

The School Connection



Horseheads Intermediate School

Principal's Post

Spring has officially arrived, and we have had some sporadic nice days. It feels refreshing to be able to spend more time outdoors, and I'm sure the students are enjoying burning off the winter cabin fever.

March was a great month to continue our strong focus on academics prior to the New York State tests. Students and staff have been working very hard to get the most learning out of every opportunity each day. Our academic program is moving toward continual improvement as we are in the third year of implementing the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The CCSS are intended to make learning a deeper process as opposed to more content on a superficial level, which will pay off in the rest of their schooling and beyond.

The **NYS Math Tests are Tuesday, May 2nd – Thursday, May 4th**. We greatly appreciate your support by ensuring your child(ren) get a good night's sleep, a nutritious breakfast, and necessary supplies such as sharpened pencils. It is also very important that all students arrive on time on testing days.

We are continuing to encourage students to read toward their 25 book goal. Over 125 students have already reached this goal with new members of the "Ferocious Readers Club" being added daily. Even just 20 minutes of reading each night will help toward this goal as well as increasing their academic achievement. As we approach the end of the school year, please continue to check your child's homework completion and encourage/help them study for quizzes and tests.

Thank you for all you do to support your child in his/her education. The time you devote to reading with them, helping with homework/project, or even just ensuring their best quality work, is an investment that will pay off in the future. Check out the article to the right about how to keep your child motivated at school through these last couple of months.

Yours in education,

Michael Bostwick
Principal

Follow me on Twitter: Michael Bostwick@[M_Bostwick](#)
School Hashtag: [#Sinnovators](#)
Like us on Facebook: Search Horseheads Intermediate School
Website: <http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/HHIS.cfm>

Math Science Technology Night was rescheduled to April 20th from 6:30pm – 8:30pm. Come join us for the egg drop contest, math bee, challenges, displays, and demonstrations!

*"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."
- Benjamin Franklin*

April 2017
Volume 5 Issue 8

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Parent Article

ATTENTION!
[Parent Resources](#)
on IS website.

"The CCSS are intended to make learning a deeper process as opposed to more content on a superficial level."

Mark Your Calendars!

- Friday, 4/10 – 4/17:** NO SCHOOL – SPRING RECESS; **Note additional day on Monday, 4/17**
- Tuesday, April 4th:** Principal Chat – 9:00 AM Cafeteria/6:00 PM, Library, PTO Meeting, Library, 6:30 PM
- Thursday, April 6^h :** Board of Education Budget Workshop, Multi-Media Center, 6:00 PM
- Friday, April 7th:** Report Cards Go Home
- Wednesday, April 19th:** Board of Education Meeting, RR, 6:00 PM
- Thursday, April 20th:** MST Night, 6:30 – 8:30pm
- Monday, April 24th:** Implementation Team, MMC, 4:00 PM
- Wednesday, April 26th:** Horseheads 2030 Infrastructure Discussions, HS Auditorium, 7:00 PM

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

1. **State Testing Information:** We will be administering the State Math Test May 2nd – 4th to all students. You can help by discussing the importance of these tests with your child. It is also important to have a good breakfast and a good night's sleep before the tests. See page 4 for more tips!
2. **25 BOOK GOAL -** We are quickly approaching that time of year for the completion of reading 25 books. We will have a special recognition for those students who achieve this goal. Each teacher has a system in place for students to report that they have met the 25 book requirement. Please encourage your child to report to his or her teacher any books read so far this year.
3. **Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast** is on Wednesday, May 17th. We would like to invite our many volunteers to attend a **Thank You Breakfast Reception** in our Cafeteria from 8:00 AM – 8:45 AM. If you volunteered in any way or helped out at any event this year, please join us on May 17th. Your continued support allows us to provide our students with outstanding programs and activities. Thank you from the staff and students!
4. **Dress Code Reminders:** With warmer weather hopefully on its way, it is time to review our dress code. Brief garments such as halter tops, spaghetti straps, net tops, tube tops, midriff bearing, or see-through garments are not appropriate. Undergarments should be completely covered with outer clothing. Footwear that is a safety hazard will not be allowed—this includes flip flops. Sandals on the playground equipment also pose a safety concern. Shorts should be a comfortable length and fit. Colored hair is not permitted. This is not appropriate for school due to the disruption of the educational process. On cool days, students should dress appropriately for the temperature. Thank you for your cooperation in adhering to this code. Additionally, for health reasons, sprays, perfumes, etc. should not be brought to school.
5. We encourage students to bring healthy drinks rather than soda for snack or lunch. High caffeine energy drinks such as Monster, Red Bull, etc. are not permitted. Healthy snacks that are low in sugar allow students to focus better and maintain their attention span. No glass bottles please!
6. Spring Concerts – Mark your calendars for the upcoming Spring Concerts:
5th Grade: Wednesday, May 31st, HS Auditorium – 7:00 PM – Orchestra, Band, and Chorus
6th Grade: Thursday, June 1st, HS Auditorium – 7:00 PM – Orchestra, Band, and Chorus
7. **Presidential Service Awards:** As the end of the school year is approaching, 6th grade students who meet the criteria for the 50, 75 or 100 hours awards and wish to receive their award at the Grade 6 Awards Ceremony will need to have their final log for the school year turned into the IS office by Friday, May 12, 2017 in order to ensure the arrival of awards. Grade 5 students who meet the criteria will have their awards presented to them here at school. All 5th and 6th grade students who wish to continue working toward the award may do so through June 30, 2017. These log hours need to be dropped off in the IS office by July 5, 2017. Awards will be available for students in September of 2017. Please contact the IS office should you have any questions. [Click here for more information and service logs.](#)
8. **6TH GRADE PARENTS!!! All 6th grade students will need to receive 2 doses of the Varicella (Chicken Pox) vaccination along with the Tdap vaccine. The laws are very strict, and we cannot allow students to come to school after the first 10 days of school without these immunizations.** You must provide proof that your child has received the Tdap immunization in order for your child to attend school in the fall. Your health care provider or health department will provide you with this written proof once your child receives the immunization. Please bring this proof to our Health Office or fax it to us at 795-2495. Information must be received by Wednesday, September 20, 2017. **No appointment cards accepted.**

"PHYSICAL EDUCATION HAPPENINGS"

Intermediate PE students have been very busy the last couple of months. As always, Archery was exciting and enjoyed by all. We need to thank our amazing PTO and Barrett's Bow Shop for their support of this Unit. Without them budget reductions would make this unit impossible. During the Archery Unit each bow gets shot approximately 5,600 times and the students fire around 78,000 arrows. Every year the equipment needs significant attention or replacement to keep in safe shooting order. If you get a chance to thank the PTO or support Barrett's Bow Shop in Elmira Heights, we would appreciate it.

The students also completed a short but intense Juggling and Jump Roping Unit. Hopefully they have not been breaking anything inside practicing their new skills. Mr. Hollar and I were very proud of the hard work we have been seeing in class. Be sure to ask your son or daughter to show you some of their new skills if winter ever lets go and lets us get outside.

This spring our culminating fitness activity for our classes will be the "PACER" test. The PACER, or "beep" test as the students refer to it, was done in all our PE classes in the beginning of the fall. This has given our students a baseline score to work from when applying the concepts taught in our units throughout the year. The time frame for this activity will be the middle to end of May, giving our students a chance to hopefully enjoy better weather and increased activity. Let's hope for a warmer spring!

We continue to encourage our students who are living the active lifestyle outside of school to keep us informed of their activities and accomplishments so we can share them with the building on the morning announcements.

Mr. Hollar and Mr. Honness

DISTRICT CALENDAR CHANGE

Because the District has used four snow days this year, **Friday, May 26th, will be a regular day in session for all students.** Last April, the Board of Education approved the one-page calendar that indicated our school schedule in the event we use more than three snow days. This calendar was sent home in the District Summer Newsletter and is posted on our website.

Please note: The multi-page calendar mailed to residents last summer has an error on May 26th, and we apologize for that error. The box for May 26th on the calendar should say, "No School unless the District has used four snow days."

Again Friday, May 26th, will be a regular school day for all students. Highlighted in our updated calendar are the snow days we've used this year, and are the scheduled snow days in the bottom right hand corner.

ATTENTION PARENTS!!!

We are always looking for interested parents who would like to help out with school events. That could be as simple as chaperoning an event or working at the Book Fair. Everyone is also welcome to join our PTO meetings listed on the District calendar. We are also still looking for a **new Treasurer, Secretary, and Vice President for next year.** Please contact the school or one of the officers below if interested. We appreciate your support and value the partnership!

Intermediate School PTO Officers (2016-2017)

<i>President:</i>	Lisa Bingaman	magnolia3666@yahoo.com	607-767-5121
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Deborah French	frenchsd526@aol.com	607-742-7941
<i>Secretary:</i>	Carol Campbell	jcz@stny.rr.com	607 739-0526



NYS Math Tests

The Math State Test will be given on May 2nd – 4th. These tests help us determine how each student is performing with specific skills in Math toward the standards' expectations. They also help us to know who needs extra help (Academic Intervention Services or AIS) for the following school year in each of these areas. However, this year state tests alone will not be used to determine the need for AIS. We will be using multiple sources to determine the need for extra help.

**We explain to students that the tests are important and to try their best. However, we don't want to burden our students with stress and anxiety. Thanks for your help with this!*

Test Taking Tips For Parents

1. Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep before a test and has a nutritious breakfast in the morning.
2. Maintain a pleasant home environment and avoid unnecessary conflicts. Try to make the morning of the test a pleasant one.
3. Make sure your child has taken any needed medication.
4. Ensure that your child is present during testing (children generally perform better when taking tests with their class, rather than at a make-up time).
5. Get your child to school on time the day of the test.
6. Wish your child good luck each morning of the test. Tell your child that you believe in him/her.
7. Remind your child the test is important, but don't put too much emphasis on them that would create stress or anxiety.
8. Encourage him/her to do their best.
9. Remind your child to listen carefully to the instructions from the teacher, and to read the directions and each question carefully.
10. Explain to your child the importance of using time wisely. If your child gets stuck on a question, encourage him or her to make the best guess and move on.
11. Tell your child to attempt to answer all of the questions and not to leave any blank.
12. Encourage your child to stay focused on the test, even if other students finish early.

2017-2018 Budget Development Calendar:

March 9, 2017 – 6:00 PM, Erin Town Hall – Budget Workshop

March 23, 2017 – 6:00 PM, Multi-Media Center - Board of Education Meeting

April 6, 2017 – 6:00 PM, Multi-Media Center – Budget Workshop

April 19, 2017 (Wednesday) – 6:00 PM, Ridge Road – Board of Education Meeting

- **The Board will adopt the Budget to be offered to voters at this meeting.**

May 4, 2017 – 6:00 PM, Multi-Media Center – Public Hearing on the 2017-2018 Proposed Budget

May 8, 2017 – 7:00 PM, Multi-Media Center – Candidates' Forum

May 16, 2017 – 7:00 AM – 9:00 PM, Big Flats/Ridge Road/High School – School Budget Vote/Board of Education Election

*Horseheads 2030
Infrastructure Discussions
7:00 PM*

Horseheads High School Auditorium

- *March 16th*
- *March 27th*
- ***April 26th***
- *May 11th*
- *May 30th*

All meetings are open to the public.



CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

Substitute Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Substitute RNs and Bus Drivers needed for per diem work during the school year. Sub Bus Drivers – Training will be included

Apply in person at Human Resources
or email: hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com for more information.

RATES FOR SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

The District needs certified teachers for day-to-day substituting opportunities in all of our schools. Certified substitutes receive a rate of \$95 per day. To apply, contact the Human Resources Office at 739-5601 x 4211.

ATTENTION

PRINCIPAL CHATS

October 11th, January 10th, and April 4th

9:00 AM in the Cafeteria 6:00 – 6:30PM in the Library



Pull for the House.



Many Hearts. One Home.

Keep hoarding pull tabs! So far we have collected over 107 pounds of pull tabs. Thank you for your donations. **Get others involved** – ask your friends, neighbors, and family members to collect! Pull tabs can be brought to the office.

ART SUPPLIES NEEDED

Mrs. Crans's Art Classes are in need of some special materials for Art projects. If you can donate any of the following, we thank you in advance for your generosity. *A few all metal coat hangers and clean (no runs) tan/beige/white pantyhose *All Colors of Yarn *All Colors & Sizes of Plastic Bottle Caps

CHARACTER TRAIT AND HABIT OF MIND' OF THE MONTH

Character Trait: Responsibility

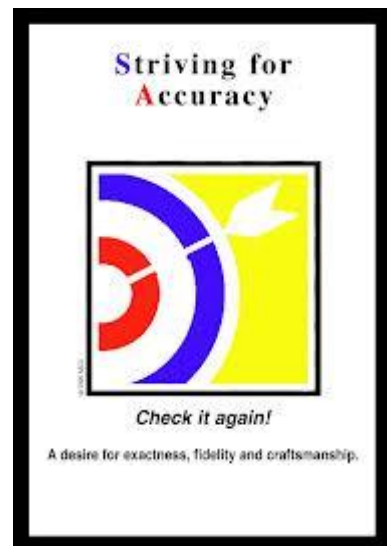
- Do what you are supposed to do
- Plan ahead
- Persevere: Keep on trying!
- Always do your best
- Use self-control
- Be self-disciplined
- Think before you act – consider the consequences
- Be accountable for your words, actions, and attitudes
- Set a good example for others

The Habit of Mind:

Striving for Accuracy: An important part of being able to Strive for Accuracy is understanding what your goals are - what quality looks like. The person who strives for accuracy has a goal in mind and checks their progress against that goal.

Successful people who strive for accuracy take time to **check** their product. They desire and value **craftsmanship!** They take **pride** in their work.


Keep **trying** and **checking...trying** and **checking...trying** and **checking...until** you make it the best you can.



Michael Bostwick is the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Coordinator at the Intermediate School. Judith Christiansen is the DASA Coordinator for the district. All concerns regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying should be directed accordingly.

The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to gender, race, color, national origin or disability. Inquiries regarding this policy may be made to Judy Christiansen, Title IX Coordinator, or Kim Williams, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601

Horseheads Central Schools 2016-2017 School Calendar

 = Snow Days Used

Approved - 3/31/16

Updated as of March 17, 2017

* Early Dismissal Drill

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14*	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

School Not in Session:

- Labor Day 9/5
- Columbus Day 10/10
- Veterans Day 11/11
- Thanksgiving Break 11/23 - 11/25
- Winter Recess 12/23 - 1/2
- Martin Luther King, Jr Day 1/16
- President's Day 2/20
- Spring Recess and Good Friday 4/10 - 4/17*
- Memorial Day Recess 5/29 - 5/30*




*** Pending the use of Snow Days**

- ½ Days (A.M.)**
- 6/20 (7 - 8 Only),
- 6/21 (PreK - 8 Only)
- 6/22 (PreK - 6 Only)
- Full Days Off**
- 1/30/17 (7 - 12 Only)
- 6/16/17 (PreK - 6 Only)
- 6/22/17 (7 - 8 Only)

Parent/Teacher/Conference

- ½ Day A.M. (PreK - 6 Only)
Nov. 10, 2016
- Full Day (PreK - 6 Only)
Nov. 18, 2016

LEGEND

-  **Conference Days**
(9/6, 10/21, and 3/10)
-  **Schools Closed***
-  **Regents Exams**
(Tentative)

Priority of Make-up Days*

- If 1 snow day No make-up
- If 2 snow days No make-up
- If 3 snow days No make-up
- If 4 snow days May 26, 2017
- If 5 snow days April 17, 2017
- If 6 snow days May 30, 2017
- If 7 snow days April 10, 2017
- If 8 snow days April 11, 2017
- If 9 snow days April 12, 2017
- If 10 snow days April 13, 2017

Last Day: 7-8: 6/21/17
Last Day: PreK-6: 6/22/17

First Day of School PreK - 9:
Wednesday, September 7, 2016

First Day of School 10 - 12:
Thursday, September 8, 2016