

# The School Connection



## Horseheads Intermediate School

### Principal's Post

Spring has officially arrived! 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.

The **NYS ELA Tests are April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>**. Math Tests will be May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. 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. [Check out this link](#) to read more about how NYS has improved the testing process by decreasing the testing days from 3 to 2 days, making them untimed, questions are written by educators, and they are releasing over 75% of the test questions for our use at the local level.

We are continuing to encourage students to read toward their 25 book goal. Over 100 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:** [#ISinnovators](#)  
**Like us on Facebook:** Search Horseheads Intermediate School  
**Website:** <http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/HHIS.cfm>

April 2018  
Volume 6 Issue 8

#### Inside this issue:

Principal's Post	1
Calendar Dates	2
Informational Original Works	2
Physical Exams	3
Test Taking Tips	4
Classifieds	5

#### [Parent Article](#)

#### **ATTENTION!**

[Parent Resources](#)  
on IS website.

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

*"Thank you for all you do to support your child in his/her education"*

## Mark Your Calendars!

**Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>:** NO SCHOOL

**Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>:** Board of Education Budget Workshop, Multi-Media Center, 6:00 PM

**Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>:** Report Cards Go Home

**Mon, 4/23 – 4/27:** NO SCHOOL – SPRING BREAK

**Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>:** Principal Chat – 9:00 AM Cafeteria/6:00 PM, Library, PTO Meeting, Library, 6:30 PM

**Wed, April 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>:** NYS Gr. 3-8 ELA Assessment

**Wed, April 18<sup>th</sup>:** Board of Education Meeting, Gardner Road, 6:00 PM

## Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

1. **State Testing Information:** We will be administering the State ELA Tests April 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> and State Math Test May 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. **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 discouraged. 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.
4. 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!
5. Spring Concerts – Mark your calendars for the upcoming Spring Concerts:  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Wednesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, HS Auditorium – 7:00 PM – Orchestra, Band, and Chorus  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, HS Auditorium – 7:00 PM – Orchestra, Band, and Chorus
6. **Presidential Service Awards:** As the end of the school year is approaching, 6<sup>th</sup> 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 4, 2018 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 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students who wish to continue working toward the award may do so through June 30, 2018. These log hours need to be dropped off in the IS office by July 6, 2018. Awards will be available for students in September of 2018. Please contact the IS office should you have any questions. Click here for more information and service logs.
7. **6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENTS!!!** All 6<sup>th</sup> 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 Tuesday, September 18, 2018. **No appointment cards accepted.**



# Look What's Coming!



Dear Family,

This is to let you know that our school will be offering a special PTO fundraiser from **ORIGINAL WORKS**, the company that turns your child's very own art into professionally reproduced full color products. In Art class, your child has been busy creating a special "Original Works" drawing, using the regular art curriculum as the basis for their work of art.

Coming home after Spring Break, look for a Personalized Letter from Original Works with your child's artwork and program, pricing, and product information. You will then have the opportunity to purchase a variety of items featuring your child's artwork, through the on-line Art Gallery. These products include: magnets, note cards, pillow cases, t-shirts, tote bags, ceramic mugs/plates, key chains, mouse pads, tile/trivets, journals, sketchbooks, matted prints, quilt blocks, pot holders, night lights, coasters, water bottles, ornaments and garden flags. We believe you will be thrilled with the quality of these products. They make delightful keepsakes and unique gifts!

We are excited to be participating in this unique and innovative program. Additional product and program information as well as customer testimonials can be found at [www.originalworks.com](http://www.originalworks.com).

## ATTENTION PARENTS!!!

We are always looking for interested parents who would like to help out with school events. That could be 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 appreciate your support and value the partnership!

### Intermediate School PTO Officers (2017-2018)

President:	Lisa Bingaman	<a href="mailto:magnolia3666@yahoo.com">magnolia3666@yahoo.com</a>	767-5121
Vice-President:	Gretchen Ferraro	<a href="mailto:gferraro2010@gmail.com">gferraro2010@gmail.com</a>	425-2603
Treasurer:	Brandon Johnson	<a href="mailto:brjohnso@horseheadsdistrict.com">brjohnso@horseheadsdistrict.com</a>	358-4117
Secretary:	Jaime Cunningham	<a href="mailto:cunningham.jaime@yahoo.com">cunningham.jaime@yahoo.com</a>	857-0197



### Required Physical Exams

New York State has changed the grades for required physical examinations. **Beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, all public school students must have a physical when they enter grades Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, Grades 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup>.** If you have a child entering any of these grades this fall, please contact your physician to schedule an appointment. If you have questions, please contact your school nurse. Thank you.

## *NYS Assessments*

The **ELA State Test is April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Math State Test will be given on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.** 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, state tests alone will not be used to determine the need for additional help. We will be using multiple sources to determine the need for extra help.

[Check out this link](#) to read more about how NYS has improved the testing process by decreasing the testing days from 3 to 2 days, making them untimed, questions are written by educators, and they are releasing over 75% of the test questions for our use at the local level.

*\*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.

## **BUDGET DEVELOPMENT**

The Board of Education and District administration are currently developing the 2018-19 Proposed School Budget. The first couple of Board Budget Workshops were held on February 8<sup>th</sup> and March 8<sup>th</sup>. Both the presentation and a video of the presentation, as well as budget and vote information, are available on our District website.

The remaining workshop is Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 PM in the High School Multi-Media Center located in the South Wing. All budget workshops are open to the public. A public hearing on the proposed budget will be Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 6:00 PM in the High School Multi-Media Center.

The Budget Vote/Board Election is Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM. in the High School South Gym.

## **INTERSTED IN RUNNING FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION?**

Voters will elect three members to the Board of Education on May 15<sup>th</sup>. If you're interested in running for the Board, petitions and other information will be available in the Business Office beginning March 1<sup>st</sup>. Interested residents must submit petitions with the appropriate number of signatures of qualified district residents to the Business Office by April 16<sup>th</sup>. Petitions will be available for pick-up March 1.

Questions? Email [hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com) or call (607) 739-5601, x4260.

# 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](mailto: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 10<sup>th</sup>, January 9<sup>th</sup>, and April 10<sup>th</sup>

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



Pull for the House.

Keep hoarding pull tabs and 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.

## CHARACTER TRAIT AND HABIT OF MIND' OF THE MONTH

### ***Character Trait: Responsibility***

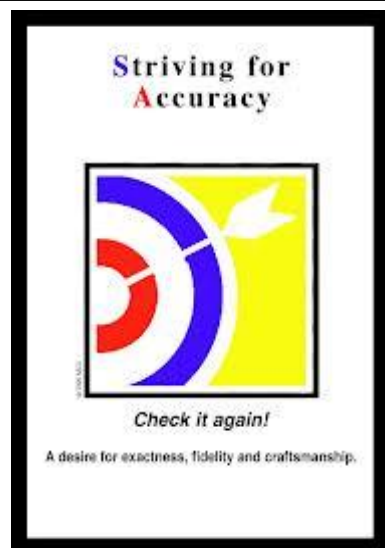
- Do what you are supposed to do
- Plan ahead
- Persevere: Keep on trying!
- Always do your best
- Use self-control
- Be self-disciplined
- Think before you act – consider the consequences
- Be accountable for your words, actions, and attitudes
- Set a good example for others

### ***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 Megan Collins 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 Megan Collins, Title IX Coordinator, or Kim Williams, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601