



# Horseheads Middle School

## May Newsletter 2017

The Middle School Student Council sponsored a Spirit Week April 23rd through April 28th. Students and staff enjoyed Hat Day, Sports Team Jersey Day, Twin Day, Neon Day and Raider Day.



Spirit Week ended with the last dance and open gym of the school year. Student Council voted on a Hawaiian theme for the night. In addition to dancing, basketball, food and face painting, students donated to our featured charity, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.



Our students and staff would like to thank the Middle School PTO, the Horseheads Youth Bureau and our Student Council for continuing to support these enjoyable events.

## Calendar Change



**Friday, May 26, will be a regular school day for all students and staff.**



## Upcoming Dates

- ⇒ New York State Math Assessments: **May 2nd** through **May 4th**
- ⇒ Public Hearing for the 2017-2018 School Budget: **May 4th** in the High School Multi-Media Center
- ⇒ MS Choir Concert: **May 9th** at 7:30 in the High School Auditorium
- ⇒ School Budget Vote : **May 16th** 7A.M. to 9:00 P.M. at BF, RR and HS
- ⇒ Board of Education Meeting: **May 16th** at 9:30 P.M. in the High School Multi-Media Center
- ⇒ MS Orchestra and Concert Band Concert: **May 18th** at 7:30 P.M. in the High School Auditorium
- ⇒ Middle School Progress Reports Issued: **May 23rd** in 10th period
- ⇒ New York State Science Performance Assessment: **May 24th**
- ⇒ MS Period 6 and 8 Band Concert: **May 24th** at 7:30 in the High School Auditorium
- ⇒ School Board Meeting: **May 25th** at 6:00 P.M. at Gardner Road Elementary School
- ⇒ No School: **May 29th** and **May 30th**
- ⇒ New York State Science Written Exam: **June 5th**



# Drivers Needed

The district is seeking school bus drivers. We offer paid training, benefits package, no weekends/ holidays or summers. Applicants must be 21 years old. Fingerprint/ background check and drug testing are required. Apply at the Transportation Department, 601 Sayre Street (off Thorne St.), Horseheads; call 607-739-5601, x4505; or email [hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com).



**The 2017-2018 school budget public hearing will be held in the multi-media center at the high school on May 4th at 6:00 P.M.**

**The Budget Vote is Tuesday, May 16, 7am to 9pm. Budget information is on the district website at [www.horseheadsdistrict.com](http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com).**

The Arnot Mall Art Show will be held May 9th through May 16th. Come see the Middle School displays.



The NYSSMA Solo and Ensemble Festival was held on April 29th at the Corning Middle School. We are awaiting the results for our Horseheads Middle School students. We would like to congratulate all of our musicians who participated in this year's event.



The Character Trait of The Month is ***Citizenship***. Students at Horseheads Middle School demonstrate good citizenship by following our Raider Way and *THINK* programs. As we rapidly approach the close of another school year, we encourage students to continue to work hard academically and grow to become productive citizens of the Horseheads Middle School Community.

## *Showing Up At School*

*By: Jason Thiel and Sierra Naples*

If you are a student, have you ever wondered why you have lower grades than you wished? Have you ever wanted an express pass, or make the honor roll? Have you ever wondered why you haven't been getting the things that you want? This could be because of your attendance.



In 2013, a National Assessment of Educational Progress was taken by 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. The overall outcome of the test showed that students with poor attendance scored significantly lower than students with better attendance. When students don't come to school, they miss lessons. When they come back, they might have test and homework to make up, but they only get notes that don't go into depth about the lesson. This makes the material harder to understand. So, when they have to take the test, they don't know the material as well as the other people in their class.

Here are some tips for parents from the United Way:

**Most people, when they miss school, don't feel well. Here are some tips to help your child feel better.**

*Have your child get more rest when he or she doesn't feel well.*

*Have your child eat more healthy food.*

*Children ages 4 through 6 years need about 10 to 12 hours of sleep.*

*Children ages 7 through 12 years need about 10 to 11 hours of sleep.*

**To reduce your child's stress level try talking to him or her about what happened at school.**

*Pay attention when your child mentions anything about school.*

*Make sure you connect with them every day.*

*Ask nonjudgmental questions that require real answers.*

*Don't jump in with solutions or advice.*

*Have a special time with your child every day.*

*Stay available.*

This shows that kids need to be in school to learn. So we all need to work together to make sure they are.

Citation information: "if I'm Not Here, I Can't Learn" The United Way <http://www.everystudentpresent.org/>; September 23, 2016

"Attendance Affects Achievement: Study Provides State-by-State Look" [http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/rulesforengagement/2014/09/attendance\\_affects\\_achievement\\_study\\_provides\\_state-by-state\\_look.htm](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/rulesforengagement/2014/09/attendance_affects_achievement_study_provides_state-by-state_look.htm).



## It's a Matter of Choice

**Alison Evans and Kobe Woodard**

What if every middle school looked the same? Dress codes at some middle schools restrict students from expressing themselves and being different.



Clothing, as a primary means for expressing students' ideas, is as primitive as clothing itself. Yet schools across the country often struggle with whether to enforce strict dress code policies that may interfere with a student's rights to freely express themselves. In schools that were polled, 27% say that they support a strict dress codes and 73% say no to strict dress codes, according to Debate.com.

In Horseheads Middle School, we have enough freedom to wear the clothes we want. However, we don't have too much, so we get distracted by what other students wear. We feel lucky that our school has balanced a reasonable dress code policy.

Thomas Reuters, "School Dress Codes", Findlaw.com, Thomas Reuters, 2017 <http://education.findlaw.com/student-rights/school-dress-codes.html>. Accessed on 3/6/17

"Should Middle Schools Have Dress Codes" Debate.org, 2017,

<http://www.debate.org/opinions/should-middle-schools-have-dress-codes>. Accessed on 3/6/17

## Positive Inspirational Quotes

**By Carleigh Grover**

"Failure isn't falling down, but refusing to get up is."

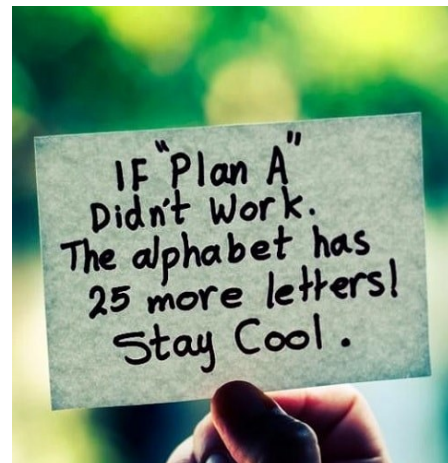
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"You don't have to be perfect to be amazing."

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"Live out of your imagination, not your history."

Stephen R. Covey



# Zootopia

**By: Keagen Winkky and Sean White**

“When I was a kid, I thought Zootopia was this perfect place where everyone got along and anyone could be anything.” This is a quote from Judy Hopps, a main character of this movie. This amazing movie was released March 4, 2016. In this movie, there are four main characters: Judy Hopps, Nick Wilde, Chief Bogo, and Bellwether.

When Judy was a little kid, she always wanted to be a police officer. When she grew up, she achieved her goals. Judy fights against a couple of criminals were purposely targeting predators in the zoo to make them become savage and vicious. When Judy Hopps becomes a cop, there is a report of 14 missing animals. Judy eventually tracks down the 14 missing animals and tells Chief Bogo where she found them. After that, Mayor Lionheart was thrown into jail and a new mayor was hired which the old assistant mayor is named Bellwether. Bellwether is one of the bad guys Judy has to deal with.

As everyone can see, Zootopia is an enjoyable and funny movie that viewers of all ages will love.

“Zootopia the best movie out there”. “Zootopia.” [www.disney.wikia.com](http://www.disney.wikia.com), Walt Disney Animations Studio, 2017, <http://disney.wikia.com/wiki.3/3/2017>.



# Peanut Butter Blossoms Recipe

By: Riley Tournour

## Ingredients –

48 HERSHEY'S KISSES Brand Milk Chocolates

1/2 cup shortening

3/4 cup REESE'S peanut butter

1/3 cup granulated sugar

1/3 cup packed light brown sugar

1 egg

2 tablespoons milk

1-teaspoon vanilla extract

1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour

1-teaspoon baking soda

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/3 cup additional granulated sugar for rolling (optional)



## Directions –

1. Heat oven to 375°F. Remove wrappers from chocolates.
2. Beat shortening and peanut butter in large bowl until well blended. Add 1/3 cup granulated sugar and brown sugar; beat until fluffy. Add egg, milk and vanilla; beat well. Stir together flour, baking soda and salt; gradually beat into peanut butter mixture.
3. Shape dough into 1-inch balls. Roll in granulated sugar, if desired; place on ungreased cookie sheet.
4. Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until lightly browned. Immediately press a chocolate into center of each cookie; cookie will crack around edges. Remove from cookie sheet to wire rack. Cool completely. Makes about 48 cookies.

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*Notice: 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*

## *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.*