



Big Flats News

November 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!*

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

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is hard to believe that it is November already and that today marks the end of the first marking period! By now, you should have received a letter from your child(ren's) teacher advising you of your scheduled Parent/Teacher Conference either on Friday, November 9th, 2018, or Friday, November 16th, 2018. If you do not have a scheduled time or have misplaced your letter, please contact your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Yesterday, we had our first of four NYS mandated lockdown drills of the school year. Students, faculty, and staff did an AMAZING job at practicing this very important drill. As adults, we would all agree that it is incredibly sad that we must teach our students at such a young age what we need to do to keep safe from others. I want to applaud all of our teachers and staff for the amazing work that they do to properly train our students during these difficult drills while remaining calm and creating nurturing environments for our students.

I would like to invite everyone to our annual 3rd and 4th grade Spelling Bee on Tuesday, November 20th, 2018 at 6:30pm at the Big Flats Community Center. I know our 3rd and 4th grade students are very excited for this annual event, as our two grade-level champions will proceed on to the Regional Scripps Spelling Bee in Corning in March. Please consider joining us!

Lastly, please remember to submit your Veteran's picture form as soon as possible so that we can post them on our *Wall of Heroes* in honor of their service and sacrifices to our country. You may submit current and/or retired Veterans of any of our branches. We sincerely thank all of our Veterans, as well as our current Servicemen and Servicewoman!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth M. Scaptura
Elizabeth Scaptura,
Principal



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



WALL OF HEROES

Our Big Flats PTO is organizing a “Wall of Heroes!” in celebration of Veterans’ Day. If you have a friend or family member who is a veteran or active military, please help us honor them by completing the picture form that was sent home, or request a new copy to do so. The PTO will be displaying the picture and description of our servicemen and women for all our staff, students, and visitors to see.

Help Us Salute Our Heroes!

Spelling Bee



To begin the process of our annual Spelling Bee, Spell Downs will be held on November 7th and 8th for our 3rd and 4th grade students. The top three students from each class that excel during their Spell Down will continue on to the 2018 Scripps Spelling Bee on November 20, 2018 at 6:30pm at the Big Flats Community Center.

Good luck to our 3rd and 4th grade Falcons!

Parent/Teacher Conference Information

Parent/teacher conferences will be held on November 9th and November 16th. During this time, parents will have the opportunity to sit down on a one to one basis and talk to your child’s teacher. You should have received a conference notification from your child’s teacher informing you of the date and time of your scheduled conference. On November 9th, school is not in session for students due to the all-day parent/teacher conferences. On November 16th, students will attend school for a morning half day and be dismissed at 11:00am for parent/teacher conferences in the afternoon. Please remember lunch will not be served on November 16th, nor will there be Kid’s World available after school.



Winter Weather Ahead!

Just a friendly reminder to please make sure your children are coming to school dressed appropriately for the colder months. In an effort to save energy and to be fiscally responsible as a district, we set the temperature to 68 degrees in all of our buildings. Please make sure your children are dressed warmly and have a sweater or sweatshirt available to them during the day should they need it. Students should also bring/wear to school coats, hats, mittens, and boots when warranted, as we do go outside for recess in the winter.

***If any clothing is borrowed from the Health Office, please wash those articles of clothing and return them to the nurse as soon as possible. Boots and shoes are not provided. Thank you.**

We appreciate your cooperation and assistance!

FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

- **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.

- **Half Days for Elementary Schools**

There will be no lunch and no Kid's World provided on half days at elementary schools. Dismissal will be at 10:30am for Pre-K and 11:00am for K-4. Please send a blue note on these days with dismissal plans for your student if he/she usually attends Kid's World.

- **Please Always Park in the Parking Lot**

When visiting the school, either with a late student/early pick up, dropping something off, attending a meeting, etc., please always park in the parking lot and not the bus lane. All visitors must report to the office, and the office will further assist you.

- ***Please Write Names on Lunch Boxes!**

Lunch boxes have been brought to the office with no name on them after being left on the bus or in the cafeteria. Please write your child's first and last name somewhere in or on the lunch box so we can get it back to them as soon as possible! Thank you.

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.

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

November 6

PTO Meeting; 6:00pm, BF Comm Ctr

November 7

3rd Grade Spell Down

November 8

4th Grade Spell Down

Spirit Day!—**Patriotic Day**/Jeans For Troops Day

Grades 3&4 Report Cards Go Home

November 9

Parent/Teacher Conf—**NO SCHOOL**

November 12

Veteran's Day (Observed)—**NO SCHOOL**

November 15

BOE Meeting; 6:00pm, MMC

November 16

Parent/Teacher Conf—**HALF DAY**

November 20

Scrip Spelling Bee; 6:30pm, BF Comm Ctr

November 21-23

NO SCHOOL—*Thanksgiving Break*

November 29

Picture Make-Up Day

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!

2018-2019 PTO Officers

Alissa Creighton

President

To volunteer, please email: alissaacreighton@gmail.com

Christy Harmer

Vice President

Zuleika Grover

Co-Treasurer

Jill Staats

Co-Treasurer

Lauren Heal

Secretary

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.

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 Megan Collins. Mrs. Collins may be reached at One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607)-739-5601 x4211.

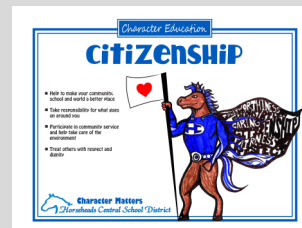
Non-Discrimination Notification

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 Megan Collins, 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.

November—The month of:

Citizenship

- ◊ Do your share to make your community better
- ◊ Cooperate
- ◊ Be a good neighbor; follow laws and rules
- ◊ Get involved in community affairs
- ◊ Stay informed: Vote
- ◊ Protect the environment
- ◊ Volunteer



Please remember to talk to your child's teacher before bringing treats in for parties.

