

Race presents improved school website

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

www.holyoke.schoolfusion.us

That's the website for Holyoke School District Re-1J, and Kellie Race has been working on an hourly basis for the school district since January to upgrade and improve the website.

She presented the improvements at the Re-1J board meeting Tuesday, April 17.

The website has been a focus of the board for over a year, and they have added goals on increasing communication through the website.

For last week's presentation, each board member used a laptop to follow along and to search out other parts of the website independently.

Race said she met with parents and teachers to get a feel for changes that needed to be made in the district's website. Through that input, she said she wanted it more visual.



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As a result, she's added photos, a MaxPreps widget for sports information and a WeatherBug widget on the home page.

Race noted she changed some of the top inside navigations and also made new navigation headers for the left side of the website home page.

Some of the ideas she wanted to incorporate were not possible due to the SchoolFusion system in use. Supt. Bret Miles said at this point they're opting to live within the limitations of SchoolFusion so the staff doesn't have to learn a new system and a new way to post things.

Race said the main thing is that it's slow. But it is still a good communication tool, and they hope to keep it updated as a viable tool for use by parents, students, staff and the community in general.

Navigation headers across the top of the home page include:

—Infinite Campus (Staff use, Parents Online and Students Online).

—Parents (food services/menu, JR/SR High daily bulletin, Parent Infinite Campus, student organizations, athletics, family support, transportation).

—Calendars (district calendar, 2012-13 adopted calendar and 2011-12 adopted calendar).

—Community Links (Holyoke Education Foundation, Colorado Dept. of Education, N.E. BOCES, N.E. BOCES Gifted & Talented, Holyoke Enterprise, Star 92.3, WeatherBug, Phillips County Economic Development, CHSAA, MaxPreps—Holyoke Sports, Jim Powell Photography).

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—Closures and Delays (Emergency closures and delayed start procedures, as well as where to find info for emergency closures).

—Staff Contacts (list of staff, as well as their position, school office phone number with their extension and their school e-mail address).

Navigation headers on the left side of the home page are: JR/SR High, Elementary School, Alternative High, school support services, board of education, district committees, district facts and map, staff contacts, Supt. Bret Miles, district administration, accountability and results, curriculum and employment opportunities.

Within the board of education header, website viewers may find the mission, vision, values and goals of the district, along with the Destination 2016 goals and strategic plan.

Also under the board header are meeting agendas and minutes, financial reports and policies.

The board made positive comments about the changes in the website and their hope to make it a useable tool for current information.

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