

News

...of the Horseheads Central School District

Capital Project Update

In October 2017, district voters approved a comprehensive capital project to improve both our educational programs and physical infrastructure. The project will be completed over several years. Once the project was approved, many went to work to make the project a reality. Here is an update.

Plans for the first phase of the project, which includes roof replacements, mechanical and electrical system upgrades, emergency lighting upgrades, and exterior door replacements at several schools, as well as site improvements at Gardner Road, have been submitted to the New York State Education Department. The district has received approval from the state and expects to begin the process of bidding and construction soon.

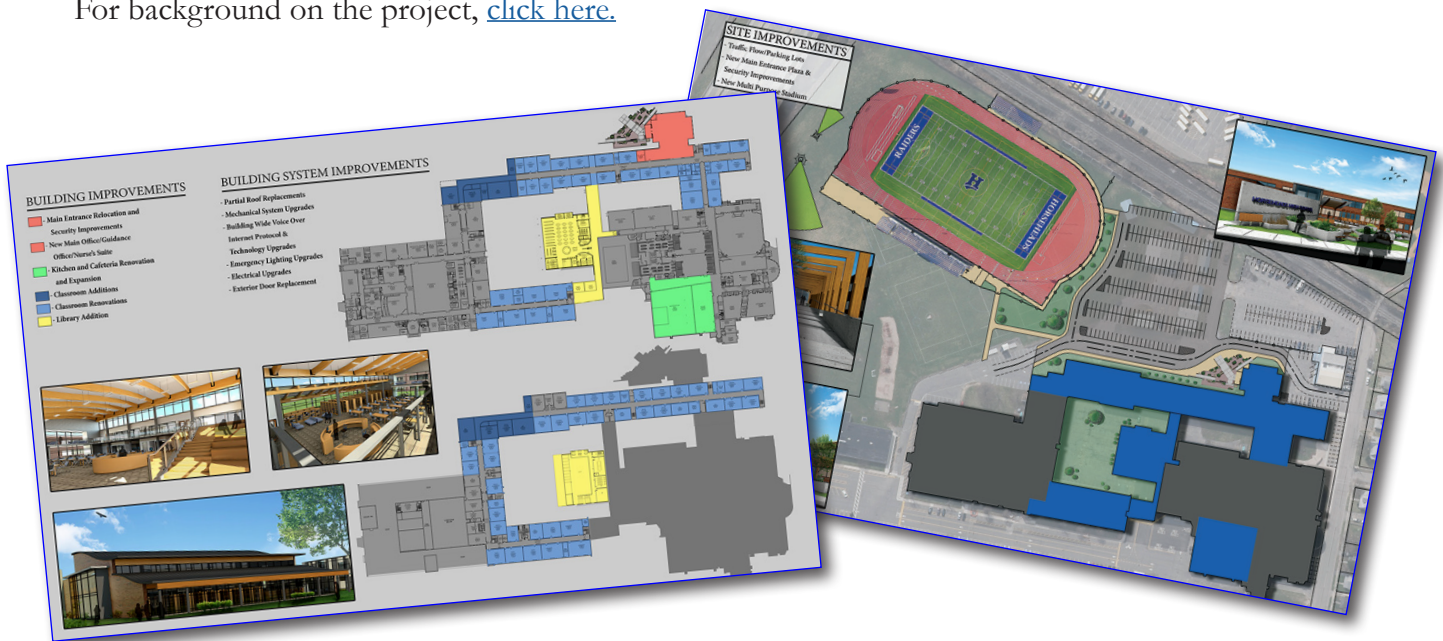
The district-wide technology portion of the project is planned as well. This includes phone upgrades district-wide, as well as network upgrades, data closet work, ceiling and lighting work, and more at the elementary schools (this work at the High School and Middle/Intermediate campus was completed with state Smart Schools Bond Act and previous capital project funds).

The district's architects, Hunt Engineers, Architects and Surveyors are recommending to the board that this plan go through a third-party review, a review system that state has recently initiated. The hope is to go to bid in late spring with construction in late summer and next school year.

Planning and design for the High School portion of the project, which requires extensive design work, is underway. A number of user group and design team meetings have been held since December. The plan is to submit to the state this fall, with construction to begin late spring to summer of 2019.

In January, representatives from Hunt and Welliver Construction, the district's construction manager for the project, reported to the Board of Education. To see the presentation, [click here](#).

For background on the project, [click here](#).



2018-19 Budget development

The Board of Education and district administration are currently developing the 2018-19 proposed school budget. The first of three board budget workshops was held February 8. Both the presentation and a video of the presentation, as well as budget and vote information, are available on our website [here](#).

The remaining workshops are **March 8 and April 5, both at 6pm** in the High School Multi-Media Center located in the South Wing. The workshops are open to the public.

A public hearing on the proposed budget will be **Thursday, May 3, at 6pm** in the High School Multi-Media Center.

The Budget Vote/Board Election is **Tuesday, May 15, 7am to 9pm** in the High School South Gym.



Interested in running for the Board of Education?

Voters will elect three members to the Board of Education on May 15. If you're interested in running for the board, petitions and other information will be available in the Business Office beginning March 5. Interested residents must submit petitions with the appropriate number of signatures of qualified district residents to the Business Office by April 16. Petitions will be available for pick-up March 1.

To learn more about Board of Education service, please [click here](#).

Questions on the budget, budget vote, or board service? Email us at hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com or call (607) 739-5601, x4260.

New mission/vision

Last year, as the district worked toward a plan to revitalize our district's infrastructure, we also began a discussion of our educational program.

We formed an Education Committee made up of parents, students, teachers, support staff, administrators, businesspeople, and senior citizens. The team worked some 50+ hours to look at our district's mission and vision and update it to reflect our current work and what we want for our students, district, and entire school community.

Our new mission is simple: **Explore • Empower • Excel.**

We **explore** through local and global opportunities, a culture of innovation, and individual learning paths.

We **empower** each other by rising to challenges, celebrating success, and learning from failure.

We **excel** as a result of our passion for learning, the quality of our character, and the strength of our relationships.

Our vision builds on our mission:

Horseheads Central School District sets the standard of educational excellence by fostering innovative thinking, curiosity, and a passion for learning to maximize the potential of each individual. We engage with our local and global communities to provide a student-centered, nurturing environment.



Storms brewing at the Intermediate School

Students on the Creators and Transformers teams at the Intermediate School know more than a little bit about severe weather, thanks to PBL, or project-based learning.

Working in groups, students chose a severe weather event to research, learn more about, and create a presentation to share what they've learned. On February 16, they presented their projects to parents, staff, and each other at a showcase in the Middle School Cafeteria.

Teachers kicked the project off in January in a big way: with a simulation of a tornado, complete with sound, wind, and damaged property. "We wanted the kids to experience the impact and devastation severe weather can have on a community," said teacher Alyssa Miller.

Students chose tornadoes, blizzards, tsunamis, typhoons and hurricanes.

"I learned a lot about typhoons," said student Camden Crossland. "Before, I didn't even know what a typhoon was. Our group made a movie using the Green Screen app and iMovie."

"Our presentation included a Lego model showing an underground shelter and the destruction a tor-

nado causes, said student, Lindsey Wood. "We also had a tornado machine. I had fun presenting to parents. We were able to show them everything we learned."

Students also learned about severe weather events and broadcasting from WENY Meteorologist and Intermediate School parent Joe Veres. Brian McConnell from the Finger Lakes Chapter of the Red Cross also visited the classroom to share how the Red Cross provides relief efforts to a community after severe weather hits.



Students helping students at Big Flats

Big Flats fourth-grade teacher Maren Schiefen wanted her students to learn to use Seesaw, an application that allows students to document and share what they're learning.

She knew colleague Tacy Kilmer and her fourth-graders have been using many technologies, including Seesaw. An idea was born: Would Kilmer's students teach the app to their counterparts in Schiefen's class? In a word, yes!

Enter Cheryl Tice, district instructional support coach, who worked with Kilmer's students to create presentations on digital citizenship for Schiefen's students. They posted their presentations on Seesaw and shared them with the class.

They then paired up to help them learn the app.

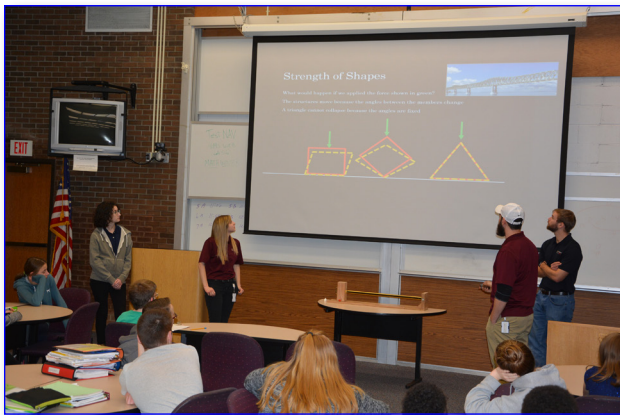
"They did an amazing job presenting the information to Mrs. Schiefen's students," Tice said. "They were able to share what they've learned in a way the students could understand."



Happenings

What can I teach my teacher?

Jessica Dotts, grade 5 teacher at the Intermediate School, asked her fifth-graders what they're passionate about. They then created a lesson about their passion or interest and taught it to the entire class, including Ms. Dotts. She called the activity "What can I teach my teacher?"



Good Citizen

Senior Regan DeWeese is this year's Horseheads DAR Good Citizen, selected by the Chemung Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Five students from the region were chosen based on their qualities of dependability, leadership, service and patriotism, and an essay.

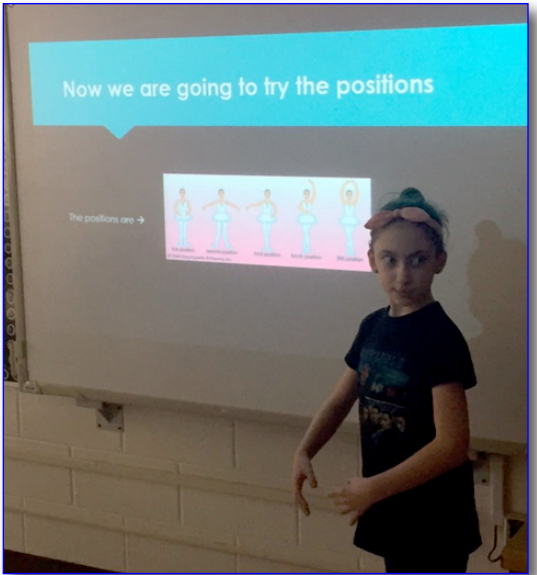


An insect fair for parents

Michaelle Tillinghast's second grade class at Gardner Road shared their Insect Fair with parents February 16. Both before and after school, parents could come to the classroom to view the students' work.

Each student chose an insect to study, research, and prepare a display board for while at school, and a model of the insect at home if they choose.

The project is from the Full Option Science System (FOSS) program.



Synthes STEM design challenge

A group of Middle School students are taking on the Synthes STEM design challenge, introduced to them on February 15 by engineers from Synthes. The challenge is to use the engineering design process to plan and create a paper structure that can withstand forces.

Thank you, Senator O'Mara

On February 22, the Board of Education thanked State Senator Tom O'Mara for his efforts in securing funding to improve traffic safety in the district.

Senator O'Mara has secured \$230,000 in state funds for improvements on Sing Sing Road. The project will improve safety for students and motorists near the Middle/Intermediate School complex.

Work is expected to get underway this summer.



Left to right: Board of Education President Pam Stollo, Senator Tom O'Mara, Superintendent Tom Douglas, and Director of Facilities Mike Coghlan.

Middle/High school teams do well at Science Olympiad regionals

Congratulations to our Middle and High School Science Olympiad teams on a very successful regional competition February 10 at Maine-Endwell. The Middle School team placed third out of seven teams, and the High School team placed fourth out of 16 teams. The students have been working very hard for the last four months studying difficult material on a wide range of topics, and building impressive structures and vehicles. Here are the individual awards:

Middle School:

Derek von Ahn – Gold, Wright Stuff

Ariana Miller – Silver, Thermodynamics; Bronze, Fast Facts and Rocks & Minerals

Bella Antes – Silver, Thermodynamics; Bronze, Fast Facts

Stella Clinton and Max Keller – Silver, Herpetology

Catherine Koester – Bronze, Anatomy and Physiology, Crime Busters, Microbe Mission, and Towers

Bhavi Patel – Bronze, Anatomy & Physiology; Bronze, Potions & Poisons

Brenna O'Brien – Bronze, Crime Busters

Grace Kuhnel – Bronze, Microbe Mission and Towers

Megan Heffner – Bronze, Potions & Poisons

Will Lotocky – Gold, Wright Stuff, and Bronze, Rocks & Minerals

Dan Finnerty and Derek von Ahn – Fourth place, Meteorology

High School:

Sunny Patel and Ibrahim Jalal – Gold, Microbe Mission

Lauren Stewart and Lindell Williams – Silver, Hovercraft

Ibrahim Jalal and Lindell Williams – Bronze, Thermodynamics, and Fourth, Rocks & Minerals

Lauren Stewart and Bevin Manuelpillai – Bronze, Tower

Sunny Patel and Bevin Manuelpillai – Fourth, Anatomy & Physiology

Lauren Stewart and Stephanie Stewart – Fourth, Dynamic Planet

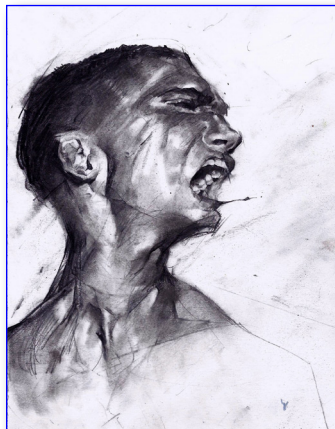
Elise Hotchkiss and Stephanie Stewart – Fourth, Forensics

Lauren Stewart and Ibrahim Jalal – Fourth, Helicopters

Sunny Patel and Lindell Williams – Fourth, Optics



Art students shine at Scholastic Art Awards



Senior Sydney Gaul's Gold Key-winning drawing, 'Grit.'

Traditionally, Horseheads art students win many honors in the regional Scholastic Art Awards competition, and this year is no exception.

Ten Gold Keys were awarded in the region this year; six went to Horseheads, and all to one student, Sydney Gaul. Two of her works also won American Vision awards at the ceremony at the Arnot Art Museum in January. All six of Sydney's works go on to the national competition.

All of the honored work was on display at the Arnot Art Museum in February. Here is a complete list of awards.

Horseheads High School

Mackenzie Hyde - Honorable Mention, Ceramics and Glass, for *Mother*

Zachary Webb - Honorable Mention, Jewelry, for *Spring Time*

Bella Carberry - Honorable Mention, Painting, for *Spring Awakening*

Susan Dong - Honorable Mention, Photography, for *Locks Of Love*

Sydney Gaul - Gold Key, Drawing and Illustration, for *Grit*; Gold Key, Painting, for *Red Woman*; Gold Key, Painting, for *Martyrdom*; Gold Key, Painting, for *Adolescence*; Gold Key, Painting, for *Condescendence*; Gold Key, Art Portfolio, for *Evocative Reflection*

Katie Maher - Silver Key, Drawing and Illustration, for *Shattered*; Silver Key, Painting, for *Graceful Lily*; Silver Key, Painting, for *Wild Child*; Honorable Mention, Art Portfolio, for *Endeavors Of Perseverance*; Honorable Mention, Painting, for *Fantasma*

Victoria Riina - Silver Key, Art Portfolio, for *Artistic Exploration*; Silver Key, Drawing and Illustration, for *Into The Lens*; Silver Key, Painting, for *Trasparente*; Honorable Mention, Drawing and Illustration, for *The Scream*; Honorable Mention, Painting, for *Repentance*; Honorable Mention, Painting, for *Pepper And Tool Combination*; Honorable Mention, Painting, for *Gourds Still Life*

Kelsey Greene - Silver Key, Digital Art, for *Forever Lost*; Honorable Mention, Digital Art, for *Eminent Directions*

Lauren Martin - Silver Key, Digital Art, for *Gothic Christmas*

Abigail Ozog - Honorable Mention, Photography, for *Cephalopod Lodge*; Honorable Mention, Photography, for *Delicious Disguise*; Honorable Mention, Photography, for *Distressed Point*

Alivia Vandaalen - Honorable Mention, Photography, for *Hometown*

Owen Foster - Honorable Mention, Printmaking, for *Primal Scream*

Michelle Yu - Honorable Mention, Drawing and Illustration, for *Wandering The Canals*

Horseheads Middle School

William Aepelbacher - Honorable Mention, Drawing and Illustration, for *Mad About Plaid*

Bethany Balster - Silver Key, Sculpture, for *Blooming*

Palmer Benesh - Silver Key, Drawing and Illustration, for *Bliss*

Emma Karpowich - Honorable Mention, Sculpture, for *Surfs Up*

Grace Kuhnel - Honorable Mention, Drawing and Illustration, for *Mr. Man*

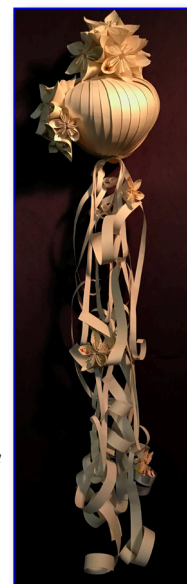
Paige Licursi - Honorable Mention, Drawing and Illustration, for *Fireworks*

Sophia Lotocky - Honorable Mention, Sculpture, for *Kinky Clocks*

Lydia Schooley - Honorable Mention, Painting, for *Your Smile Has Forever Changed My World*



Senior Katie Maher's Silver Key-winning painting, 'Graceful Lily.'



Eighth-grader Bethany Balster won a Silver Key in the Sculpture category for 'Blooming.'

Raiders on stage...

Peter Pan, Jr.

Middle School students presented Peter Pain Jr. February 1-2 in the High School Auditorium.



Singstrong

A group of 75 choral students from the High School travelled to Adelphi University on Long Island February 9-11 for the Singstrong New York A Capella Festival. This is the first year students have attended the festival. Two groups of students performed.

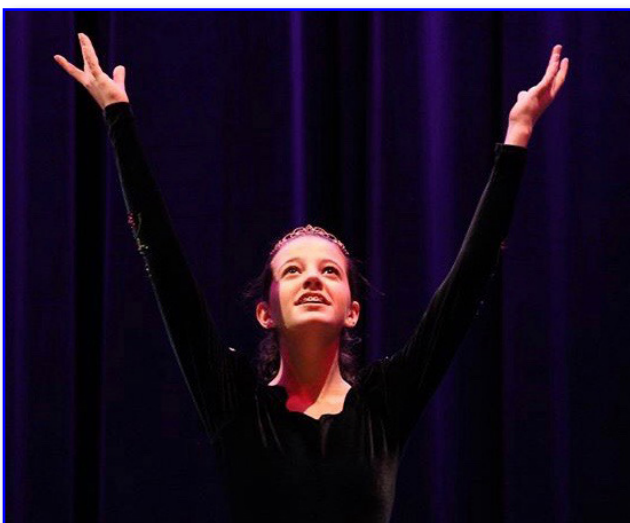


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Raiders on stage, continued...

Variety Show

After a postponement due to weather, Variety 2018 took place January 25 at the High School. Some 20 acts, made up of individuals and groups of students, shared their talents.



Please send us information

If you live in the district and have a young child, share your child's information with us so that we can contact you when your child is eligible for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten.

Please send your child's name, birthdate, parent(s)' name(s), address, and phone number to hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

Questions? E-mail hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com or call 739-5601, x4251.

Reminder to parents...

If you move within the district, we require two proofs of residency when you submit the address change. We accept the following:

- Bank contract or mortgage agreement with name and address showing home purchase
- Signed rent or lease agreement with landlord's name, address, and telephone number, or DSS processed landlord statement
- Most recent utility bill (electric, phone, etc)
- Receipt for gas/electric/phone service
- Driver's license or state ID card with picture showing current district address
- Currently active bank account/checkbook statement with name and address imprinted
- Payroll stub with address

Questions? Call 739-5601, x4251.

To view the district's policies, [click here](#) or ...

- Visit the district's website at www.horseheadsdistrict.com.
- Click on 'Board of Education' from the menu near the top of the page, or [click here](#).
- When the Board of Education site opens, click on 'Board Documents' in the box on the right.
- When the Board Docs site opens, click on 'Policies' at the top right.

Questions? Email hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com or call (607) 739-5601, x4201.



**Office of Children
and Family Services**

To report child abuse or neglect, call toll free

**1-800-342-3720 or
ocfs.ny.gov/main/cps**

Child Find Notice

Notice is hereby given to all district residents with children between birth and age 21: If your child is disabled or you suspect he/she may be disabled, you may be entitled to special education and related services without cost to you. Please contact the Student Services Office at 739-5601, x4301, to register your child or to obtain further information.

This notice is in compliance with IDEA Child Find requirements, Educational Law 4402 (1) (a).

Learn more about the district...

- Visit www.horseheadsdistrict.com
- Like us on Facebook - the district and our seven schools have pages
- Follow us on Twitter: *HbdsSchools*
- Follow us on Instagram: *hbdschools*



Events

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| March 6 | Center Street PTO, 6:30pm |
| March 8 | High School Report Cards Board of Education Budget Meeting, 6pm, Multi-Media Center |
| March 9 | No School - Superintendent's Conference Day |
| March 10 | Varsity H Celebrity Basketball Game, Middle School, 7pm (youth games begin at 5pm) |
| March 13 | High School Parent Advisory Council, 9am Ridge Road PTO Planning, 6pm; Ridge Road PTO, 6:30pm Big Flats PTO Innovation Fair, 6:30pm; Intermediate School PTO, 6:30pm |
| March 14 | Pre-Kindergarten Registration, 9am-2pm, Multi-Media Center High School Orchestra/Band Concert, 7:30pm, High School Auditorium |
| March 15 | Pre-Kindergarten Registration, 4-6pm, Multi-Media Center |
| March 16 | Center Street Spring Carnival, 5pm |
| March 20 | Pre-Kindergarten Registration, 4-6pm, Multi-Media Center Middle School Grade 6 Parent Orientation, 6pm, Cafeteria |
| March 21 | Pre-Kindergarten Registration, 9am-Noon, Multi-Media Center High School Choir Concert, 7:30pm, Auditorium |
| March 22 | High School Blood Drive, Auditorium Board of Education, 6pm, Multi-Media Center |
| March 23 | Center Street Math Fact Day Middle School Dance/Open Gym, 7pm Ridge Road Family Science Night, 6:30pm |
| March 26 | Intermediate School Information Night for Grade 4 Families, Middle School Cafeteria, 6pm |

View our full website calendar [here](#), or view the calendar on Google [here](#).

Safe Schools Line

To report a concern, rumor, or other safety issue anonymously and confidentially
24 hours a day, call

795-2044 or 1-800-305-4984

Horseheads Central School District
One Raider Lane • Horseheads, NY 14845
(607) 739-5601, x4295

Board of Education: *Pamela Strollo, President; Brian Lynch, Vice President; Lisa Christiansen; Daniel Christmas; Warren Conklin; Kristine Dale; Mary Anne Holleran; Doug Johnson; David Sadler; Angelique Lapitan (student representative)*

Superintendent: *Dr. Thomas J. Douglas*

Contact: *Susan Pirozzolo, (607) 739-5601, x4295, supirozz@horseheadsdistrict.com*



Explore Empower Excel

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/DASA Coordinator and Civil Rights Compliance Officer; Anthony Gill, Civil Rights Compliance Officer; or Kim Williams, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.