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CONTACT: Christopher Behnan, **Byrum & Fisk Advocacy Communications**, (248) 767-4377

Elementary school Bronchos exercise bodies, sharpen leadership skills at annual Fall Fun Run

*Physical fitness event emphasizes district's commitment to
student health and well-being*

HOLLY, Mich. — **Patterson Elementary** and **Holly Elementary** students recently participated in a school-wide Fall Fun Run that exercised both their bodies and their budding leadership skills.

In preparation for the event, students strengthened their endurance through timed runs. The event also served as a 1-mile run fitness test for the Presidential Fitness Challenge for third, fourth and fifth graders at both schools.

“This event is great for our students because it gets them outdoors, emphasizes the importance of physical fitness and allows them to sharpen their leadership skills,” said **Jacob Haynes**, Patterson Elementary School principal. “Incorporating physical activity into the school day also helps our students thrive in the classroom and beyond.”

The Patterson Elementary and Holly Elementary students participated in the Fall Fun Run Oct. 18 and Oct. 31, respectively. After the run, students enjoyed an apple snack courtesy of Diehl's Orchard & Cider Mill, linking proper fitness with healthy eating and living habits. As [Leader in Me](#) schools, both elementary schools used the fun run as an opportunity for students to improve their leadership skills, including event planning, set-up coordination, clean-up and more.

“Total wellness is about both healthy eating and exercise,” said **Monica Turner**, Holly Elementary School principal. “This event allows us to bring those two elements together in a fun way that shows our students how to continue leading healthy lives.”

“I’d like to personally congratulate all our students who participated in this year’s Fall Fun Run and thank our staff for providing a memorable and enjoyable learning experience outside the classroom,” said **Scott Roper**, Holly Area Schools superintendent. “We look forward to hosting more events that translate into positive habits and skills to serve our Bronchos for a lifetime.”

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