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Broncho community celebrates upgraded Holly Stadium, new Construction Trades Center

Projects, funded by 2022 bond, part of district's commitment to preparing all Bronchos for success and careers

HOLLY, Mich. — The Broncho community on Thursday celebrated the upgraded **Holly Stadium** and new **Construction Trades Center** at Holly High School with ribbon-cutting ceremonies. Both projects are made possible by the 2022 voter-approved bond.

The upgraded Holly Stadium includes renovation of the track and athletic turf field, and is part of the district's continued commitment to athletics as part of a well-rounded education that helps prepare Bronchos for success and careers.

"Our new track and athletic turf field is part of our continued mission to provide state-of-the-art athletic facilities for our Broncho athletes and our entire community," said **Casey Lombard**, Holly High School athletic director. "These new facilities will support our already stellar athletic programs that equip our Bronchos with teamwork, problem solving and other key life skills that help them compete for the jobs of today and tomorrow."

"At Holly Area Schools, athletics, along with the fine arts and other extracurricular activities, plays a key role in providing our Bronchos with a world-class education," said **Scott Roper**, Holly Area Schools superintendent. "Our newly upgraded Holly Stadium will equip our students with a top-notch venue for athletic events, physical education classes, band performances and more."

The new, 6,500-square-foot Construction Trades Center will house the district's skilled trades programs. The new facility builds on the district's award-winning skilled trades programs that provide students with certifications while still in high school, helping them save money and prepare for good-paying and rewarding careers that don't require a four-year college degree.

“We continue to see thousands of new skilled trades jobs open in Michigan every year, and our Construction Trades Center will provide a hub for our Bronchos to obtain the training they need to succeed in this dynamic industry,” said **Jennifer Fettig**, Holly Area Schools director of career programming and business partnerships. “This new facility will help our Bronchos prepare for in-demand skilled trades jobs by earning professional certifications while still in our hallways.”

“At Holly Area Schools, we are proud to be a leader in providing skilled trades opportunities as these jobs are expected to grow nearly 9% every year through 2030,” Roper said. “With our new Construction Trades Center, our Bronchos will help fill those jobs — many of which go unfilled for long periods of time — and support our state and local economies.”

At both events, Roper was joined by students, staff and building and district administration. Holly Area Schools board members, parents, local leaders and community members also attended. Roper thanked partners GMB Architecture + Engineering and AUCH Construction for their roles in completing the projects.

“On behalf of the Holly Area Schools Board of Education, I’d like to thank our community for its continued investment in our Bronchos, including these exciting projects made possible by the generosity of our community,” said **Leigh Jackson**, Holly Area Schools Board of Education president. “These projects symbolize our long-term plans to continue providing all Bronchos with innovative learning experiences and opportunities.”

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Holly Area Schools Superintendent Scott Roper speaks at Thursday's celebration of the upgraded Holly Stadium.



Holly High School Athletic Director Casey Lombard and School Board President Leigh Jackson cut the ribbon at Thursday's celebration of the upgraded Holly Stadium.



Upgraded Holly High School track and athletic turf field



Holly Stadium press box, right, dedicated to late Holly High School teacher and "Voice of the Bronchos" Tony Coggins.



School board member Leigh Jackson, left, and Jennifer Fettig, Holly Area Schools director of career programming and business partnerships, cut the ribbon at the new Holly High School Construction Trades Center.



Holly Area Schools students, board members and staff celebrate the opening of the new Holly High School Construction Trades Center.