

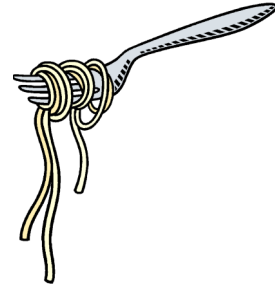


## Horseheads Middle School December 2016

Thank you for supporting our Student Council Spaghetti Dinner. We served over 200 dinners during our November Parent's Night. The proceeds will help our Student Council support their many charitable donations.

Miniers, Olive Garden, Panera Bread, Sam's Club, Tops, and Wegmans donated food and drink. We appreciate their generosity. We would also like to thank the Horseheads Youth Bureau for providing supervised activities for our children in the Middle School Field House.

A special thank you to Bruce Eskesen, Rich Peng, Josh Samodal and Joy Shen for playing the piano and providing the enjoyable dinner music.







Friday 12/9	Dance and Open Gym 7:00-9:00
Tuesday, 12/13	Concert Band and Wind Ensemble in HS Auditorium 7:30
Wednesday, 12/14	Choir Concert in HS Auditorium 7:30
Thursday, 12/15	MS & HS Orchestra Concert in HS Auditorium 7:30
Tuesday, 12/20	Progress Reports Issued
Friday 12/23	Winter Recess Begins. School reopens Tuesday, 1/3/17



# A QUALITY STUDENT

At Horseheads Middle School...

-  Is prepared for class, on time and ready to learn.
-  Completes all homework, class work and class projects to the best of their ability.
-  Knows and understands school policies and procedures and accepts the direction of teachers, school officials, and others who have been assigned the responsibility to enforce them.
-  Practices good citizenship, particularly by respecting the rights, privileges and property of others.

The Middle School PTO and the Horseheads Youth Bureau helped us celebrate the efforts of our first marking period Quality Students. Students who meet the Quality Student criteria, were invited to our Quality Party. Students enjoyed pizza, drinks, candy and music during their lunch/study period. Thank you to our volunteers for helping make this event possible. Congratulations to our Quality Students.

Our Trick or Treat for UNICEF campaign raised over \$600 this year. Thank you for your support.

TRICK-OR-TREAT  
FOR UNICEF

## Character Trait for the Month

The Character Trait for December is “Caring”. Show you care about others by following the “Make Their Day” pillar of the *FISH* philosophy.

MAKE THEIR  
DAY

If you want to make someone's day, find someone that you wouldn't normally interact with and offer to help with anything he or she needs.

[FISHphilosophy.com](http://FISHphilosophy.com)

FISH!

November, 2016

Dear Community Members:

For the last few months, we've been talking about Horseheads 2030, a comprehensive project to improve both our educational program and physical infrastructure. We have now reached a time for action with our entire school district community, and we welcome all to become involved in order to help shape the future of our school district.

Our neighboring districts have undergone many major capital improvement projects in recent years, committing hundreds of millions of dollars towards their facilities. Horseheads, unfortunately, has only completed relatively small projects during the last decade. Our facilities are an important aspect of our educational programming if we are to continue being the district of choice for families moving into the area, and to keep our property values at the level they have been in past years.

Last December, you told us – by an overwhelming margin (84% voted NO) – that you want our district to stay the Horseheads Central School District. Last spring, the district determined the internal consolidation of schools would not yield major financial gains for the community and, therefore, finalized the green plan of no school closures at this time. Now we must consider moving forward in order to discuss what we want the Horseheads Central School District to look like, both educationally and physically, in the future. Therefore, we are developing a district initiative entitled:

### ***HORSEHEADS 2030***

Please mark your calendar:

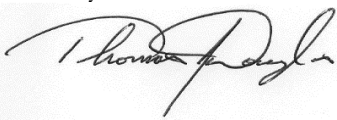
Date:	December 6, 2016
Time:	6:30 p.m.
Where:	High School Auditorium
Why:	Initial community-wide discussion about Horseheads 2030

We named the project Horseheads 2030 because this year's pre-kindergartners will graduate in the year 2030. Our efforts will not only benefit those students, but all students in our schools as we work to improve our district and educational programs. Horseheads has long been considered an excellent district for the quality of education we offer our students, but our facilities are aging. Our children and our community deserve facilities that keep up with the changing times and enhance the education we offer. Our athletic teams and community programs use our facilities, and they are in and out of the buildings extensively. Like in our schools, these facilities are showing significant wear and are not up-to-date. Many of the critical operating systems in our schools are original to the buildings and starting to fail. Many of our current classrooms are undersized and cannot seat all the students in a class. Our science rooms are small and not equipped for the latest in lab experiments. Additionally, today's technology landscape is entirely different, and our schools must keep up in order to allow our students to have the best education we can give them in today's global connectedness.

Our next step is to open the process up to our community. We need you to join the discussion in order to help us sort through district needs and wants for both our educational program and our facilities. There will be additional meetings in the coming months, but we hope you will come out and join us at the start as we work together to enhance our great district.

Thank you for your support of our students and their education. Thank you for giving your time to help us build on the excellence that is the Horseheads Central School District—for our students now, and our students of Horseheads 2030 and beyond!

Sincerely,



Dr. Thomas J. Douglas  
Superintendent of Schools

### **“Quality Education for All”**

The Mission of the Horseheads Central School Community is to provide a quality education for all within a nurturing environment which promotes excellence, growth, and a sense of civic responsibility.

All district residents - parents, students, business people, senior citizens, community members - are invited to an important discussion:

**Horseheads 2030**  
**Initial Community-Wide Discussion**  
**Tuesday, December 6**  
**6:30pm**  
**Horseheads High School Auditorium**

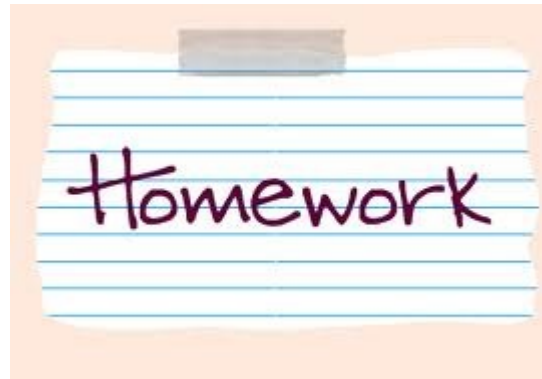
All are welcome and urged to attend this important discussion about the future of the Horseheads Central School District - both our educational program and our infrastructure.





## **HOMEWORK REQUEST**

If your child is absent from school, it is possible for you to request assignments for your child. Contact the Main Office prior to 10:00 on the day you wish to have the assignments. The assignments may be picked up between 3:15 and 4:00.



## **Information about Emergency School Closings and Delays**

Schools are closed when the weather makes it impossible to have reasonable attendance or when the schools or vehicles would not be able to operate safely. The school day is delayed when inclement weather conditions improve by early morning. Inclement weather may include snow, ice, and freezing temperatures. If the school day is delayed, buses will run and schools will open two hours later than the usual time.

If it is necessary to close or delay schools, the information will be posted on the district's website at [www.horseheadsdistrict.com](http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com), the district's Facebook pages, Twitter and the local television and radio stations.



## **DIGNITY ACT COORDINATOR**

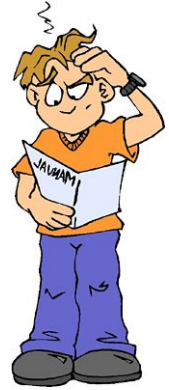
The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for Horseheads Middle School is Ron Holloway. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student should be referred to Ron Holloway at 739-6357, x3640. Mrs. Christiansen is the Dignity Act Coordinator for the District and can be contacted at One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845. Her telephone number is 607-739-5601, x4211.

**NOTICE:** 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 Judith Christiansen, Title IX Coordinator, or Kim Williams, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, New York 14845, (607) 739-5601.

*The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sex, sexual orientation, or gender (including gender identity and expression). Inquiries regarding this notice may be made to Judy Christiansen, Title IX and DASA Coordinator, or Kim Williams, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.*

## Advice to a Frustrated Person about Studying

By: Angela Sinsabaugh, Makalei Kittle, Josiah Granger, and Jazmine Knox



Dear Frustrated,

We understand that you don't have much time to study, and you want to get the most out of every minute. We have some suggestions for you.

Do you know if you're better at using your eyes to learn, your ears, or your hands? Think about how you like to get new information. Do you like to read about something, or watch someone do something? Would you rather listen to someone explain something? Last, would you learn best by writing the information down or doing something with your hands? Once you figure out if you are a visual, auditory, or kinesthetic (movement) learner, you can spend time studying smarter, instead of harder. Here are some strategies you might try:

Some strategies for visual learners:



- Visualize pictures in your mind.
- Make visual mappings, charts, and timelines.
- Add color your study tools, like flash cards.
- Copy and write information on flash cards.
- Write down directions or important information.



Some strategies for auditory learners:

- Talk out loud, recite and work in groups.
- Use tapes to make study, or review tapes.
- Add rhymes, poems, or tunes to your studying.
- Say words in syllables.
- Rap.
- Use mnemonic devises, like "ROY G. BIV".

Some strategies for kinesthetic learners:

- Use your hands to manipulate objects or flash cards.
- Pace, work on the chalkboard, or pantomime.
- Write down information in different forms, like charts and maps.
- Gesture with your hands or face.
- Role play.
- Write on surfaces with your finger.





The Greater Southern Tier STEM Academy is a Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH). P-TECH is a new model for secondary education that brings together the best elements of high school, college and the professional world. Students take the lead role in their learning, choosing pathways to their careers and taking college-level, credit-bearing courses from their first year.

The Greater Southern Tier STEM Academy looks and functions similar to a hybrid between college and the workplace. The four- to six-year sequence emphasizes individualized pathways to completion, workplace experiences, mentorship, in-depth project-based learning and real world experiences. For more information about the Greater Southern Tier Stem Academy, please visit [www.gstbooces.org/stemacademy](http://www.gstbooces.org/stemacademy).

**One of three pathways – Advanced Technical Education, Health Care or Clean Energy – will lead to attaining an associate degree or certification in areas including:**

- Machine Tool Technology
- Manufacturing Technology
- Mechanical Technology
- Electrical Technology
- Community Health
- Environmental Science
- Chemical Technology

**All eighth grade students interested in applying for this program, are encouraged to see their guidance counselor. Applications are due no later than January 3, 2017.**

### Jokes by Madilann Johnson

Teacher: Please don't hum while doing your work.

Student: I'm not working, I'm just humming.

Chris: I know someone who's 35 and still in 7th grade.

Billy: No way.

Chris: Way! She's my teacher.

Question: Why did the student bring scissors to school?

Answer: He wanted to cut class.



## Book Review By Ryan Hayes, Kellie Zoerb, John Grover, and Joshua Friess

### Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief

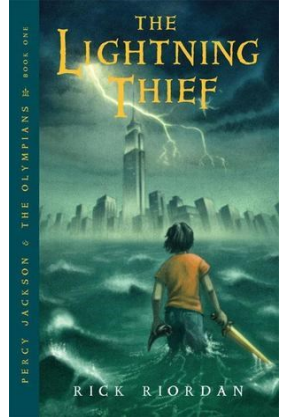
If you enjoy action and mythology, then this is the book for you! This book is a part of a series called Percy Jackson and the Olympians. An interesting thing about this book is that it mixes modern life and Greek mythology.

Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief takes place partly in New York City, in Manhattan. There are plenty of action scenes and fights for the reader to enjoy right from the very beginning!

The plot makes sense and moves along perfectly. Percy, in the book, sets out on a quest to find Zeus' master lightning bolt that was stolen from him. He finds friends, but is betrayed along the way.

The setting is very descriptive; it lets the reader imagine all the crazy places Percy finds himself. Eoin Colfer, a book critic, had this to say about the book, "A fantastical blend of mythology and reality."

In conclusion, the book, Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief is an awesome book that reader of all ages can enjoy.



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### **Favorite Tongue Twisters by Daniel Sanphy** **Who can master these twister tongues I mean tongue twisters?**

Fried fresh fish, fish fried fresh, fresh fried fish, or fish fresh fried.



Bland Bea blinks back.

Bland Bea blinks back.

Bland Bea blinks back.

Crisp crust crackles.

Crisp crust crackles

Crisp crust crackles.

