



# Big Flats News

October 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,*

I can't believe that the first month of the new school year is completed and behind us. I hope that your child(ren) are settling into their daily school routine and enjoy being a proud Big Flats Elementary Falcon! Beginning this month, our school newsletter will be emailed electronically to all Big Flats Elementary families who indicated that they would like to receive the newsletter electronically and not in paper format. We greatly appreciate everyone's support in going electronic and saving paper, as well as printing costs. Please feel free to give us feedback regarding this new practice. We appreciate parent and guardian feedback! During the month of October, we focus a lot of safety. Today, we had our annual Off-Site Evacuation Drill where students, faculty, and staff exited the school and made our way to our off-site evacuation location. Everyone did a great job practicing this very important drill in case we ever need to evacuate the school. On October 12th, we will be practicing our Early Dismissal Drill, where ALL students will get on their Emergency Go Home assigned bus—the bus they would use in the event of an emergency. Please note that our busses will leave at the normal time and will **not** leave early. The students will then follow their normal dismissal plans. **On Wednesday, October 24, 2018, we will once again be observing and participating in Unity Day, which is a Nationwide Movement where we all wear orange to stand “Together against bullying, UNITED for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.” Please encourage your child(ren) to wear orange!** Please do not forget that we do not have school this Monday, October 8th, in observance of Columbus Day, and no school on October 19, 2018 due to our Superintendents Conference Day. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to outreach me.

*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*

### 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.*

### Reminder for October 5

On Friday, October 5, it is very important that your child is in school as we will be having our Off-Site Evacuation drill. The drill will take approximately 75 minutes to complete. Please do not schedule any appointments for your children during the afternoon as your child will not be on campus.

### Halloween Parade

This year's parade will be on Friday, October 26 at 1:15pm. Please note that students are **not** to come to school in costume—this includes make-up and colored hair. All costumes must be non-threatening, and no toy weapons are allowed. Visitors are NOT allowed to wear costumes, and only pre-approved parent-helpers will be allowed into the building to assist students with costumes. The parade will be held outside. In the event of rain, the parade will be canceled and will not be rescheduled. To ensure the safety of our students, we ask that all visitors please remain behind the yellow caution tape while watching the parade.



### 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](http://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.

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

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

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

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

## Mark Your Calendars

### October 2nd

PTO Meeting; 6:00pm, BF Comm Ctr

### October 3rd

First Day of Character Education

### October 4th

PTO Color Run; 5:30pm

### October 8th

Columbus Day—NO SCHOOL

### October 18th

Picture Day

BOE Meeting; 6:00pm, MMC

### October 19th

Conference Day—NO SCHOOL

### October 24th

Unity Day!—Wear **Orange**

### October 26th

Halloween Parade; 1:15pm

### October 27th

District-Wide *Make-A-Difference Day*

### October 31st

Halloween!

*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)



## Big Flats Elementary Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO)

The Big Flats Elementary PTO Officers are as follows. There are many opportunities to be involved in your child(ren)'s school and school events. If you are interested in volunteering with the PTO, please contact the PTO president at [alissaacreighton@gmail.com](mailto:alissaacreighton@gmail.com), or by emailing [pto.bigflats@gmail.com](mailto:pto.bigflats@gmail.com).

### 2018-2019 Officers

Alissa Creighton  
Christy Harmer  
Zuleika Grover  
Jill Staats  
Lauren Heal

President  
Vice President  
Co-Treasurer  
Co-Treasurer  
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 739-5601 x 4211.

**Save the Date: Make-A-Difference Day—October 27, 2018 10am-12pm**  
*Various locations in our community. More information to come!*

### 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.

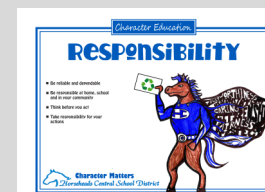
### Non-Discrimination Notification

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.

## October—The month of:

### Responsibility

- > Plan ahead
- > Be diligent
- > Persevere
- > Do your best
- > Do what you are supposed to do
- > Think before you act
- > Be accountable for your words, actions, and attitudes
- > Set a good example for others



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

