

Holdrege Public Schools

Board of Education Regular Meeting

October 19, 2026, 6:00 PM

Holdrege High School Media Center, 600 12th Avenue, Holdrege, NE 68949

- I. Call to Order - Roll Call
- II. Recognition of Visitors
 - II.A. HEA Report
 - II.B. Student Council Report
 - II.C. Public Forum
- III. Board of Education Committee Reports
- IV. Business Items
 - IV.A. Action Items
 - IV.A.1. Consent Agenda
 - IV.A.1.a. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on the Minutes - September 21, 2026 Property Tax Request Hearing and September 21, 2026 Regular Meeting
 - IV.A.1.b. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on the Warrants/Bills
 - IV.A.1.c. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on the Treasurer's Report
 - IV.A.1.d. Excuse Absent Board Members
 - IV.A.2. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on the Bill(s) from InSPIRe - Holdrege, LLC.
 - IV.A.3. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on Proposal for Central Office Sewer Replacement
 - IV.A.4. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on Annual Status Report for Multicultural Education
 - IV.A.5. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on 2026-27 Interlocal Agreement with ESU 15 for Title III Consortium
 - IV.A.6. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on Proposed Cooperative Agreement with Minden for Softball
 - IV.A.7. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on Proposed Revision of 2026-27 Extra Duty Assignments
 - IV.A.8. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on the Resignation of Noncertificated Staff
 - IV.A.9. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on the Employment of Noncertificated Staff
 - IV.A.10. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on the Employment of Certificated Staff
 - IV.A.11. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on the Resignation of Certificated/Professional Staff
- V. Reports

- V.A. Administrative Reports
 - V.B. Superintendent's Report
- VI. Board Policies
- VII. Adjournment

Instructions for those who wish to speak during Public Forum:

Getting Started: When it is your turn to speak during the public forum portion of the agenda, please come forward to the Board Secretary, complete the form provided with your name and any organization represented, as well as your address, and then state your name and any organization represented to the Board of Education.

Time Limit: You may speak only one time and must limit comments to 5 minutes or less.

Personnel or Student Topic: If you are planning to speak about a personnel or student matter involving an individual, please understand that our policies require that such concerns initially be directed to the administration for consideration. Board members will not respond to any questions you ask or comments you may make about individual staff members or students. You are cautioned that slanderous comments are not protected just because they are made at a Board meeting.

General Rules: Please remember that this is a public meeting for the conduct of the business of the Board of Education. Offensive language, personal attacks and hostile conduct will not be tolerated.

PROPERTY TAX REQUEST HEARING
Holdrege Board of Education
Monday, September 21, 2026, 6:00 p.m.
High School Media Center

A special meeting of the Board of Education of Holdrege Public Schools was convened in open session on Monday, September 21, 2026, at the Holdrege High School Media Center, 600 12th Avenue, Holdrege, Nebraska at 6:00 p.m.

Notice Posted 9/17/26 Holdrege Citizen

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication and/or posting in accordance with the Board approved method for giving notice of meetings. Notice of this meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. The Secretary of the Board maintains a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and advance notification to the listed media of the time and place of the meeting and the subjects to be discussed at this meeting was provided. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the publicized notice and a current copy of the Agenda was maintained as stated in the publicized notice. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was duly called to order.

Announcement of Open Meetings Act Posting

At the beginning of this meeting, it was announced that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the wall of the meeting room and directed the public to its location.

The following board members were present: Teresa Kroll, Alex McClymont, Chris McQuillan, Samantha Minnick, Brian Rust, and Nick Wells. Also present were Todd Hilyard, Superintendent, Sandy Dunaway, Secretary, and Elizabeth Piening, Business Manager.

President Rust recognized visitors and invited comments for the public forum.

Property tax information was reviewed.

The Property Tax Request Hearing for the 2026-27 Fiscal Year was held for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions, or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request at a different amount than the prior year tax request.

No comments were given and the hearing was adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Sandy Dunaway

Sandy Dunaway, Secretary
Holdrege Board of Education

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Holdrege Board of Education

Monday, September 21, 2026, immediately following the property tax request hearing
High School Media Center

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Holdrege Public Schools was convened in open session on Monday, September 21, 2026, at the High School Media Center immediately following the property tax request hearing held at 6:00 p.m.

Notice of Meeting Posted 9/17/26 Holdrege Citizen

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication and/or posting in accordance with the Board approved method for giving notice of meetings. Notice of this meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. The Secretary of the Board maintains a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and advance notification to the listed media of the time and place of the meeting and the subjects to be discussed at this meeting was provided. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the publicized notice and a current copy of the Agenda was maintained as stated in the publicized notice. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

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The following board members were present: Teresa Kroll, Alex McClymont, Chris McQuillan, Samantha Minnick, Brian Rust, and Nick Wells. Also present were Todd Hilyard, Superintendent, Sandy Dunaway, Secretary, and Elizabeth Piening, Business Manager.

James Reed reported for HEA.

Jackson Deaver and Brycen Samuelson reported for the HHS Student Council.

President Rust recognized visitors and invited comments for the public forum.

Board committee reports were reviewed.

Motion by McClymont, seconded by Wells, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a. Approval of Minutes of August 17, 2026 Regular Meeting, and September 16, 2026 Budget Workshop & Budget Hearing
- b. Approve the Warrants/Bills
- c. Approve the Treasurer's Report
- d. Excuse Absent Board Members

On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Kroll, seconded by McQuillan, to approve payment of the bill from InSPIRe - Holdrege, LLC. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-abstained with conflict, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by McQuillan, seconded by Rust, to approve payment of the bill(s) from John Deere Financial/Landmark Implement, Inc. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont- abstained with conflict, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by McClymont, seconded by Wells, to approve the 2026-27 Budget, as presented. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Rust, seconded by Wells, to approve a resolution setting the 2026-27 Tax Request for General Fund at \$11,646,465, Bond Fund at \$904,040, and Special Building Fund at \$543,368. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Samantha Minnick, seconded by Nick Wells, to approve an amendment and restatement of the agreement with Omnify Benefit Solutions, for the Section 125 Flexible Benefits Plan, and corresponding resolution, effective September 1, 2026. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Rust, seconded by Kroll, to accept the resignation of Todd Hilyard, Superintendent, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2027. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Minnick, seconded by McQuillan, to accept the resignation of the following noncertificated staff: Patricia Nelson, secondary guidance secretary, effective June 4, 2027; and Sandy Dunaway, assistant to the superintendent and board secretary, effective June 30, 2027. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Rust, seconded by Minnick, to approve the revised 2026-27 Extra Duty Assignments, as presented. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Administrative reports were reviewed.

Motion by Rust, seconded by Minnick, to approve a resolution regarding the maximum number of enrollment option students and specific standards for acceptance or rejection of option enrollment applications, as presented. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont- yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

The next regular monthly meeting will be held on October 19, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Sandy Dunaway

Sandy Dunaway, Secretary
Holdrege Board of Education

Holdrege High School

Board Report

October 19, 2026

Jeremy Ham, Principal

1. **College Fair** - Mrs. Mach and the student council hosted the NACRO college fair on September 28th. Area schools were invited to attend, the fair was hosted in the HHS gym from 1:00-2:30 PM. 125 students attended the fair, with a total of 564 college representative interactions recorded.
2. **Student Tutoring** - 20 high school students have started tutoring middle school students 2 times each week during our Seminar period at the end of the day. We are very proud of our students for their interest in serving as tutors and role models for the middle school students. We currently have a waiting list of students wanting to grow this tutoring program. This has been a very positive relationship between HHS and HMS!
3. **Staff Update** - All HHS teachers will have been formally observed and evaluated by Thursday this week. Nine staff are currently in the probationary period and will need to be evaluated a second time next semester.
 - a. Pending board approval, we have hired Brianna Carroll to teach PE starting in the second semester. Thank you to Tom Hoyt, Jason Hale, and Brandt Runge as they assisted in covering the 1st semester vacancy in PE.
4. **ACT** - Mrs. Mach hosted the fall ACT at HHS on Saturday, October 17th. This test was optional for all area students. Our 11th grade students will all take the ACT this spring on April 13th.
5. **1st quarter student body update:** 1st quarter ended with 40 students (13% of the student body) with at least one grade below C-. 15 students (5% of the HHS Student body) had at least one failing grade.

Only 1 student has excessive absences (more than 9 unexcused absences.) This student does have a plan in place to make up for these excessive absences.

12 students (4% of the HHS Student body) have at least 1 unresolved tardy needing to be made up.

Holdrege Public Schools
Special Education & Early Childhood Report
Director: Casey Klein
October 19, 2026

	Aug	Sep	Oct
Birth-3 years	10	7	7
3-5 years with IEP attending NON -HPS Preschool	1	3	4
3-5 years with IEP attending HPS preschool	5	5	5
Holdrege Elementary	79	77	78
Holdrege Middle School	62	60	58
Holdrege High School	41	41	41
Special Services Students	198	193	193
<i>3-5 without IEP Attending HPS Preschoolers</i>	24	22	22

2026 Determination and Focused Monitoring

Holdrege Public Schools met requirements for our 2026 special education determination. Last year, we were selected for focused monitoring, and we are continuing to work through the required corrections. Our goal is to have all corrections completed before January 2027, with the hope of receiving our closeout letter.

Moving forward, we are focusing on strengthening measurable IEP goals, ensuring accommodations and modifications are clearly documented, and reviewing transportation requirements to support compliance and student needs.

Indicator 13: Transition Planning

Indicator 13 focuses on transition planning for students with disabilities as they prepare for life after high school.

Six student files were selected for our self-assessment, which is due October 19. We are also collaborating with Karen Space, the ESU 11 Transition Coordinator, to update our programming and make the most of available resources for both students and teachers. This partnership will help us continue to strengthen transition planning and prepare students for their next steps.

NeCounts Scorecard

Our NeCounts scorecard helps us identify areas of strength and opportunities for improvement in special education.

Areas identified as medium risk include:

- **Chronic Absenteeism:** 13.62% of students with IEPs were chronically absent.

- **Indicator 2 – Dropout Rate:** 7.14% of students with IEPs, ages 14–21, exited special education by dropping out.
- **Indicator 3 – Reading:** We met 7 of 10 applicable targets (70%) on English Language Arts assessments for grades 4, 8, and 11.
- **Indicator 3 – Math:** We met 6 of 10 applicable targets (60%) on math assessments for grades 4, 8, and 11.
- **Indicator 6 – Preschool Environment:** We met 5 of 9 applicable sub-indicators.

Area identified as high risk:

- **Indicator 7 – Preschool Outcomes:** We met 1 of 6 applicable outcomes (16.67%).

These results help us identify where additional attention and support may be needed. We will continue reviewing the data and using it to guide improvements in programming and student outcomes.

Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP)

We received our 2026 Targeted Improvement Plan report and met 5 of the 8 required elements. We received feedback identifying three areas for improvement: implementation data, measurable goals, and evidence-based practices.

Our next steps are to provide clearer explanations and supporting information in these areas so our plan more clearly demonstrates the strategies we are using, how we measure progress, and how those strategies support student success.

Preschool Field Trip

On October 15, our preschool students traveled to Minden for a trip to the pumpkin patch! The students were very excited to ride the bus and choose their own pumpkins. It was a fun opportunity for students to experience something new, practice skills outside the classroom, and make some great fall memories.

Holdrege Elementary School Board Report

October 19, 2026

Amber Porter, Principal

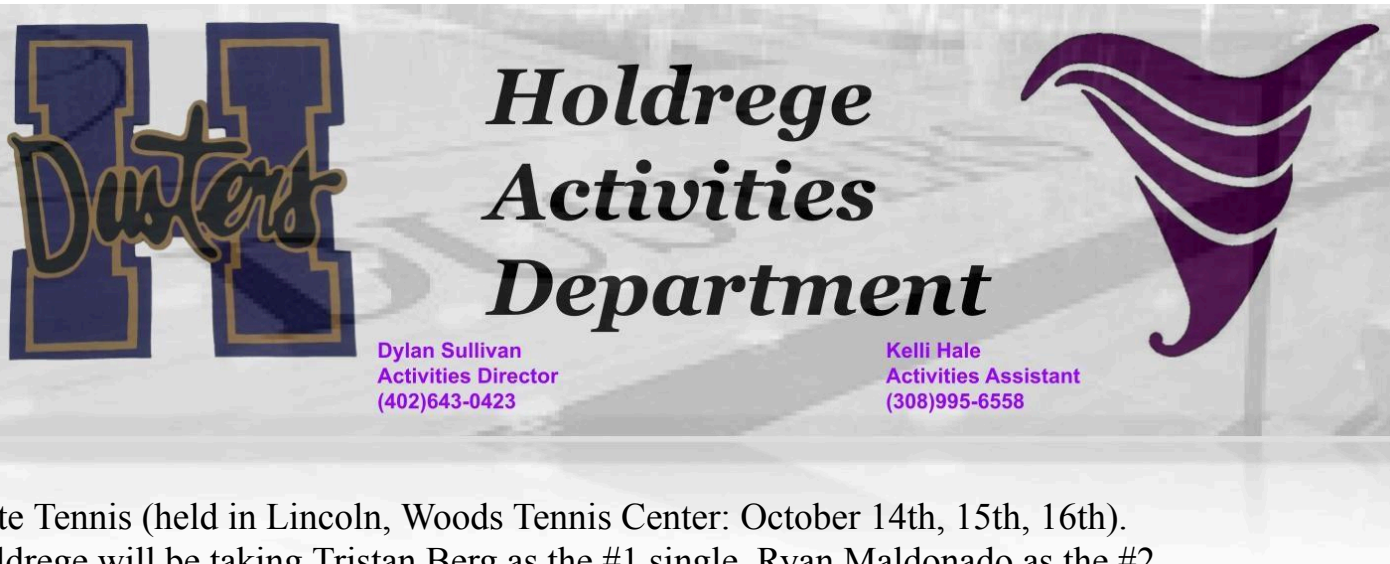
Fire Prevention- Holdrege Fire Department presented a fire safety program for the elementary students during Fire Prevention Week on October 8. They came to the school and completed a presentation to students that included showing them all the parts of the fire truck and their functions. The Holdrege Fire Department also provided activity books for all the students. It is wonderful to have a partnership with our local fire department.

LETRS training- A new requirement for the state of Nebraska is that elementary language arts (PreK-4) teachers will be trained in the Science of Reading. To meet this requirement our teachers are taking the LETRS Volume 1 and 2 courses. Most of our elementary and special education teachers completed this training three years ago. New teachers are able to take the training this year through a grant offered by ESU 11. So there is no cost to the school. We have been able to apply much of the staff development to our language arts teaching.

UNK Leadership Day-On October 20, I will be taking 10 4th grade students to Student Leadership Day at UNK. Jessica Nedrig, our Guidance Counselor, will attend with us. This is put on by my Region IV Principals' Group. Students were chosen by their teachers for their leadership abilities. The students will get to do some fun leadership learning skills, eat lunch on the UNK Campus, and tour the campus. Following this event, those students will take on some leadership jobs at the elementary.

CPI Training for new and additional staff-Our new staff and additional staff members, such as Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Anderson, and Mr. Sullivan were trained in CPI on Friday, October 16, 2026. CPI is training for staff in de-escalation techniques.

Mr. McLain coming to the elementary school- I appreciate our admin team working together to help children with challenging behaviors. Mr. McLain will be coming to assist with some students at the elementary school for two hours a day who would benefit from his skills.



- State Tennis (held in Lincoln, Woods Tennis Center: October 14th, 15th, 16th). Holdrege will be taking Tristan Berg as the #1 single, Ryan Maldonado as the #2 Single, Asher Ham & Calin Light as the #1 doubles, Garrett Ganser & Jaiden Brand as the #2 doubles.
- Conference Cross Country was held in Cozad on October 8th. Sam McQuistan was the boys 1st place finisher with a time of 16:15. Holdrege boys placed 2nd overall.
- District Cross Country will be held at Crandall Creek, October 14th.
- State Cross Country will be on Friday, October 23rd in Kearney running at 1:30pm.

Southwest Conference Volleyball

- Will be held in Cozad on Monday Oct 19th & Tuesday Oct 20th. This will be a 2-day format. The schedule is posted on page 2.
- Class C District Volleyball won't be seeded until October 22nd. The Volleyball regions is listed below.
- NSAA District Meeting November 3rd in McCook at 1:00pm.
- Middle School girl's basketball practices will start on October 20th
- High School winter practices start November 16th with conditioning week starting on November 9th.
- The booster club has approved the funds to start adding a new speaker system to the High School gym.

Southwest Conference Volleyball Tournament

October 19 - 20, 2026

Cozad High School



#1

Monday

Game 2

West Gym (Arena)

5:00 P.M.

#4

Monday

Game 1

East Gym (Barn)

4:00 P.M.

#5

Tuesday

West Gym (Arena)

3:00 P.M.

Tuesday

West Gym (Arena)

6:00 P.M.

1st Place

#3

Monday

Game 2

East Gym (Barn)

5:00 P.M.

#6

Monday

Game 3

East Gym (Barn)

6:00 P.M.

Monday

Game 3

West Gym (Arena)

6:00 P.M.

#2

Monday

Game 1

West Gym (Arena)

4:00 P.M.

#7

*Highest Seed will be the Home team for every game.

*Game times are approximate and will begin immediately following preceding game.

*First Round Matches and Loser Bracket Matches are Best 2 out of 3.

*Semi-Finals and Championship/3rd Place Matches are Best 3 out of 5.

*All Matches will be played at Cozad High School

Tuesday

West Gym (Arena)

4:30 P.M.

3rd Place

Tournament Seeded Wednesday October 14th 2026

Class C1 Volleyball Regional Assignments

Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4
Ashland-Greenwood	Arlington	Aurora	Chadron
Auburn	Battle Creek	Boone Central	Chase County
Bishop Neumann	Boys Town	Broken Bow	Ogallala
Conestoga	Concordia Omaha	Centennial	Sidney
Fairbury	David City	Central City	Valentine
Falls City	Douglas County West	Cozad	
Lincoln Christian	Fort Calhoun	Fillmore Central	
Lincoln Lutheran	Logan View/Scribner-Snyder	Gibbon	
Louisville	Madison	Gothenburg	
Malcolm	Norfolk Catholic	Grand Island Central Catholic	
Milford	North Bend Central	Holdrege	
Palmyra	Omaha Roncalli Catholic	Kearney Catholic	
Raymond Central	Pierce	Minden	
Syracuse	Scotus Central Catholic	ONeill	
Wahoo	Wayne	Ord	
Wilber-Clatonia	West Point-Beemer	St. Paul	
		Wood River	

Board Report
Holdrege Middle School
Lacie Wright-Principal Jacob McLain- Asst Principal/Asst AD
October 19, 2026

- MS Band will attend the Minden Bandfest on October 17th
- MS will have some fun dress-up days coming up. Monday, October 19th we will have a pink-out in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month and in support of one of our subs who was recently diagnosed. Tuesday, October 20th we are having a color war, each grade is assigned a color to wear and compete against who can represent their color the best.
- Red Ribbon week starts October 26th and Mrs. Hadley has different activities planned as well as some dress up days. We are looking into potential speaker options.
- Fall MS sports are winding down and winter sports meetings are starting up. Should have numbers for you next meeting. .
- Parent/Teacher conferences will be held this coming week
- I want to give a sincere thank you and shout-out to all the work Mr. McLain put in to our first incentive day. This day was planned and executed in order to promote accountability. For all students who met the grading criteria by not having missing work and/or any F grades, there was a surprise day planned. Students who met the requirements were allowed to participate in planned fun activities, while students who did not meet the expectations were given the opportunity to work closely with staff and get missing assignments completed and turned in. I have heard multiple compliments from staff and students on how positive this was both for rewarding expected behavior but also giving opportunities for students to become in better standing.
 - Monday before Reward day (October 5th)
 - 5th grade = 6 failing grades
 - 6th grade = 31 failing grades
 - 7th grade = 16 failing grades
 - 8th grade = 32 failing grades
 - Reward day (October 9th)
 - Students with a failing grade have a normal school day (3 hours of direct support from Mrs. Hadley, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Hunt, Ms. Meyer, and Mrs. Stabenow)
 - Friday after reward day (October 16th)
 - 5th grade = 3 failing grades
 - 6th grade = 17 failing grades
 - 7th grade = 5 failing grades
 - 8th grade = 16 failing grades
 - Overall school = 85 failing grades before Reward day, 41 failing grades after reward day

Superintendent's Report October 19, 2026

1. HHS Masonry Update

The gym portion is complete including the seal coat and the second floor is complete. The full project should be completed by the end of the week.

2. Annual Audit

Marcy Luth will present the annual audit report by telephone at the beginning of the November 16th Board meeting. The audit process went smoothly, and I appreciate Elizabeth, Sandy, Dana, and Jeanette for their work in preparing records and assisting with the review.

3. Superintendent Search Update

Superintendent candidate interviews are scheduled for Wednesday, November 11, beginning at 7:30 a.m. in the Crescent Room inside The Sun Theater. Katey McClymont has accepted my invitation to join the Board for the interviews. As of the preparation of this report, we have received three applications. The deadline for applications is October 30th.

4. District Enrollment Update

The enrollment information below does not include part-time students (those that receive special services at nonpublic schools or attend part-time from home school, currently 14 students). Information is reflected from our official snapshot for NDE on October 1st.

Preschool includes all students served, of those there are 27 students that attend at the preschool.

Nebraska Department of Education

MEMBERSHIP - COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEAR FALL SNAPSHOT

For the "As of October 1st" Reporting Window

School Year: 2026-2027

DISTRICT: HOLDREGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS (69-0044-000)

K-12 Students in the October Student Snapshot with Full Time Equivalency (FTE) Greater Than 50% & All PK Students

School	2026-2027 Membership	2025-2026 Membership	Difference	% Difference
HOLDREGE HIGH SCHOOL (69-0044-001)	297	323	-26	-8.05%
HOLDREGE MIDDLE SCHOOL (69-0044-003)	271	280	-9	-3.21%
HOLDREGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS EARLY CHILDHOOD ED CTR (69-0044-008)	38	43	-5	-11.63%
HOLDREGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (69-0044-012)	306	321	-15	-4.67%
<i>District Total</i>	<i>912</i>	<i>967</i>	<i>-55</i>	<i>-5.69%</i>