

Big Flats News

February 2017

At Big Flats Elementary, we will SOAR together as we explore our "wonders" in a fun and engaging community, where we will inspire each other to achieve anything.



WINTER FESTIVAL 2017

Friday, February 10th 6-8 PM

Games ❄️ Food ❄️ Basket Raffle ❄️ Prizes

The Big Flats PTO invites you to join us for our Annual Winter Festival on Friday, February 10, from 6-8pm. The Festival is fun for the whole family, with carnival games, cake wheel, and food. The highlight of the night is our raffle. Past raffle prizes have included themed gift baskets, gift cards to local businesses, a TV, bikes, an Xbox, and Kindles. Please join us to see what is in store for this year, and have a great time playing games!

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GENERAL INFORMATION:

Big Flats Office Hours

7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Monday through Friday

Office Phone Numbers

(607) 739-6373

(607) 795-2550

(607) 795-2555 fax

FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

❖ Delayed Start Procedures

As we continue through the winter months, please be advised that the Horseheads Central School District uses a delayed start procedure in addition to school closings. The delay opens school two hours later than normal start time. School ends at the regular time on delayed start days. Morning buses will arrive at your bus stop two hours later; staff will arrive two hours later and students being dropped off at school in the morning should arrive two hours later. **BREAKFAST WILL NOT BE SERVED ON DELAYED START DAYS.** The announcements can be found on our Facebook page, on our District website www.horseheadsdistrict.com, or on the local media stations. Radio and television stations that will be announcing the delayed starts and/or school closings are listed on page 4 of the school district calendar. **PreK class will begin at 10:30 when there is a delayed start.**

❖ Borrowed Clothing? Any Boys Pants?

Reminder: if your child borrowed clothing from the Nurse's office, please wash and return it as soon as possible. Also, we have no extra boy's pants, jeans, or sweatpants in the Nurse's office for boys to borrow. Please see if you have any to donate. Thanks!

❖ Guidelines for Classroom Parties

Food for your child's class may include such items as drinks, cakes, or pastries (**please do not bring frozen items**). Also, please check with your child's teacher for approval, and to see if any students in the class have any food allergies, such as peanuts, gluten, chocolate, etc.

Horseheads 2030

HH Residents are welcome to attend Horseheads 2030 infrastructure meetings at 7:00pm in the HH High School Auditorium:

2/28 3/16 3/27 4/26 5/11 5/30

Spring New York Assessment Dates (Grades 3 & 4):

ELA: March 28 – 30 Math: May 2-4

Grade 4 Science Performance: May 24-25

Grade 4 Science Written: June 5

Take a hint from our snowmen! Students continue to go outside for recess during the winter months. Please be sure that your child has a warm coat, a hat, and gloves/mittens so they can stay warm as they play.



Main Office Updates:

Substitutes Needed:

The Horseheads Central School District is seeking applications for substitute teachers, bus drivers, and substitute teaching assistants. For information, please visit:

<http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/subteach.html>

Human Resources Office: 739-5601, x4211

e-mail: hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com

Absence Notes

We know student absences tend to increase in the winter. Please be sure to send in a blue note so the absence can be marked as excused.

Changing your Child's Dismissal Plans?

Thank you for helping us to know that students are going to the correct place each day by using our blue note pads. We acknowledge that changes can occur during the day, which impact your child's dismissal plans. We have seen an increase in calls near the end of the day, and it is often difficult to make these adjustments at the last minute. We ask the parents to call before 12:00 so that we can ensure a smooth dismissal and to keep our students safe. Thank you!

Principal's Chats

Do you have questions about changes or current trends in education? Mrs. Scaptura hosts her monthly Principal's Chat prior to each PTO Meeting in the library at 6:00 pm. Take advantage of these opportunities to chat with her and get some information. Future dates:

February 7 April 4

March 7 May 2

June 6

If these times do not meet your scheduling needs, please feel free to call the office for an appointment to learn more.

Valuable Items in School

Each year over the Winter Recess many of our students will receive gifts that they will treasure. To avoid the possibility of damage or loss of any valuable items, we encourage students to leave those items at home. Please encourage your child to follow our suggestion so that we can avoid any unfortunate situations where items of value disappear or get broken. Thank you for your help.

School and Emergency Closings

School closings due to inclement weather will be announced via various media outlets such as WNKI, WPGI, Magic FM, and WELM radio stations, and WENY, WETM, and Time Warner Cable News on TV. In the event of an emergency during the school day, all students will be taken by bus to the address previously identified by parents on the "Emergency Go Home" form that was completed at the beginning of the school year. As a reminder, this location **MUST** be on one of the Big Flats Elementary bus routes.

Snow Days Impact our Schedule

When a snow day occurs and all schools in the District are closed, it changes our six-day schedule. The next day that school is in session is the cycle day that the snow day would have been.

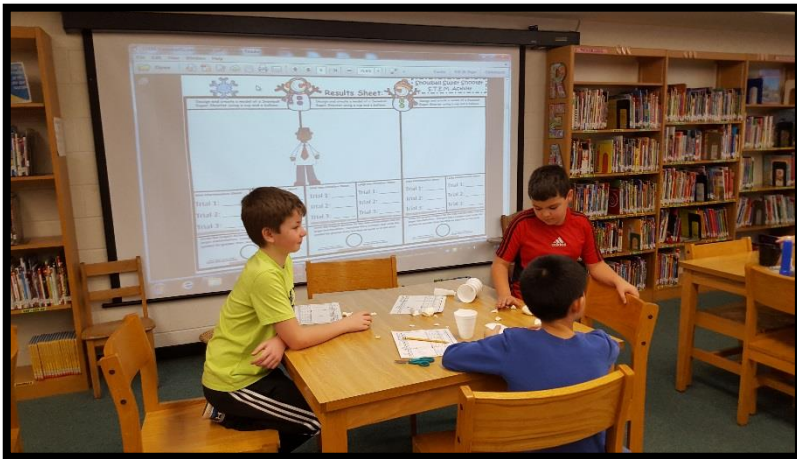
Our Falcons SOAR!



Recently the Town of Big Flats was awarded a grant from The Community Foundation for the new playground area in the Big Flats Community Park. Last year's fourth grade was an integral part of designing this playground and they were invited to the presentation at the Corning Country Club.



Students in Mrs. Aepelbacher's fourth grade class worked on coding in a recent class.



Students in Mrs. Schiefen's fourth grade class are contemplating the best way to use Styrofoam cups and balloons to create a machine that will launch marshmallow "snowballs" as far as they possibly can.



Construction Carl came to Kindergarten to do some measuring!



A student works on an art project to commemorate the life of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mr. Sumner's class enjoyed a visit by a parent to celebrate the Chinese New Year.



Mark Your Calendars

Principal Chat

February 7, 6:00 to 6:30 p.m.

PTO Meeting

February 7, 6:30 p.m.

CSE Meetings

February 8

WINTER FESTIVAL!

February 10

CIM Meetings

February 16

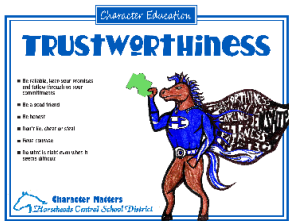
Presidents Day

February 20 – No School

Board of Education

February 23

6:00 p.m.—Center Street Elementary



Encourage TRUSTWORTHINESS:

- ❖ Be honest
- ❖ Don't deceive, cheat, or steal
- ❖ Be reliable – do what you say you'll do
- ❖ Have the courage to do the right thing
- ❖ Build a good reputation
- ❖ Be loyal – stand by your family, friends, and country



&



Follow Us on Facebook and Twitter!

Keep up with last minute announcements by liking us on Facebook! We post classroom activities, school reminders, emergency closings, and all sorts of interesting facts and photos. Check us out daily!

AND – follow us on Twitter – Mrs. Scaptura @escaptura1, or the District @HhdsSchools.

SUPPLY WISH LIST FOR THE INNOVATION LAB FEBRUARY 2017

Teachers in the Innovation Lab have ONE THING on their wish list for this month.

They would love to see donations of:

Newspaper!

Thanks!

Cell Phone Use Reminder

“Cell phones and all hand held electronic devices interfere with the educational process and are not allowed in the classroom or to be used during the school day. It is highly recommended that these devices be left at home.” A new item that needs to be included in this statement is a watch phone and locator designed for children. These are great items, but they must not be used as a phone during the school day. Thank you.

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR 5TH GRADE

The Intermediate School will soon be completing 2017-2018 classroom placements for students. We create class selections with the intent to achieve a mix of students by ability, gender, personality, and individual special needs. While we are unable to honor specific requests for teachers, we value your input from a parent's perspective. If you have specific information about your child's needs which should be taken into consideration or a specific previous personal experience, please put them in writing and send them to the Intermediate School by Friday, April 7, 2017.

We look forward to working with you to ensure your child's academic success!

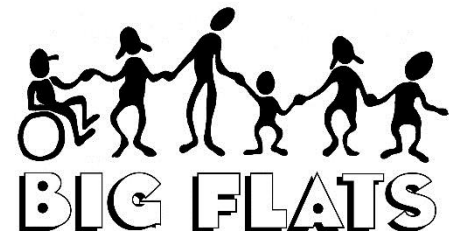
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AND – follow us on Twitter – Mrs. Scaptura @escaptura1, or the District @HhdsSchools.

Fourth Grade Parents: The IS Wants You!

The Intermediate School is already looking forward to next year. If you would be interested in serving as PTO Treasurer, Secretary, or Vice President for next school year, please let them know.



E L E M E N T A R Y

543 Maple Street
Big Flats, New York 14814-9707
607-739-6373

Elizabeth Scaptura, Principal

Dignity Act Coordinator

The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for Big Flats Elementary is Elizabeth Scaptura. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student should be referred to Mrs. Scaptura at 607-739-6373.

The Dignity Act Coordinator for the Horseheads Central School District is Judith Christiansen. Mrs. Christiansen may be reached at One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, or 607-739-5601 x4211.

The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sex, sexual orientation, or gender (including gender identity and expression). Inquiries regarding this notice may be made to Judy Christiansen, Title IX and DASA Coordinator, or Kim Williams, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.

Horseheads 2030

Infrastructure Discussions

All district residents are welcome to attend meetings related to the physical infrastructure of the Horseheads district as part of Horseheads 2030, a comprehensive capital project to improve the education and infrastructure of the district. These meetings will focus on the district's buildings and grounds.




All meetings are open to the public and will be held at 7pm in the Horseheads High School Auditorium. Here is the schedule:

February 28	7pm	Auditorium
March 16	7pm	Auditorium
March 27	7pm	Auditorium
April 26	7pm	Auditorium
May 11	7pm	Auditorium
May 30	7pm	Auditorium



Questions about Horseheads 2030? Visit www.horseheadsdistrict.com, call (607) 739-5601, x4295, or email hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 1	2 2	3 3	4
5	6 4	7 5 6:00 Principal Chat 6:30 PTO	8 CSE Meetings 6	9 1	10  6:00 Winter Festival 2	11
12	13 3	14  4	15 5	16 CIM Meetings 6	17 1	18
19	20  No School	21 2	22 3	23 6:00 BoE - CS 4	24 5	25
26	27 6	28 1 Think "true blue" ◊ Be honest ◊ Don't deceive, cheat, or steal ◊ Build a good reputation ◊	Think "true blue" ◊ Be honest ◊ Don't deceive, cheat, or steal ◊ Build a good reputation ◊	Be reliable—do what you say you'll do ◊ Don't blame others carelessly ◊	Be loyal—stand by your family, friends, and country	