Big Flats News

December 2018

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!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I would like to thank everyone who attended our parent/teacher conferences last month. I know that the faculty very much enjoy and look forward to having individual time with parents to discuss each of their students. We hope that you, too, enjoy this time collaborating with your child's teacher for the advancement of your child(ren).

Congratulations to all our 3rd and 4th grade Scripps spelling bee participants! All of our students did an incredible job during our spell down process and our annual spelling bee! Congratulations to Leah Johnson, our 3rd grade spelling bee champion, and Evelyn Dassance, our 3rd grade runner up. Congratulations to Brogan McLaughlin, our 4th grade champion, and Sujit Pathak as our 4th grade runner up. Leah and Brogan will go on to the Regional Scripps Spelling Bee that will be held on March 9, 2019 at the Corning-Painted Post Middle School.

*As the school year progresses, and our students and staff are becoming more comfortable in their daily routines, some of you may have noticed that we are stretching our instruction time to make every minute count. We recently implemented a slight change in our end of the day procedures where staff are teaching right up to the dismissal bell which rings at 2:25pm. Our on-duty teachers usually arrive with their students to the main lobby and cafeteria by 2:26pm and all other classroom teachers and students follow immediately behind them. To keep the busses timely on their afternoon schedule, we need to prioritize our busses leaving promptly once we have given the all-call for departure. So, for parents or guardians who use the north end parking lot to pick up their students, our staff will be holding up traffic to allow our busses to leave on time and all together. We will also hold up any pedestrians walking to our south parking lot to allow our busses to depart. We appreciate your support, flexibility, and understanding. If anyone has any questions or concerns regarding our new end-of-the-day dismissal procedures, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth M. Scaptura

Elizabeth Scaptura,
Principal

*Changes in Dismissal Procedure!

Elementary Lunches (K-6)

School Food Services prices for the 2018-2019 school year will be:

Breakfast: $1.25
Lunch: $2.10

School Hours

Hours for the Elementary Schools are:
8:15 a.m. to 2:25 p.m.

Office Hours

Our school office hours during regular school days are:
Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Office Phone Numbers

(607) 739-6373
(607) 795-2550
Fax: (607) 795-2555

Horseheads Central School District sets the standard of educational excellence by fostering innovative thinking, curiosity, and a passion for learning to maximize the potential of each individual. We engage with our local and global communities to provide a student-centered, nurturing environment.

Explore ***Empower*** ***Excel***

FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

- **Delayed Start Procedures**

As we enter 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 schools ***two hours**** *later than normal start time. School ends at the regular time on delayed start days. Morning buses will arrive at the bus stops 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 5 of the District Calendar.* ****Pre-K classes will begin at 10:30am when there is a delayed start.***

- **Recess**

*Students continue to go outside for recess during winter months. Please be sure that your child has a warm coat, hat, gloves/mittens, and boots so they can stay warm as they play. *Please remember that the nurse cannot provide boots for any student.*

- **Changes in Going Home Routine/Bus Notes**

Please remember to write a 'blue note' with your child's change in dismissal plans if he/she will not be following their normal routine. Blue notes should also be written to explain your child's tardiness, absence, or plan to leave early. This is extremely important for the safety of our students.

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.

Winter Concert

Our 4th grade Winter Choral Concert will be held on Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 7pm in the High School Auditorium.

Parents' Bill of Rights Relating to Student Data

The Horseheads Central School District, in compliance with Education Law 2-d, hereby establishes the following Parents' Bill of Rights in regard to student data:

1. A student's personally identifiable information will not be sold or released for any commercial purpose;
2. Parents have the right to inspect and review the complete contents of their child's educational record. Procedures for reviewing student records can be found in the Board Policy entitled 'Student Records,' Policy 5500, Regulation 5500-R;
3. Security protocols regarding confidentiality of personally identifiable information are currently in place and the safeguards necessary to protect the confidentiality of student data are maintained at industry standards and best practices. The safeguards include but are not limited to: encryptions, firewalls, and password protection.
4. New York State maintains a complete list of all student data collected by the State and the data is available for public review at www.nysed.gov, or by writing to: 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12234.
5. Parents have the right to have complaints about possible breaches of student data addressed. Complaints should be directed to the Superintendent of Schools, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845.

ATTENTION PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF 3RD AND 4TH GRADERS

To provide schools and parents with an assessment of student achievement, New York State has developed the New York State Testing Program. These standardized tests challenge all students in grades 3 through 8 to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. Please visit the site at http://engageny.org/parent-and-family-resources. If you are interested in viewing this site but do not have access to the Internet, please call the school office so that we can make arrangements for you to see this guide.

3rd and 4th grade ELA – April 3-4, 2019

3rd and 4th grade Math – May 1-2, 2019

4th grade Science Performance Test – May 22, 2019

4th grade Science Written Test - June 3, 2019

Mark Your Calendars

December 3-14
Spirit of Giving
December 4
PTO Meeting; 6:00pm, BF Comm Ctr
December 12
Winter Choral Concert; 7:00pm, HS Aud
December 13
BOE Meeting; 6:00pm, MMC
December 21
Spirit Day—Holiday Sweater
December 24-January 4
*Winter Recess

Learn Up-To-Date Information About Our Schools and the District

Facebook: The district and each of our seven schools have pages. "Like" them to see our information in your news feed.

Twitter: Follow us on Twitter at **@HhdsSchools** to read our tweets.

Follow Mrs. Scaptura on Twitter at **@escaptura1**

Instagram: The district's page—**hhdsschools**

Visit our district website at: **www.horseheadsdistrict.com**.

Questions about our website or social media?

E-mail **hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com**

Please pull tabs for Ronald McDonald!

PullTabs4McDonalds@yahoo.com

Pull tabs for Ronald McDonald Charities!
Tabs will be picked up mid-May.

Send in your box tops to earn cash for our school!

Earn Cash for Our School!

Certified Teacher Substitutes Needed
Teaching Assistant Substitute Needed
The District needs certified teachers for day-to-day substituting opportunities in all of our schools. Certified teacher substitutes receive a rate of $95 per day. To apply, contact the Human Resources Office at (607)-739-5601 x 4211.

*Valuable Items in School

Each year over 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, ***including electronics***, 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 disappear or get broken. *Thank you for your support!*

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 to be announced. This person may be reached at One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845 (607)-739-5601 x4211.

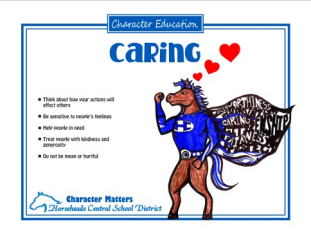
Non-Discrimination Notification

The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, marital status, military status, sex, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, predisposing genetic characteristic, or disability, and provides equal access to applicable groups under the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. Inquiries regarding this policy may be made to (TBA), Title IX/ DASA Coordinator and Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; Anthony Gill, Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; or Kim Williams, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607)-739-5601.

December—The month of:

Caring

- ⇒ Be kind
- ⇒ Express gratitude
- ⇒ Forgive others
- ⇒ Help people in need
- ⇒ Be charitable



Digital Citizen News - December 2018

Volume 2 : Issue 4 - December 2018

Greater Southern Tier BOCES

A SIMPLE SECURITY BEST PRACTICE

If you need to walk away from your computer for a short while, it is a best practice to lock your screen so that no one can access your programs without your knowledge.

On Windows: (3 options)

1. Hit the Windows key and the L key on your keyboard.
2. Press Ctrl-Alt-Delete. On the menu that pops up, click Lock.
3. Click the Start button in the bottom-left corner. Click your user icon and then select Lock.

On Macintosh: (2 options)

1. Click on the apple in the top left corner. Choose Lock Screen.
2. Use the keyboard shortcut command + control + Q.

Sign Up to receive this newsletter in your email inbox

Scan this QR code with your phone, or go to http://go.gstboces.org/dcnews-signup in your browser.

AdChoices

If you see this symbol or the words "Ad Choices", it indicates that the advertising is "Interest-based advertising", also known as "online behavioral advertising", or "behavioral targeting". This means that the site selectively displays ads based on your browsing history to display ads that you are most likely to identify with and respond to the ad's specific content.

The AdChoices icon is shown automatically by companies as part of the self-regulatory program, and is meant to indicate to consumers when interest-based advertising data is being collected or used. By clicking on the icon, a consumer can learn more about the ad or a website's collection practices, and be provided with the ability to opt-out of such targeting.

AdChoices on Wikipedia's - **http://go.gstric.org/204-ads1**

Learn about AdChoices - **http://go.gstric.org/204-ads2**

DIGITAL LAW and STUDENT DATA PRIVACY

The information in this section is excerpted from The Educator's Guide to Student Data Privacy, created by **ConnectSafely.org** and **The Future of Privacy Forum**

LAWS THAT PARENTS & EDUCATORS SHOULD KNOW		
Acronym or Abbreviation	Full Title	What it says …
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act	This federal law that guarantees that parents have access to their child's education record and restricts who can access and use student information.
COPPA	The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act	This law controls what information is collected from young children by companies operating websites, games, and mobile applications directed toward children under 13.
CIPA	The Children's Internet Protection Act	This law requires that K–12 schools and libraries in the United States use Internet filters and implement other measures to protect children from harmful online content as a condition for federal funding.
NYS 2-d	New York State Education Law 2-d	This law states that a student's personally identifiable information cannot be sold or released for any commercial purposes, and that parents have the right to inspect and review the complete contents of their child's education record. Other restrictions exist on the transfer and storage of student data.

Some Frequently Asked Questions about Student Data?

1. Why should classroom teachers care about student data privacy?

   There are legal and ethical restrictions that impact districts, schools, and teachers.

2. What constitutes student data?

   Information that is tied to individual students is referred to as personally identifiable information, or PII, and is subject to additional restrictions in laws and regulations.

3. Does my district have a list of approved online software programs that can be used in my class?

   Check with your district's technology department to see if they have a list of "safe" software. Many online software sites require you to set up accounts for your students that may use personally identifiable information. It is important for these sites to be vetted ensuring that they meet the requirements of privacy laws.

4. What if I want to use an education app or tool and I don't know if my school/district has vetted it?

   Be familiar with your school's policy or process for selecting new educational tools, if one exists.

The **Educator's Guide to Student Data Privacy** has lots of other information about the legal implications of student data privacy and our networked environments, and also about questions to ask regarding the software programs that your district uses.

View the guide on **ConnectSafely.org**'s web site **http://go.gstric.org/204-guide** or Click to download a PDF of the guide - **http://go.gstric.org/204-guidePDF**

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION?

I want us to ask ourselves every day, "How are we using technology to make a real difference in people's lives?"

- Barack Obama

On the Importance of Passwords

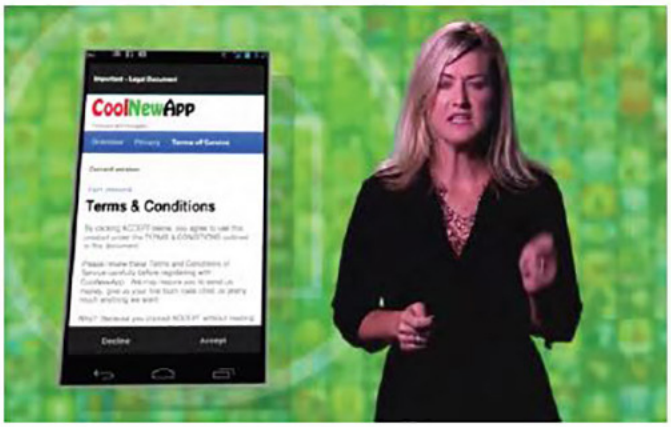
The image above is a wordle of the most popularly used passwords. The larger the type, the more often it is used. It is interesting that the word password and the number sequence 123456 are the most used.

It is important to have a good, secure password because it not only protects you and your information but it protects the system you are using as well.

Use this link to read an article with 3 simple suggestions to help you create a unique and secure password.

http://go.gstric.org/204-password

YouTube Ask Before You App



Ask Before You App is a short video prepared by CETPA (California Educational Technology Professionals Association) and CommonSense media that presents five tips that educators should consider before using an app in class.

http://go.gstric.org/204-ask

The Top 10 Most-Clicked Email Subject Lines found in Phishing Attacks

1. Password Check Required Immediately 15%
2. Security Alert 12%
3. Change of Password Required Immediately 11%
4. A Delivery Attempt was made 10%
5. Urgent press release to all employees 10%
6. De-activation of [[email]] in Process 10%
7. Revised Vacation & Sick Time Policy 9%
8. UPS Label Delivery, 1ZBE312TNY00015011 9%
9. Staff Review 2017 7%
10. Company Policies-Updates to our Fraternization Policy 7%

All of these email subjects are fake. You can see that many of them want you to respond quickly and without thinking about it. Do the opposite. Be very suspicious of them.

http://go.gstric.org/204-morephishing

The Alliance for Excellence in Education has announced its Digital Learning Day 2019 on February 28th. Learn more about @OfficialDLDay at www.digitallearningday.org

Join thousands of students and educators as they celebrate #DLDAY

http://go.gstric.org/204-dlday

CARING FOR YOUR ONE-to-ONE DEVICE

If you are lucky enough that your school has a one-to-one program that provides a device for your use, it is important to understand that it is your responsibility to care for the device to keep it in top form.

Your district may have specific policies that defines how you can protect and care for your device but here are some good general tips for you.

1. Follow your school/district rules for using your device.
2. Make sure to charge your device according to the device's instructions so that it is ready when you need it.
3. Take special care of your device's screen. Screens are sensitive and may scratch or crack if not cared for.
4. If your device has a lid or a cover make sure to close it or cover it before moving it to another location.
5. If your device is placed in a backpack, make sure that there are no objects in the backpack that may damage the device. Also, don't throw your backpack around with the device in it.
6. Avoid placing heavy objects on the device, and be careful not to sit or lean on it device as pressure can bend and damage the device.
7. Try to use your device on a clean, level area like a table or desk so that it won't bang into things or fall, or be dropped.
8. Do not have food or drinks near your device as liquids can cause problems with the device.
9. Do not leave your device in a car, outside, or in an unsupervised area. Extremes of temperature or weather can effect your device. Devices may be stolen if they are left unattended.

As already mentioned, it is important to know your school's rules and policies. Some schools require parents to pay for repairs that are not considered normal wear and tear for a device.

SELF-ASSESSMENT TIME

Are You Digitally Literate?

What does it mean to be digitally literate?

What skills are necessary?

What skills do you have?

What skills do you need to learn?

What is digital literacy?
http://go.gstric.org/204-literacy

Why is it important?
http://go.gstric.org/204-important

FOR SERIOUS GAMERS

BEWARE OF NINTENDO SWITCH HACKING AND PIRACY!

Hackers have had success in gaining access to parts of Nintendo's infrastructure that is usually closed-off from ordinary Switch users. This includes servers used internally by Nintendo, such as one which hosts different versions of the Switch operating system.

Pirates deploy malware to steal each other's files so they can download more games themselves. Groups deliberately plant code into others' Switches so they are 'bricked' and no longer work properly.

For more info http://go.gstric.org/204-switchhack