products starting on December 6th.

Most of last year's items and packages will be available for 2022. Full and half cases of grapefruit, oranges, and pears are available. Red and golden delicious apples may be purchased in half and third cases. Several combinations of mixed boxes of apples, oranges, grapefruit, pears, and pineapples are available. Three meat and cheese assortments are for sale again, including beef summer sausage and various flavors of cheese. These make great holiday gifts for family, employees, and customers.

FFA members will also be selling Poinsettias grown in the school greenhouse this year. Varieties available are Christmas Spirit Red, New Glitter, Christmas Marble, Christmas Pink and Frozen White. There are limited quantities available on each variety.



Funds from the sales are used for expenses such as leadership conferences, field trips, state and national conventions, and chapter activities throughout the year.

Orders can be placed through FFA members or by emailing Mr. Moore at [jeff.moore@dusters.org](mailto:jeff.moore@dusters.org). Emailed orders should be paid for prior to pick up. Orders will be available for pick up at the Holdrege High School Ag Shop starting December 6<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 7:00pm.

**Help  
for  
Self**



**Help for Others**

[www.safe2helpne.org](http://www.safe2helpne.org)

(833)980-7233

Safe2HelpNebraska App



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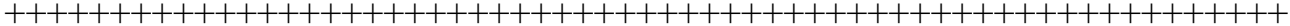
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The Holdrege Public School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, marital status, disability, or age in admission or access to, or treatment of employment, in its programs and activities. The following person(s) has/have been designated to handle inquiries regarding complaints, grievance procedures or the application of these policies of nondiscrimination:

Title: Mr. Todd Hilyard, Superintendent of Schools  
Address: 505 14th Avenue, Holdrege, Nebraska 68949  
Phone #: 308.995.8663

If parents, employees and students do not feel that their complaints regarding Title IX, Title VI, Section 504 have met with resolution at the local level, they can appeal their grievances to the regional Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights. All appeals should be directed to the

following address:  
Office for Civil Rights  
8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037  
Kansas City, MO 64114  
816-268-0550  
FAX: 816-823-1404; TDD: 800-437-0833

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**HHS Meals October 2022** - To find the most accurate and current menus each day for Holdrege HS, go to our website ([dusters.org](http://dusters.org)) and find “Lunch Menu” option as you hover over “Links” on the right hand side of the top banner, or use the links provided below:

**HHS Breakfast Menu - October 2022**

<https://www.myschoolmenus.com/instance/291/district/311/school/2601/menu/35008?date=2022-10-01&view=monthly>

**HHS Lunch Menu - October 2022**

<https://www.myschoolmenus.com/instance/291/district/311/school/2601/menu/28745?date=2022-10-01&view=monthly>