



James P. Cody
Principal

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MEMORANDUM

TO: All Parents/Guardians
FROM: James P. Cody, Principal
DATE: August 2023

RE: BACKPACK INFORMATION

Holdrum Middle School classrooms are “backpack-free”. Due to the increase of our use in technology and student Chromebooks, students do not have to carry around multiple books and supplies from class to class. For this reason, and to ensure the safety and general well-being of our students, Holdrum classrooms will remain backpack-free. Students are given opportunities to stop at their lockers at specific times during the day to drop off and pick up their belongings, which will prevent them from having to carry around supplies for all of their classes throughout the day.

Students **will be able to use their backpacks when traveling to and from school if they feel that it is necessary to safely transport their books/supplies. We encourage you to review the contents of these backpacks; many times students’ backpacks are filled with unnecessary items resulting in extra-heavy backpacks being carried to and from school.*

Based on feedback we received from our students in previous years, we will allow them to carry a normal sized drawstring bag with them from class to class to hold additional supplies that may not fit in their Chromebook bags, such as a calculator, pens/pencils, etc. If a student chooses to use a drawstring bag during the school day, they must have their name clearly printed on the outside of the bag for identification purposes.

By not carrying around unnecessarily heavy backpacks throughout the day, our students have less physical stress on their bodies, and our hallways and classrooms are less congested, leading to safer environments with fewer distractions. We appreciate your cooperation with this matter.