

Horseheads Middle School

October, 2018



The Club Issue

Contact Us!

607-739-6357 • Horseheadsdistrict.com/HHMS.cfm

Thank you for attending our recent OPEN HOUSE! See page 2 for the story.

R-E-S-P-E-C-T: The Raider Way!

At our recent Three-Screen Character Assembly, our students were taught about making positive choices and showing respect. The “It’s My Life” presentation encouraged students to resist peer pressure and learn personal responsibility to achieve their goals.



Here at Horseheads Middle School, our students learn the six character traits of *The Raider Way*. In September, the theme was Respect. A faculty member spoke each week on the morning announcements, sharing what Respect meant to them. Students could then fill out a card in the cafeteria doing the same. A drawing was held from those cards, with the winner receiving a treat of their choice from the cafeteria! Pictured is Principal Mr. Holloway and members of the Camfel Production staff (creators of the “It’s My Life” presentation).

What’s Happening at HMS

10/8/18

**Columbus Day
No School**

10/9/18

Progress Reports Issued

10/19/18

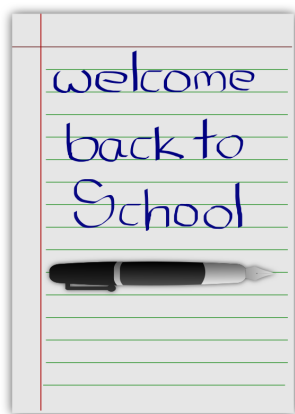
**Conference Day
No School**

10/26/18

**Dance & Open Gym
7:00 - 9:00 pm**

10/27/18

Make a Difference Day



Open House 2018

Many thanks for attending our first Open House of the school year. We hope you found it interesting and informative! Our goal is to make back-to-school time as easy and stress-free as possible for students, parents and teachers.

Thanks also to the Middle School PTO for sponsoring our refreshment table in the library. While there, we hope you enjoyed visiting with our community partners and catching up with friends.

With your continuing support, we will make this a productive year for you and our students. As always, feel free to call the school with questions you may have at 739-6357.

Progress Reports / Report Cards



Parents are informed of student progress in two ways. Progress reports are sent home with students at the five-week point of each marking period. A report card is sent home with students at the end of the ten-week marking period. We encourage parents to sign-up for Parent Portal to help keep track of your student's progress between the reporting periods. Don't have Parent Portal? Stop by the Guidance Office with your I.D. and fill out the form.

Honor Roll	85.0 cumulative average
Failing Grade	64.0 or lower in any course



Miss Homework?

If your student was absent, call the school by 10am to have homework ready for you to pick up between 3:15 - 4:00pm!



LOST AND FOUND

Lost your lunchbox? Misplaced your math book? Check the Lost and Found! There will be blue bins under the table in the Main Office.

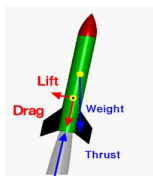
At HMS, Science . . .

What Will You Discover?

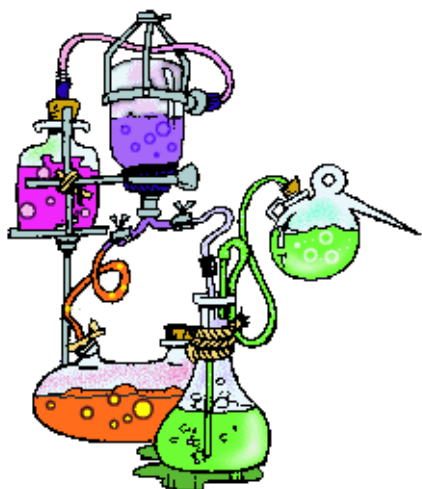


Technology Guild

The Technology Guild is an extracurricular activity that lets students expand their interest in working with tools and machines through various project-based activities. Some previous activities include hot air balloons, CO₂ race cars, model rockets, Maglev, mousetrap vehicles, catapults and solar sprint cars. For each activity the student will learn to design, build and operate their device. Students do not need to be in a Technology class to be eligible to participate.



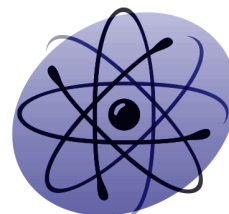
The Guild meets Thursdays during odd-day 10th periods and after school until 4:30. Members do not have to commit to both 10th period and after school if they have other commitments and may suspend their membership during sports seasons. Technology Guild Advisors are Mrs. Patelunas and Mr. Steele.



SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

Science Olympiad is a series of individual and team events for which students prepare from early October until the competition in February. These challenges and motivational events are based on the various science and technology disciplines such as biology, earth science, chemistry, physics, computers and engineering.

The students must have knowledge of science facts, concepts, processes, skills and science applications, along with building expertise. As there is such a diverse field of events offered, we find that with limited coaches and time, we are always looking for volunteers who can lend their expertise to help prepare the team! Contact Team Advisors Mr. Johnson or Mr. Steele for more information.



SCIENCE OLYMPIAD VOLUNTEERS

If you have knowledge of a particular area of science or technology that fits with an event, we would love to have you volunteer to help the students prepare. Or perhaps you don't feel you can help, but know someone who could. The time commitment can be minimal; one hour every one or two weeks would be fine.

This is a great opportunity for community involvement with our students. It's fun and extremely rewarding to see the students succeed and work so hard for a common goal. If you are interested in helping out, please contact us.

Middle School Musical

We are excited about our school musical this year, Mary Poppins. The show is scheduled for Thursday and Friday, January 31st and February 1st at 7 pm. Our performances will be at the HS Auditorium. The cast will rehearse Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 pm. The rehearsals will increase by one hour (6:00 - 9:00 pm) as needed in January. The show features a flexible cast of 30 students. There is a variety of solo singing and solo/group dancing featured. We will also need 10 students for the technical crew. Advisors are Mr. Palmer & Ms. Stratton.



Yearbook

HMS Yearbook is a club for 7th and 8th grade boys and girls who enjoy photography, writing, and technology. The club will meet twice a month during 10th period. Space is limited to 25 students. To apply for HMS Yearbook you must complete an application and place it in Mr. O'Brian's mailbox. Students may pick up an application in the Main Office. Advisor is Mr. O'Brian.



HMS Live is our daily television show broadcast through the Middle School each morning and occasional other times. The show gives students the opportunity to learn basic broadcasting skills. It features daily announcements, interviews, sports, club reports and other programs. Students meet at 7:30AM and during 10th period. Advisors are Mr. Palmer & Mr. Donovan.

Student Council



Student Council acts as the student government for the Middle School. As a group, they host several activities such as dances and open gyms, as well as many fundraising and charitable events throughout the year.

Elections for Student Council Officers were held on Friday, October 5, 2018. Eighth grade students will elect candidates for President, Vice - President, Treasurer and Secretary. Seventh grade students will elect officers for Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. Seventh and eighth grade officers work together with the advisors to plan and organize student council meetings and events. In addition to the officers, each 10th period class will elect two representatives to serve on Student Council as 10th Period Representatives. These students are responsible for attending monthly meetings, reporting back information to their 10th period class as well as give input and vote on events hosted by Student Council. Elections for 10th Period Representatives will be held on Wednesday, October 17, 2018. All elected students must sign and abide by a code of conduct.

Student Council represents all middle school students. Any student wishing to participate in Student Council events is welcomed and encouraged to do so. Advisors are Ms. Leland & Ms. Stratton.

National Junior Honor Society



The Horseheads Middle School established its chapter of the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) in March of 2000. The purpose of the organization is to recognize students who exhibit excellence in the areas of citizenship, service, leadership and character, both inside and outside of school. These students have taken a positive role in their school and community, while maintaining a high level of academic achievement.

Those who were accepted as members last June continue to demonstrate their exemplary character and citizenship through service to the school community.

Overall, membership in the National Junior Honor Society is an outstanding goal for students to strive for. Not only are they recognized for their academic and community achievements, they also continue to cultivate their sense of citizenship, service, leadership and character, preparing them to become better participants in the school, local and global communities.

New candidates for the NJHS will be selected following the application process which begins in May. Students are inducted into the National Junior Honor Society every June. Advisors are Mr. Seifert and Ms. Leland.

Athletic Information

Our Winter 2018 seasons will begin **November 5** for JV and Varsity Sports and modified wrestling. Online registration opens **October 6**. Modified season begins **November 13**: boys & girls basketball and boys modified swimming and diving. Online registration opens **October 13**. More details can be found on the District website under Athletics. Please ensure that the athlete has a physical (after **November 1, 2017** for a Winter sport), on record with the school nurse.

Choir Extracurricular Activities

All Middle School Choirs are invited to perform in Hanover Square on Saturday, November 24 for "Holly Days". Please come join us that afternoon to "Sing" in the "Holly Days"!

Mr. Palmer expects to send individual soloists to this year's NYSSMA Solo Festival in Corning NY. The festival is **April 5th and 6th, 2019**. Rehearsals will begin in February. Also planned are National Anthem Solo performances at high school sporting events. Any student desiring to sing a NYSSMA Solo or perform the Star Spangled Banner at athletic events should see Mr. Palmer. Students performing well in this festival will become eligible for the following year Area All State Festival in November. This year over 20 singers will participate!



Horseheads — Nakagawa

Sister Cities Exchange



The Horseheads Sister City Association is delighted to announce the 2019 exchange trip to Nakagawa, Japan. The trip will take place in early July and is open to all students in grades 8-11. Application materials can be picked up in the guidance office.

The Horseheads Sister City is seeking energetic and caring families with students in grades 7th, 8th or 9th to host two Japanese students during their March 8-16, 2019 visit to Horseheads.



There will be an informational meeting in the Middle School library on Thursday, November 1st at 7:00pm for all those interested in hosting a family in March or traveling to Japan in July. Please email kmur-ray@horseheadsdistrict.com with any questions.



HEALTH OFFICE INFORMATION

All **prescription medications** and **over-the-counter medications** require a medication administration order form from a physician and a parent signature. The parent or guardian must bring the medication in the original container to the health office. Students may not carry any medication (prescribed or over-the-counter) with the exception of inhalers and epi-pens.

The Health Office will soon begin Scoliosis screenings on all 7th-grade girls.

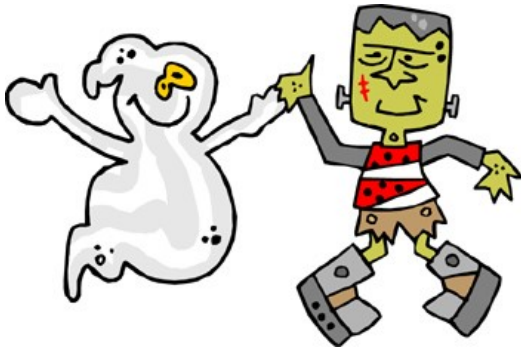
Additionally 7th graders and new entrants will be seen for their height, weight, vision and hearing, unless these results were provided on their routine physical exam. All 7th graders and new entrants are required to have a Physical and Dental Certificate. This is a state mandate.

School appraisals/physicals will be on Oct. 10 and Oct. 24 for students who do not have their own provider.

New York State Dental Requirement

New York State now requires all schools to request dental health certificates from parents at the same time we require a health certificate (in grades K, 2, 4, 7, and 10).





Middle School Halloween Dance and Open Gym Night

Each year in October, the PTO and Student Council sponsor a dance and open gym. In order to maintain a safe and enjoyable atmosphere for all of our students, we ask that the following procedures be followed:

- **Dance and open gym will start at 7:00 pm and end promptly at 9:00 pm. Students should make certain their transportation is waiting in the front of the school at 9:00 pm.**
- Our dance and open gym is open to students who are enrolled at Horseheads Middle School.
- To attend the dance and open gym, students must purchase a ticket during their lunch period Monday through Friday the week of the dance. No money will be collected at the door.
- All rules that apply during school hours are in effect for dances. The exceptions are cell phones and hats, as they are permitted. Failure to comply with school rules may result in students being prohibited from attending other school events.
- Participants are not allowed to leave the designated areas being used for the event. Students may not leave the building until the end of the event unless a parent is present to pick them up. Once a student leaves the building, he or she will not be readmitted.
- There will be no admission after 7:30 pm. without prior permission by an administrator.
- Refreshments are available for purchase and may not be taken outside of the designated area.
- Students who do not attend school the day of the dance and open gym will not be permitted to attend.
- Should school be cancelled the day of the dance and open gym, the event is also cancelled. It may or may not be rescheduled.
- **Please Note:** When picking up your child at the end of the dance, you will need to park in the Main Parking Lot in front of the school. Your child can wait for you to come get them or they can come find you in the parking lot.



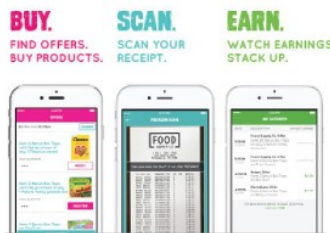
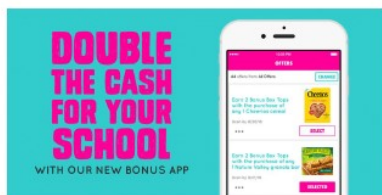
Attention: Parents & Students...



Earn Cash for Our School!

- *Students can bring in Box Tops all year long!
- *Hand in directly to Señora Fischer or to MS Cafeteria.
(see other teachers for more collection containers around the school)
- * All money collected goes to student initiatives in the building!

***1st Collection - by October 31st** Make sure they're not out of date!



For the Chipmunk in my Yard



I think he knows I'm alive, having come down
The three steps of the back porch
And given me a good once over. All afternoon
He's been moving back and forth,
Gathering odd bits of walnut shells and twigs,
While all about him the great fields tumble
To the blades of the thresher. He's lucky
To be where he is, wild with all that happens.
He's lucky he's not one of the shadows
Living in the blond heart of the wheat.
This autumn when trees bolt, dark with the fires
Of starlight, he'll curl among their roots,
Wanting nothing but the slow burn of matter
On which he fastens like a small, brown flame.

- Robert Gibb

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; 607-739-5601 x 4211 or at mcollins@horseheadsdistrict.com.

Middle School Dignity Act 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 950 Sing Sing Rd., Horseheads, NY 14845; 739-6357 x 3640 or at rholloway@horseheadsdistrict.com.

Notice

The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, marital status, military status, sex, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, predisposing genetic characteristic, or disability, and provides equal access to applicable groups under the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. Inquiries regarding this policy may be made to Megan Collins, Title IX/DASA Coordinator and Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; Anthony Gill, Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; or Kim Williams, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.

Horseheads Middle School:



Home of the Raider way