

## December Events

Friday, 12/8

Dance and Open Gym

7:00-9:00pm

Tuesday, 12/12

MS Concert Band  
& HS Wind Ensemble  
in HS Auditorium

7:30pm

Wednesday, 12/13

MS Choir Concert  
HS Auditorium

7:30pm

Tuesday, 12/19

Progress Reports Issued

12/25-1/1/18

Winter Recess

*No school*

As the weather gets colder and the snow begins to fly, the morning drop off line may get longer.

Students are expected to be in first period for morning announcements by **7:45**.

Students may be dropped off beginning at **7:15**.



## Horseheads Middle School

December 2017

EXPLORE EMPOWER EXCEL

### NJHS raises \$1100 for Catholic Charities Homeless Shelter

The Horseheads Middle School National Junior Honor Society sold Candy Grams to raise money for Catholic Charities' Homeless Shelter, which is the only homeless shelter in Chemung and Schuyler counties. Over 2,000 Candy Grams were sold and \$1100 was raised to support the shelter.



Commander Richard Marino

Thank You for  
your Service  
Commander  
Marino!



U.S. Navy Submarine Commander Richard Marino came to Horseheads Middle School to share his experience, knowledge and stories with students for Veteran's Day.







*"Yesterday, December 7, 1941- a date which will live in infamy - the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan."*

President Franklin D. Roosevelt spoke these words to a shell-shocked nation the day after the attack on Pearl Harbor. We remember this day to honor the sacrifices of our country's greatest generation, as the United States entered World War II.



# 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.

## Quality Students!

The first marking period Quality Students celebrated with pizza, drinks, candy and music during their lunch/study period on November 21. Thank you to our PTO and the Horseheads Youth Bureau for helping make this event possible. Congratulations to our Quality Students. Keep up the good work!



### Canned Food Drive December 4-15

Student Council is collecting canned food for the Backpack Program. Suggestions for filling the backpacks include fruit snacks, granola bars, tuna, and other non-perishable foods. Please bring your donations to the front lobby. Let's make sure every student has what they need to succeed!

### Character Trait of the Month

## Caring

Show you care about others through kindness, caring, sharing and compassion. Live by the Golden Rule. Help others. Don't be selfish. Don't be mean, cruel or insensitive to other's feelings.



## 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.

## Winter Art Show

The Horseheads Middle School Art Department is proud to present our 2018 Winter Art Show! On Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 7:30pm in the Middle School Cafeteria. Please invite family and friends to stop in and help us celebrate student artwork selected from the first half of the year!



Our Trick or Treat for UNICEF campaign raised over \$800 this year. Thank you for your support.

**TRICK-OR-TREAT**  
**FOR UNICEF**



## Winter Wonderland

There are strange and mysterious sounds  
When the winds of winter blow,  
The long nights are crystal clear and cold,  
And the fields and meadows are covered  
with snow.

The stars are frosty against the sky,  
And the wind's whistle is shrill,  
As the snow blows against the house  
And drifts against the hill.

Yet, I like to see during the winter  
A white carpet on the ground,  
To plod aimlessly in the deep snow,  
where deer tracks abound.

I like to feel the stillness  
Of a crisp winter's night,  
Watching a full moon rise over  
the horizon,  
Exposing a winter wonderland  
beautiful and bright.

– *Joseph T. Renaldi*



## Eighth Graders Learn Job-Seeking Skills

On October 25, eighth grade students in FACS classes at Horseheads Middle School participated in mock job interviews.

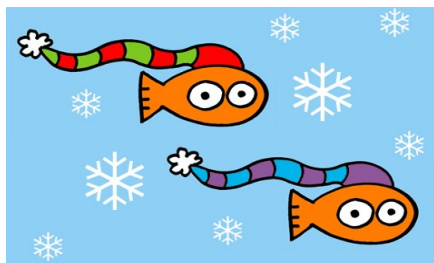
Students began preparing for the big day by researching a career they may be interested in pursuing. They completed a job application as well as a resume focusing on their transferable skills.

Matt Sharpe, human resource manager from Camron Manufacturing, and Tom Casey, hiring manager from Boehringer Ingelheim, both came in and spoke to the students to prep them. Students practiced firm handshakes with detail to good posture and eye contact. They discussed possible questions they could be asked in an interview.

The day of the interview, all students dressed professionally, and after their interview, completed a professional thank-you letter that was sent to the interviewers.

**“**Wow, you guys didn't leave a stone unturned. Well done coaching these young adults on ALL aspects of the interview process.”

— Volunteer interviewer



Play!  
Make their Day!  
Be There!

Choose your Attitude!

### HOMework REQUEST

If your child is absent from school, you can arrange to pick up their homework for them! Contact the Main Office prior to 10:00am on the day you wish to have the assignments. Homework may be picked up between 3:15 and 4:00pm.



### Winter Beach Party! Friday, December 8

Baby, it's cold outside! So grab your flip-flops and sunglasses and come on in to the winter dance and open gym and rock the night away!

Dance and open gym will start at 7:00 p.m. and end promptly at 9:00 p.m. Students should make certain their transportation is waiting in the front of the school at 9:00 p.m.

# Oh, Winter!

Snow. It either delights you or frightens you. Either way, it's coming, so you may as well make the best of it! Here are some lesser-known sports you might like to try.



## Ice Sailing

Do you miss the pleasant waters of the Finger Lakes on a warm sunny day on your boat? Now you can try hard-water sailing! This sport has been around for hundreds of years, first as a means of transport. Once extremely popular in upstate New York, ice sailing is a hit in the upper Midwest. It provides a thrilling rush of winter fun, providing there's enough wind and thick ice!



*Ice Yachting on the Hudson.*



## Skijoring

Tired of waiting longer in lift lines than your actual run? It's wide-open spaces when you try the sport of Skijoring! A Norwegian word meaning "ski driving", skijoring takes you on an animal-powered rush through the snow on skis. Scandinavians used to skijor with reindeer for transportation. Now, it's usually horses and dogs that provide the power.



## Fun Facts

Chionophobia - the fear of snow. Derived from the Greek words "chion" and "phobos", meaning snow and fear.



According to the National Snow & Ice Data Center, snow is a mineral because it is a naturally occurring solid, inorganically formed, and has a definite chemical composition.



## Snug as a Subnivean Bug in a Rug

The subnivean layer under the snow provides igloo-like conditions for some animals to survive the winter. Here, snug in their hideout, the temperature remains the same as long as the snow cover stays. The fox shown here is chasing a snack just under the snow. You may see tunnels in your yard under the snow, like below, where mice, voles and moles try to stay safe from the fox while they look for their own food.



Japanese Macaques (snow monkeys) enjoying a natural hot tub. Japan is one of the snowiest places on earth. Looks inviting, right?!



# Featuring

## Student Contributions !

Thank you to Mrs. Horton for helping students develop and revise their work, showcased on the next few pages.



### Should I Go?

by Dakoda Howerton and Adriana Nybeck

Some students ask this question, “Should I go to school today? What’s in it for me?” The answer is yes. You should go to school because it is important to have an education. Getting a high school diploma and a college degree or certification in a field you are interested in will allow you to have a future that is fit for you. If you don’t go to school, like you should every day, then you won’t get good grades, and your opportunities will be a lot more limited for your whole life. You can’t learn if you aren’t there.

There are those few students who don’t want to go to school for various reasons. Either they feel stressed and tired, they are not focused on productive goals, or they’re afraid of their grades dropping when they aren’t prepared for classes and tests. Parents can help though, either by helping out their children with their school work, making sure homework and studying gets done, or by making sure they get enough rest.

It is important to keep students healthy, as well. To keep your child healthy, watch for signs of food allergies. Parents also should pack their kids healthy meals that include fruits, vegetables, and other healthy foods. Always make sure your children eat a healthy breakfast. Without a good breakfast your child may be tired, stressed, confused, and unfocused throughout the whole day.

By following some of these suggestions, parents can help their children’s attendance, and by doing so, help their children achieve a great education.

### Citation

“If I’m Not Here, I Can’t Learn.” The United Way. <http://www.everystudentpresent.org>; October 4, 2017.





## Good Grades for You

by Lacey Baker and Abby Lewis

There are a lot of struggles in middle school, and we are here to help you with two big ones: staying organized and keeping up with your work.

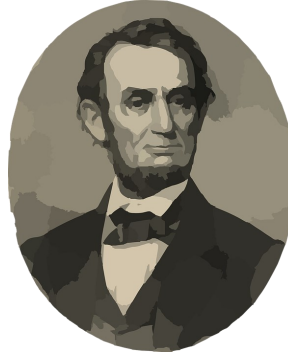
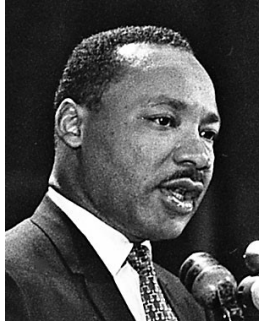
1. Get organized!! A huge part of middle school is being organized.
2. Use your planner, every day and every period.
3. Take notes and study with them by doing something active, like making flash cards.
4. Do your homework, and turn it in.
5. Don't procrastinate. Do first things first.
6. Sing a song like a jingle to help you remember information.
7. Know when you have a quiz or test, write it down in your planner.
8. Get help when you need it. Every teacher is willing to give extra help, if he or she knows you need it. So, ask for it!
9. Have a system where you are packing for the end of the day at the end of each period. Put materials you need for homework in your backpack as soon as you leave a class.
10. Put your backpack where you can't forget it in the morning (maybe hanging from the door-knob you will use to leave the house).
11. Eat a healthy breakfast every morning so you can be energized for school.
12. Study, study, study for up-coming tests.
13. If you need extra credit ask for it.
14. If you are struggling get a tutor.
15. Ask 3 before me (ask three friends before the teacher).
16. Make sure you understand what you are reading (don't just skim through it).
17. Avoid distractions such as your phone, computer, dogs, music, and your T.V.

Try some of the above ideas. They will make your school year be a whole lot easier. We hope they will help you. Have a great year.

Websites

“10 Tips for Getting Good (or Better) Grades.” Live Career, [www.livecareer.com](http://www.livecareer.com). Accessed October 5, 2017





## What Four People, Living or Dead, Would You Invite to Dinner?

by Nolan McKibbin and Shane Canfield

What would be the most interesting dinner party in the world? It would have to be one where you could invite anyone you want, living or dead.

We would invite Abraham Lincoln because he was wise, and he was our president during the Civil War. He was a man of morals who knew slavery was wrong. He lost a son, and he suffered severe depression, but led us through a terrible time in our history. What an interesting person to sit down with and hear what he thinks about our society today.

We would also invite Martin Luther King Jr. because he fought for civil rights. He played a key role in the American Civil Rights Movement. He gave his Dream Speech at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C., which affected millions of people then, and continues to inspire millions of us today.

Our next guest would be Benjamin Franklin. He was such a talented man. He helped lead us to demand independence from England, and was an important statesman during the Revolution and after we became our own country. He was also an inventor. He made the first electrostatic machine, and he was the first to find out about electricity.

We would also invite Columbus because he was the first person to find the new land (the North American continent), and we think if it were not for him finding the new land, there would be a big hole in history.

### Sources

“Globe-type Electrostatic Machine.” [National Museum of American History] [http://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/search/object/nmah\\_712387](http://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/search/object/nmah_712387). 10/4/2017.

“Martin Luther King Jr. - Biography.” [https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/peace/laureates/1964/king-bio.html](https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1964/king-bio.html). 10/4/2017.

## Achieving your Goals

By Makenzie Matthews and Sarah Clark

Everyone has goals, but we all have different ways to achieve them. Some people have goals in school, and others have them outside of school. There are a lot of great ways to achieve them in school, like doing all of your homework, being prepared, paying attention during class, and having a growth mindset.



**"If you aim at  
nothing, you will hit  
it every time"**

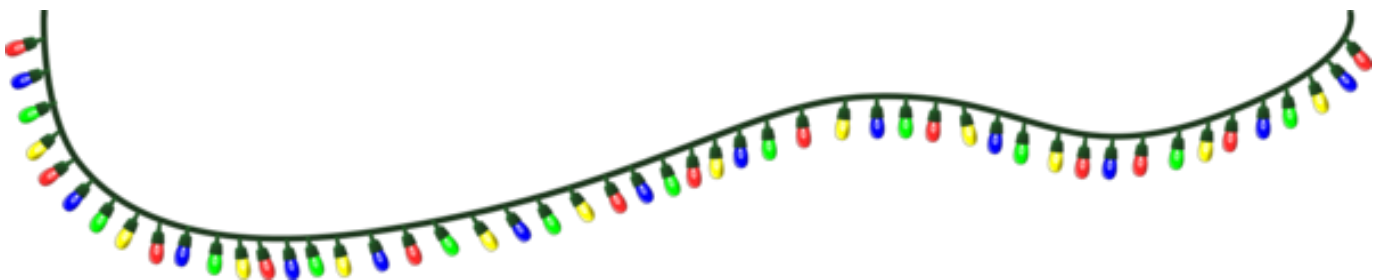
*Author Unkown*

There are some learning strategies for various learning preferences. For visual learners you can add pictures or color to your study tools, visualize pictures in your mind, and make visual mappings, charts or timelines. Also, you can copy and write information on

flashcards, and write down directions or important information. For auditory learners you can talk out loud, recite and work in groups, and add rhymes, poems, or tunes to study. Also, you can say words in syllables, rap, and use mnemonic devices, like "ROY G. BIV".

Lastly, for kinesthetic learners, you can use your hands to manipulate objects or flash cards, pace, or work on a chalkboard. Write down information in different forms, like charts or maps, gesture with hands or face, role play and write on surfaces with your fingers.

So knowing your learning preference can help you learn and do better in school. Study smarter not harder.







### DISTRICT DIGNITY ACT COORDINATOR

The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for the Horseheads Central School District is Megan Collins, director of Human Resources. If there is a complaint regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student, the complaint should be filed with Mrs. Collins, at One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845. Her telephone number is 607-739-5601 x 4211.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL COORDINATOR

The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for the Horseheads Middle School is Ron Holloway, building principal. If there is a complaint regarding discrimination, harassment or bullying of any student, the complaint should be filed with Mr. Holloway at 739-6357 x 3640 or at [rholloway@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:rholloway@horseheadsdistrict.com).

### NOTICE

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