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## **HAS celebrates national March is Reading Month with classroom activities, events**

*Holly High School students use reading to educate younger students about future career options, including in skilled trades*

**HOLLY, Mich.** — From read-a-thons and battles of the books to dressing up as literary characters and at-home reading challenges, Holly Area Schools elementary school students celebrated **March is Reading Month** with a variety of activities aimed at fostering a lifelong love of reading and learning.

The festivities also featured special guest readers, including Holly High School students who helped introduce elementary students to Career and Technical Education and other career options through reading. The students' participation is part of the district's commitment to preparing the district's youngest learners to start thinking about future in-demand careers.

"Our students, staff and administrators had a fantastic time celebrating the joys of reading and discovering the world of opportunities that are opened through books," said Holly Area Schools **Superintendent Scott Roper**. "Our reading month programs are part of our continued commitment to introducing our youngest students to the benefits of reading that last a lifetime and prepare them for success."

Dozens of events and activities were held throughout the district's four elementary schools. Highlights include:

Davisburg Elementary:

- Reading the classic children's novel, "Charlotte's Web," together as a "One book, one school" initiative
- Organizing a read-a-thon in the gym

- Creating a hallway display with photos of Davisburg families reading together

Patterson Elementary:

- Dressing up like book characters
- Hosting a book raffle
- Offering a school-wide Battle of the Books competition

Rose Pioneer Elementary:

- Setting aside DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) time on Wednesdays
- Allowing students to bring a stuffed toy to reading time
- Scheduling themed dress up days

Holly Elementary:

- Guest readers visiting classrooms
- At-home challenges including reading themed books, turning off technology, and playing word games
- School-wide “Read-IN”

**Jennifer Fettig**, Director of Career Programming and Business Partnerships, organized the effort for students in Holly High School’s Career and Technical Education Programs to visit all four elementary schools, read career-focused books to students and engage them in discussions about future career opportunities.

The older students, who participate in the high school’s Marketing, Construction Trades, Teacher Cadet programs, and Work-Based Learning shared books about careers in law enforcement, construction trades, teaching, medical fields, farming, cosmetology, culinary arts, welding, transportation and more.

Holly High School students who participated event included:

- **Hunter Hummell**
- **Karsen Steele**
- **Tony Simmons**
- **Nate Costigan**
- **Hunter Chapdelaine**
- **Pavitra Tailor**
- **Breaunna Vela**
- **Alaina Schwiderson**
- **Grady Ganski**
- **Xander Jacobson**
- **Bella Zepp**

“These special visits really resonated with our elementary students, and our high school students acted as models for our youngest learners throughout this event,” Roper said. “I’m proud of our high school students who led by example through reading and introducing our younger students to a wide variety of future career options.”

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Learn more about Holly Area Schools by visiting [www.hask12.org](http://www.hask12.org), or visit us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



