



# FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

**February 3<sup>rd</sup>:**

4K Registration Opens for the 2025-2026 school year – Please tell your family and friends

**February 6<sup>th</sup>:**

4K Family Math Night  
Early Childhood and Speech Group Family Night  
4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.  
Viking Elementary School

**February 12<sup>th</sup>:**

District Early Release Day  
No school for EC/4K students  
Vikings in Motion: Indoor Activities for Kids  
Skogen Boys and Girls Club  
600 N Holmen Dr., Holmen  
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**February 20<sup>th</sup>:**

District Family Literacy Night  
Holmen High School Fine Arts Center  
Doors open 5:30 pm  
The Magic of Isaiah begins at 6:00 pm  
Free book and snack provided for children in attendance

**February 28<sup>th</sup>:** No School

4K & Early Childhood Services  
Viking Elementary School  
500 East Wall St.  
Holmen, WI 54636

Ms. Sue Eitland, Principal  
[eitsue@holmen.k12.wi.us](mailto:eitsue@holmen.k12.wi.us)  
608.526.3316, ext. 4133

## *From the principal's desk...*

### Thank you...

- Thank you for being your children's first and most important teachers! It makes OUR HEARTS happy that you share them with us!
- Special THANKS to those who are able to participate in our Feb 6<sup>th</sup> 4K Family Math Event and Early Childhood and Speech Group Family Night!

### Things you should know....

- Each and every day, and especially during the month of February, we focus on kindness. When you catch your child doing something kind for another person, please take time to notice this out loud to them. Spreading kindness brings joy and gratitude not only to the person who is the receiver, but also "fills the bucket" of the giver.
- Make certain to watch for specific school celebrations in the Communication Log from your child's teacher. The staff has some wonderful activities planned!
- Be watching for progress reports to be sent home around February 24<sup>th</sup>. It's very rewarding to see how the children continue to learn and grow in their skills!
- We will be scheduling Family Teacher Conferences for March 12, 13, and 18. Additional information will be forthcoming.

### Contact

Feel free to reach out to your children's teachers or me if there are changes or challenges they are experiencing away from school. By collaborating, we can all help to maintain their emotional well-being, so that they are able and ready to continue learning both at school and at home!

Sincerely,  
~Ms. Eitland

## School District Open Enrollment

Wisconsin's interdistrict public school Open Enrollment program allows parents to apply for their children to attend school districts other than the one in which they live. Applications may be submitted to no more than three non-resident school districts. Students in 4K through grade 12 may apply to participate in Open Enrollment. Parents should call their resident school districts to find out if their preschool-aged children qualify for Open Enrollment. The Open Enrollment application period for the 2025-26 school year is from February 3 - April 30, 2025 until 4:00 p.m. Parents must apply to the non-resident district. A non-resident district is defined as the district in which you do not live, but where you want your child to attend. It is recommended that you apply for Open Enrollment through the on-line application process at <http://dpi.wi.gov/oe>. The Open Enrollment application period closes at 4:00 p.m. on April 30, 2025. Late applications will not be accepted for any reason. If you have any questions regarding Open Enrollment, please contact Courtney Wilson, Open Enrollment Coordinator/Registrar for the School District of Holmen, Student Services Department at 608.526.1309.

## 4K REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### 4K Registration for the 2025-2026 school year opens February 3, 2025!

#### Who can participate?

Any child, who is four-years-old on or before September 1, 2025 and lives in the school district boundaries, is eligible to participate in our 4K program.

#### Can my child attend Holmen's 4K program if they attend daycare in Holmen?

If an age-eligible child attends daycare within School District of Holmen boundaries, please complete the Open Enrollment process. You will hear from our Student Services Department in April or May regarding whether your child was accepted for Open Enrollment. Upon acceptance, you will be able to register for 4K in Holmen.

#### How do I enroll my child?

Go to [www.holmen.k12.wi.us](http://www.holmen.k12.wi.us) and click on "Enroll a Student" along the right side of the page. Starting this fall, 4K will be housed in all four elementary schools. You are encouraged to enroll as early as possible. Contact Courtney Wilson, District Registrar, at [wilcou@holmen.k12.wi.us](mailto:wilcou@holmen.k12.wi.us) or 608.526.6610, ext. 1309, with any questions.

#### What Time is Each 4K Session?

- AM Session: 8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
- PM Session: 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

#### Questions?

- Registration - Contact Courtney Wilson, District Registrar at 608.526.6610, ext. 1309
- 4K Programming - Contact Sue Eitland, Administrator at 608.526.3316, Option 1

## Creative Curriculum Interest Area: Classroom Library

The Library Area is a very important part of your child's classroom. It's where children gain the foundation for reading and writing. It's also a place where students can relax and enjoy the wonderful world of books.

We encourage students to look at books, listen to recorded stories, retell stories, and "write" their own stories throughout the day. Sometimes children dictate stories to an adult, which we record for them.

We read stories to the children every day. Reading introduces new ideas, helps students learn how to handle problems that come up in life, and mostly encourages children to develop a love for books. As children listen to us read, their own reading skills begin to develop.

Here are some of the things we do as we read:

- Look at pictures and ask: "What do you see?"
- Encourage children to predict what will happen next: "What do you suppose will happen now?"
- Encourage children to repeat words, rhymes, and phrases they've memorized.

### What You Can Do at Home

Research has shown us the important role families play in helping children learn to read and write. The single most important thing you can do is to read to your child every day. When your child sits next to you as you read, he begins to connect books with good feelings. Here are a few more things you can do with your child.

- Encourage your child to talk about the stories you read.
- Ask questions like, "I wonder what will happen next, or "I wonder why..."
- Try to relate the story to something in your child's life ("That looks just like Grandpa's dog!")
- Visit the library and check out books that interest your child.
- Give your child paper and pencils, pens, or markers and let him experiment with writing.

If you would like some help choosing books, or guidance on how to read with your child, please let us know. To keep your child's home library well stocked, you can draw on the resources of our local public library. When you take the time to read to your child every day, you are doing the very best thing to help your child grow up to be a successful reader.

### Speech Update: Modeling Reading Behavior

As your children watch you read, they will begin to develop an awareness of what people do when they read. When reading familiar stories to your child, point to the words as you read and encourage your child to read along with you. This will model where the words are, where to start reading, and that we read from left to right. If your child is beginning to show an interest in letters, occasionally you may point out a familiar letter (especially those in their name). Also, it is important to talk about the pictures and how the pictures can help us figure out what the words are saying or what is happening in the story.

You can have your child create his/her own picture stories. Ask the child to draw a picture and to tell a story about it. Write down the story and then ask your child to read it.

Remember to read to your child regularly and to use reading activities as a teaching tool. By reading and talking about picture stories with your children, you can help them develop language, thinking, and reading skills that are essential for success in the classroom.

Liz Dahlen & Caitlin Mosel, EC/4K Speech/Language Pathologists

## Be Prepared for Inclement Weather or Emergencies

As a reminder, The School District of Holmen utilizes a text message notification system to alert families and staff about emergencies, including school closings due to inclement weather.

Additionally, we will communicate information regarding school closings or delays on the following platforms:

1. District's Homepage: [[www.holmen.k12.wi.us](http://www.holmen.k12.wi.us)]
2. Facebook Page:  
[<https://www.facebook.com/holmenschools>]
3. Instagram Page:  
[<https://www.instagram.com/holmenschooldistrict>]
4. Local Media Outlets:  
[WXOW, WKBT, WEAU, La Crosse Tribune]

We encourage you to stay connected with us through these channels to receive timely updates on any changes to the school schedule due to inclement weather.

The safety and well-being of our students and staff are our top priorities, and we want to ensure that everyone is prepared and informed during these situations.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the District Office at, 608.526.6610.



### Please note:

If there is a 2-hour school delay, the AM session of Early Childhood and 4K will be cancelled for the day, but the PM session will run as usual.

If school is cancelled or if there is an early release due to inclement weather, all Public Preschool activities and programs for the remainder of the day/evening will also be postponed.



Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> is a  
District Early Release Day.  
Therefore, **EC/4K students will not  
have school!**

Join us for our monthly  
Family Outreach Event at the  
Skogen Boys and Girls Club from  
10:00 - 11:00 a.m.



**From the Health Office:**  
**Health Office Update**  
**Emily Hanes BSN, RN**

With hat season upon us, I would like to bring to your attention the possible spreading of head lice. Good head hygiene habits are essential. If your child complains of an itchy scalp, we encourage you to check your children's heads for the presence of any lice or nits. Head to head contact is the most common form of transmission. Lice do not jump or fly from head to head, but crawl. Articles such as combs, brushes, helmets, towels, pillowcases, hats, hair accessories, or other head coverings also aid in the spread of head lice. Please discourage your child from sharing these personal items.



When checking for nits, if it removes easily from the hair, it is not a nit. Nits are attached by a strong glue to the hair shaft, about one to two inches from the scalp. Lice can live 1-2 days on a surface without a human host. They live about a month on the scalp, and the female louse can lay 6-10 eggs (nits) a day.

If you believe your child has head lice, please contact the health office for assistance with treatment and eradication. We are here to guide you and your student through the process.

For more information please refer to the CDC website <http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/index.html>



### Virtual Backpack

The School District of Holmen utilizes a “green” approach for distributing flyers from community organizations. Note that most of these advertisements are not district publications (unless marked). The District enables this online distribution as a community service to inform you of educational opportunities, activities and events available in our area. Click on this link to be directed to the information: <https://www.holmen.k12.wi.us/community/pre-k-elementary-school-flier.cfm>.



**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF HOLMEN**

# **Family Literacy Night**

**FEBRUARY 20, 2025  
HOLMEN HIGH SCHOOL  
FINE ARTS CENTER**

**DOORS OPEN AT 5:30PM  
THE MAGIC OF ISAIAH AT 6:00PM**

***FREE BOOK AND SNACK PROVIDED FOR CHILDREN  
IN ATTENDANCE***





## HELP WANTED

**JOIN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OF HOLMEN TEAM TODAY!**

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**Enjoy being on our substitute list  
and work when it's convenient for  
you. Doesn't that sound...LOVELY?**

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Sub Cook \$15.50/hr

Sub Custodian \$16.80/hr

Sub Bus Driver \$22/hr

Sub Van Driver \$17.30/hr

SDH IS AN EOE – APPLY VIA THE EMPLOYMENT TAB