



# Big Flats News

February 2019

*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 2019

**Saturday, March 2nd—1-3pm**

**Games**

**Food**

**Basket Raffle**

**Prizes**

The Big Flats Elementary PTO invites you to join us for our Annual Winter Festival on Saturday, March 2, 2019 from 1-3pm. The festival is fun for the whole family, with games, food, and prizes! The highlight of the festival is our raffle! Past raffle prizes have included themed gift baskets, gift cards to local businesses, a 49" TV, and kids' bikes. Please join us to see what's in store for a fun-filled afternoon!

### 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:

### • 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. This also includes smart watches. It is highly recommended that these devices be left at home. If seen out and being used by a student during the school day, the device will be taken and kept in the office safe until a parent or guardian picks this item up.*

### • Lost and Found

*Please remind your child(ren) to look in the lost and found bin if they are missing any items that belong to them. There are quite a few articles of clothing in our bin waiting for their owner to reclaim them!*

### • \*5th GRADE CLASS PLACEMENTS

*"The Intermediate School will soon be completing 2019-2020 classroom placements for students. We create class sections 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 that 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 5<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to working with you to ensure your child's academic success! Thanks!"*



We are excited to share our continued collaboration with the Black Growth Council of Corning Incorporated to participate in the Black History Month Read-In Program. The Mission of the Black History Month Read-In Program is to continue the celebration of African American literacy; a tradition of Black History Month. Corning Incorporated has purchased the books that will be read and added to each classroom library. We are excited to continue our partnership with Corning Incorporated and volunteer readers.

On February 7th and 8th, volunteers from various departments within Corning Incorporated will be visiting each of our classrooms, reading to and interacting with our students. This year, students in Pre-K will be read the book The Crayon Box That Talked by Shane Derolf and Michael Letzig. Students in Kindergarten will be read The Day the Crayons Quit by Drew Daywalt. Students in grade 1 will be read Have You Thanked an Inventor Today? by Patrice McLaurin. Grade 2 students will be read Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt by Deborah Hopkinson. Grade 3 students will be read The Other Side by Jacqueline Woodson, and students in grade 4 will be read Through My Eyes by Ruby Bridges.

The focus of the guided discussions will start with grade 1 on black inventors, grade 2 on slavery/civil war, grade 3 on segregation, grade 4 on integration; plus other information that is unique to each book. We greatly appreciate this opportunity and look forward to a continued partnership with Corning Incorporated.

### \*Attention 4th Grade Students and Parents

The Intermediate School will host an Open House and Presentation to current 4th grade students and parents on Monday, March 25 beginning at 6:00 PM in the Middle School cafeteria. Mr. Bostwick and Mrs. Doubrava will share information on the Intermediate School. Following the presentation, students and their families are welcome to take a self-guided tour of the school. We look forward to meeting you!

## 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.

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade ELA – April 3-4, 2019

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade Math – May 1-2, 2019

4<sup>th</sup> grade Science Performance Test – May 22, 2019

4<sup>th</sup> grade Science Written Test - June 3, 2019

## Wish List for Innovation Lab:

- ⇒ **FABRIC REMNANTS**
- ⇒ **YARN**
- ⇒ **TOILET PAPER ROLLS**
- ⇒ **PAPER TOWEL ROLLS**
- ⇒ **CONTAINERS (OATS, TUPPERWARE, ETC.)**

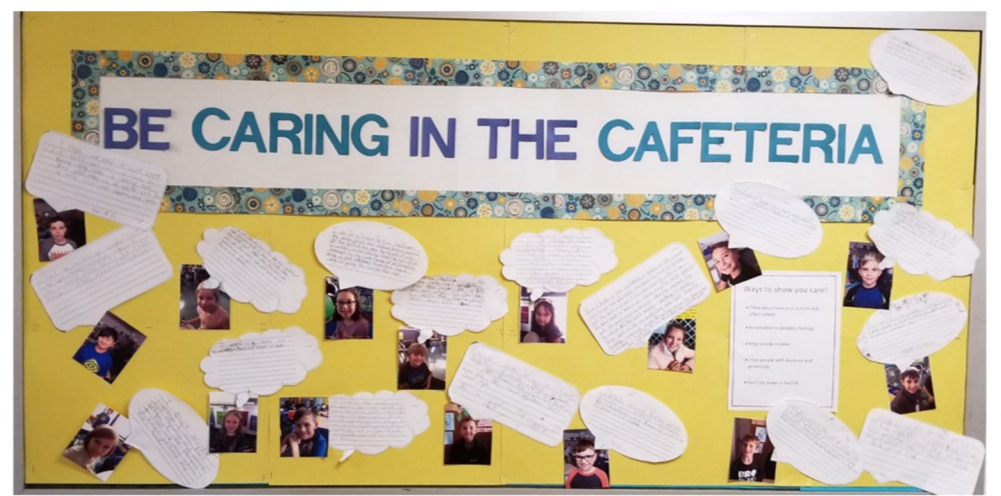
Our **Art Room** is on Instagram! Search **#MrsVencesArtRoom** to see all of the fun and exciting projects our students have been creating all year in art Class!



**Some of Mrs. Schiefen's 4th grade students wearing their hats for Spirit Day: Hat Day!**

# Student News:

*The Falcon Leadership Team* has been supporting students with good choices in the lunchroom. This year, classes earn stars in the cafeteria for good behavior. The Falcon Leadership Team brainstormed a list of celebration ideas for when classes earn a certain number of stars. These suggestions were shared with our classroom teachers, and a poster was created for the cafeteria. The Falcon Leadership Team also shared advice on how to "Be Caring in the Cafeteria" by writing tips and suggestions for students to read on a bulletin board in the hallway. We look forward to members of the Falcon Leadership Team sharing their work with you in the future!





## Mark Your Calendars

### February 1

Report cards go home

### February 5

PTO Meeting; 6pm, BF Comm Ctr

### February 7

Kindergarten Registration; 10am-5pm, BF Bridge

BOE Budget Meeting; 6pm, MMC

### February 14

*Valentine's Day*

### February 15

Spirit Day—Wear **purple/gray** in Memory of Trooper Sperr

### February 18-19

Presidents' Day—NO SCHOOL

### February 28

BOE Meeting; 6pm, MMC

*\*Please remember to talk to your child's teacher before bringing in birthday treats.\**

### 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](http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com).

Questions about our website or social media?

E-mail [hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com)



Please pull tabs for Ronald McDonald!



[PullTabs4McDonalds@yahoo.com](mailto: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!



## Need more Blue Notes?

By this time of year, you may be running out of blue notes. Please call the office and we will be happy to send a pad home with your child.

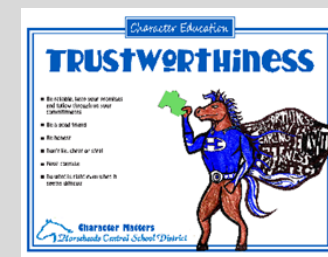
### Certified Teacher Substitutes Needed Teaching Assistant Substitutes Needed

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.

## February — The month of:

## 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



## 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 (DAC) for the Horseheads Central School District is Caitlin DeFilippo, director of Human Resources. If there is a complaint regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student, the complaint should be filed with Caitlin DeFilippo at One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845; 607-739-5601 x4211, or [cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com).

## 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 Caitlin DeFilippo, Title IX/DASA Coordinator, and Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; Anthony Gill, Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; or Kelly Squires, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.

This policy of non-discrimination includes access by students to educational programs, counseling services, course offerings, and activities, as well as recruitment and appointment of employees and employment pay, benefits, advancement and/or termination.



## Happy February to all you Digital Citizens out there!

Winter has definitely come to upstate New York. As we bundle up and brace against the cold, we hope that we won't have to shovel a lot more snow. If you are caught inside because of the unkind winter weather, take a moment to think back and reflect upon what you know about digital citizenship and the efforts you have made to learn how to become a better digital citizen this year.

GST BOCES has resources to help you on your digital journey. Visit our website at <http://dc.gstboces.org> to see what is available to use for self-learning or teaching your children or students.

Also, we are running a Calendar Art Contest, follow the link below for more details.



**Digital Citizenship  
Calendar Art Contest**

Entries should feature original artwork illustrating the safe use of the Internet and/or mobile devices.

**All entries must be received electronically by March 1st.** Full details at:  
<http://go.gstric.org/art-contest>



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.



## REVIEW THE NINE COMPONENTS OF DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

### PROTECT

**DIGITAL RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES**

**DIGITAL SECURITY & DATA PRIVACY**

**DIGITAL LAW**

### RESPECT

**DIGITAL ACCESS**

**DIGITAL ETIQUETTE**

**DIGITAL COMMUNICATION**

### EDUCATE

**DIGITAL LITERACY**

**DIGITAL WELLNESS**

**DIGITAL COMMERCE**

**> WHICH COMPONENTS  
DO YOU KNOW THE  
MOST ABOUT?**

**> WHICH COMPONENTS  
DO YOU NEED TO  
LEARN MORE ABOUT?**



## #I\_AM\_A\_DIGITAL\_CITIZEN

Send comments, suggestions, and questions to [dc@gstboces.org](mailto:dc@gstboces.org)  
Visit <http://dc.gstboces.org> February 2019 - page 1 of 3



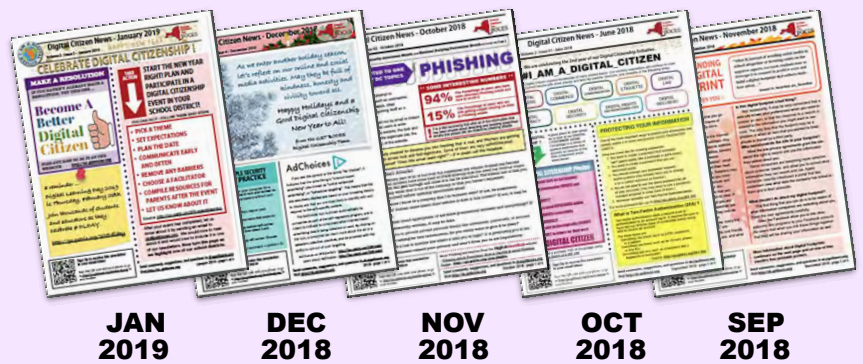
# A QUICK VISUAL GUIDE TO DC RESOURCES FROM GST BOCES

## 1 OUR WEBSITE & BLOG



go to <http://dc.gstboces.org>

## 2 OUR NEWSLETTERS



go to <http://go.gstric.org/dc-news>

## 3 OUR POSTERS AND APPS



find them on our website

# Could You Pass the CRAAP Test?

The **CRAAP Test** is a test developed by a team of librarians at California State University, Chico (CSU Chico) to check the reliability of sources across academic disciplines. The **CRAAP Test** makes it easier for educators and students to determine if their sources can be trusted. **CRAAP** is an acronym for **Currency, Relevance, Authority, Accuracy, and Purpose**. By employing the **CRAAP Test** while evaluating information sources, you can reduce the likelihood of using unreliable information. Source: Wikipedia - <http://go.gstric.org/craap-wiki>

CURRENCY	When was the information published or posted? Is it current or out-of-date for the topic?
RELEVANCE	Does the information directly relate to your topic? Who is the intended audience?
AUTHORITY	Who is the author/publisher and what is their reputation? Is there contact information available?
ACCURACY	Can you verify the information from another source? Is it supported by solid evidence?
PURPOSE	What is the purpose of the information? Is it to inform? to teach? to sell? to persuade/deceive?

For more information about CRAAP

evaluation criteria PDF from California State University - <http://go.gstric.org/craap-pdf>  
video from Western University - <http://go.gstric.org/craap-video>





# How do I monitor my kids' computer/device use without seeming intrusive?

I don't think there are any parents out there who enjoy fighting with their children. In my case, I can remember dreading the times I had to bring up certain topics because I knew that my kids would immediately feel defensive and they would try to shut down the conversation. Painful as it may have been I still knew I had to have those conversations and I knew that I had to diffuse many of those conversations when the kids would try to raise their voice to me or my spouse.

Let's face it, many young people today feel that their computers/phones/tablets are their own personal spaces where they can do whatever they want, and they will resist any efforts that you may make to set boundaries on their digital/online lives. However, you must realize that part of a parent's job is to make sure that their kids are using their electronics/devices appropriately.

Perhaps the best approach to this problem is to have regular, open conversations about what the kids are doing on their phones. It is also appropriate for you to have your son/daughter show you what apps they are using. Some phones/computers will let you see how much time they are spending in each application/program, and you can tell a lot by spot checking texts, and email/call logs. Kids may feel that these conversations and device checks are akin to spying on them, however, it is important to make them understand that these activities are not intended to crush their freedom or individuality but to keep them safe and protected. It is really no different that how you check in to make sure they are taking care of their health, are eating properly, and are getting enough sleep.

Summing up, you can make sure that your child does not feel that you are intruding on their digital world but instead feels that you are genuinely interested and concerned about them and that you want to understand how they are using technology in their life. It is important to have these open, honest conversations and to make it clear to your child that you expect them to act responsibly in the online world.



## ADVANCED PARENTING

### WHEN IS A CALCULATOR NOT A CALCULATOR?

After you are comfortable talking to your son or daughter about their devices, and after you have begun doing regular spot checks of their phone or computer - You should be aware that there are apps that your child can download specifically to hide information from you. For example - there are some "calendar" apps that look like a calculator when launched but allow them to hide explicit images or video so that you can't find it. Go to Google Play and search "hide images".

READ  
THIS

**12 APPS THAT EVERY PARENT OF A TEEN SHOULD KNOW ABOUT - <http://go.gstic.org/206-apps>**

Parents - It is your **RIGHT** and your **RESPONSIBILITY** to know and to understand what your child is doing with computers/other technology.

You have bought these tools and put them in your child's hands. Teach them to use the tools properly.



# My February Coloring Sheet - I Love Digital Citizenship

