

WELCOME TO THE HOLTEN Team!

Dear Holten Team Member,

Welcome to a new school year! We hope that you are having an enjoyable summer. We look forward to your arrival at the middle school for an exciting and successful year. We are going to do so many fun things, and we will certainly grow as learners and individuals.

In order to help you transition to sixth grade, we have provided a list of items that will be required for your academic classes. Please have these items by the first day of school. During the first week, the teachers will help you organize your materials to help you get off to a great start.



All students at HRMS are expected to read the nonfiction book: *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* and should also read an additional fiction book of their choosing. Fiction books can be chosen from the MCBA book list or the Massachusetts Teen Choice Book Awards list. For more information, please click this link: [2025 Summer Reading](#)

All students are expected to have completed the assigned summer math work. Students have been given a math packet from their elementary teachers that should be done by the time we come to HRMS in the fall. This packet is intended to keep our skills sharp. There is also a Summer Math Contest that we are encouraging everyone to participate in! More information about the contest will be sent to families via email.

Also, it is our team's policy that all students carry a reading book with them at all times. The first genre choice for your English independent reading book will be realistic fiction. Please select a book you will enjoy reading and bring it to school with you on the first day.

We hope you enjoy the remainder of your summer vacation.
We are incredibly excited to meet you and begin our year of growth together!

Sincerely,
The Holten Team Teachers

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TEACHERS' BIOS

John Fosberry - Social Studies

Hello! I grew up right down the road in Gloucester and now live with my wife Megan and my 4 year old son Theo and 2 year old daughter Isla in Danvers! I feel lucky to work and live in such an amazing town with wonderful families living in it. This is my tenth year teaching Ancient History here in Danvers. I lived for one year in Spain where I worked as an English Language Assistant. In my time there, I was lucky enough to travel throughout Spain as well as visit Poland, Slovakia, Italy, Germany, Belgium, and Portugal. I have also worked as an amateur DJ, driving instructor, umpire, Five Guys line cook, and tutor. I coached Football in Gloucester from 2011-2021 and passionately follow the New England Patriots and Michigan Wolverines football teams. I follow European soccer very closely as well, especially the six-time European champion, Liverpool FC. In my free time, I like to travel with my wife, play pick-up ice hockey and golf with my friends, and research things I'm interested in. I look forward to another fantastic year at Holten Richmond Middle School.

Alex Conant - Science

Hello! I am happy to be switching back to the science classroom from my previous STEM role at HRMS. This will be my twelfth year teaching, four years of science in other schools and seven years as a STEM teacher. I have served in many different capacities while here in Danvers from coaching track to engineering club or even mentor coordinator for new teachers. One of the things that gets me excited as an educator is seeing students succeed in something challenging that they have worked hard to achieve. I currently live in Gloucester with my wife Brittany, my daughter Elisabeth and my son Michael. I enjoy fishing, woodworking and cooking and have started teaching my kids some of the basics of these hobbies. My family enjoys maintaining our garden every year and making what we grow into delicious dishes. We frequent Wingaersheek Beach in the summer and enjoy seeing what is in the tidepools. I am very excited to have an awesome year on the Holten team.

Rebecca Gargan - Math

Hello! I am very excited and eager to be starting another academic year here at HRMS. This will be my twelfth year teaching and tenth year specifically teaching middle school math. Before teaching math I taught two years of third grade in the Lakes Region of New Hampshire. I have also worked as a dance teacher in and around my hometown of Londonderry, NH. I live in the next town over, Peabody, with my husband, Patrick. Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, shopping, hiking, trying new foods, going to the beach, reading, traveling, cooking, and watching sports. My favorite sports to follow are hockey and baseball. I am a huge Red Sox and Bruins fan but am also a Las Vegas Knights fan because I have a cousin who plays for the team. When I was in college I was fortunate enough to be able to study abroad where I backpacked for a few months and visited many European cities. I love traveling and am eager to hopefully make it back overseas very soon. I am looking forward to a great year together and getting to know our incoming sixth graders!

Jessica Bouchard- English Language Arts

Hello Holten Team! I am so excited to be your ELA teacher this year. I grew up here in Danvers just like many of you! I attended Highlands, HRMS, and Danvers High School. When I was in 6th grade, I was on the Holten team so I'm excited to be joining my former team. Growing up, I was on a competitive dance team and was able to teach some of the younger dancers at my studio. After graduating from Danvers High School, I attended the University of New Hampshire in Durham, New Hampshire where I studied English and Education. Currently, I live in Salem, MA with my boyfriend Nick. We love walking around at the Salem Willows and spend lots of time in the arcade there! When I'm not teaching or exploring Salem, I enjoy hanging out with my friends and family. My parents still live in Danvers so I spend lots of time with them. (Fun fact: My mom works at HRMS too!) My sister has two children and they are my world. Leah is almost three and Luca is 6 months old. I can't wait to meet all of you very soon!