



Big Flats News



June 2020

*At Big Flats Elementary,
we will SOAR together
as we explore our "wonders"
in a fun and engaging
community, where we will
inspire each other to achieve
anything!*

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we bring closure to the 2019-2020 school year, I wanted to take a moment to thank you all for your flexibility, support, and understanding during the last few months of school. I know that it has been a challenging time for most everyone. I thank you for all that you have done to support your children. I believe we would all agree that these past few months have taught us a lot about ourselves, our children, and the way we live our lives. I am hopeful that others have learned how valuable our family, friends, and our jobs are to us. I am hopeful that everyone has a deeper appreciation for our community workers, such as farmers, truck drivers, delivery workers, EMT's, nurses, doctors, sanitation workers, and, of course, teachers, to name just a few. I am hopeful that some of you have learned to appreciate the down time or the non-scheduling of extracurricular events for your children. As a parent myself, my husband and I did everything we could to provide our children with lots of different extracurricular opportunities; however, I vividly recall "over-scheduling" our children's lives, which also "over-scheduled" our lives. If my husband and I were to do it all over again, I believe we would do a better job at finding balance and would not over schedule our children or ourselves again. I am hopeful you, too, will take the opportunity to reflect on this gift of time that we all have been given, to recreate your family's list of priorities for the future.

Next, I would like everyone to know that we are currently waiting for the student's yearbooks to come in. Once we receive the school yearbooks, we will then set up dates and times for parents to come to school to pick up your child's personal belongings. Our teachers and support staff are currently working to fill each child's brown paper bag with their personal belongings. So please stay tuned for another message providing those important details.

Lastly, due to COVID-19, this year we need to complete our annual school budget vote and school Board Elections by absentee ballot ONLY. PLEASE be sure to call the district office at 607-739-5601 ext. 4260 as soon as possible to confirm your name, address, and eligibility to vote. It is IMPERATIVE that everyone who is eligible to vote to PLEASE take the time to VOTE this year! The Board of Education has worked very hard to present a very fair budget for our taxpayers. The BOE will be having a virtual public budget hearing on Monday, June 1st, 2020 at 6pm. To view the meeting, please go to: <http://Ideas.gstboces.org/hhds>. If anyone has any questions, please do not hesitate to outreach me. Again, thank you for all your support during these challenging, unprecedented times.

Have a WONDERFUL summer!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth M. Scaptura

Elizabeth M. Scaptura

Principal

Elementary Lunches (K-6)

School Food Services prices for the 2019-2020 school year will be:

Breakfast: \$1.25

Lunch: \$2.10

School Hours

Hours for the Elementary Schools are:

8:15 a.m. to 2:25 p.m.

Office Hours

Our school office hours during regular school days are:

Monday through Friday

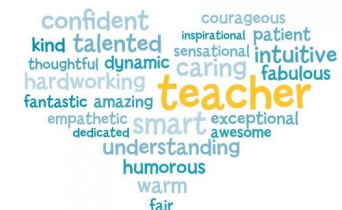
7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Office Phone Numbers

(607) 739-6373

(607) 795-2550

Fax: (607) 795-2555



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.

Explore

Empower

Excel

PTO CDAI.com

Budget Vote/Board Election by Absentee Ballot This Year

In accordance with New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Order, the Horseheads Central School District will hold the 2020-21 Budget Vote/Board of Education Election via absentee ballot only.

Ballots will be mailed to those eligible voters who voted in the 2019 annual vote. In addition, applications for absentee ballots may also be applied for at the office of the District Clerk for any qualified voter in the district who did not vote in the 2019 annual vote. Contact the District Clerk at 607-739-5601 ext. 4260 to schedule an appointment to complete the application for a ballot to be mailed to you. Such applications for an absentee ballot must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days before the vote if the ballot is to be mailed to the absentee voter or the day before the vote if the ballot is to be picked up by the absentee voter by scheduled appointment at the district office. Absentee ballots must be received in the office of the District Clerk, 143 Hibbard Road, Horseheads, NY 14845, not later than 5 p.m. on June 9 in order to be counted.

All district residents are eligible to vote, as long as they meet the following requirements:

- Are a U.S. citizen
- Are 18 years of age or older on the day of the vote
- Have lived in the district for at least 30 days prior to the vote
- Are not restricted from voting in general elections based on election law

A public hearing will be held at 6 p.m. on Monday, June 1, 2020, virtually at <http://Ideas.gstboces.org/hhds>. (After June 1, a video of the hearing will be at www.horseheadsdistrict.com/Budget2020-21.cfm).

For more information on the proposed budget, please go to <https://horseheadsdistrict>.

News from the PTO:

Due to the challenges we all are experiencing with COVID-19, we have been unable to hold our normal monthly PTO meetings and our yearly PTO Officer elections as we traditionally do and as stated by our bylaws. Our current PTO Officer board has voted that for *this year only* we will be making a temporary amendment to our bylaws by holding our PTO Officer elections during the month of June rather than May in an effort to continue our support of the school and to not disrupt any of our annual PTO Fall activities and events. This will also allow us to build our volunteer base and allow adequate notice for all PTO members who wish to vote in this year's election. Due to varying circumstances, four of our current PTO board members will sadly no longer be part of the Big Flats family, and are stepping down from their roles. *Please note that one of our current board members is remaining on the ballot (in a different position), however, in fairness to the other candidates, has abstained from voting on this temporary bylaw amendment to our election timeline.

More information on election date and procedure will be forthcoming.

Our official 2020-2021 PTO Officer ballot is as follows:

Candidates for President:

- Christy Harmer

- Beth Dick/Alissa Creighton (as Co-Presidents)

Candidates for Vice President:

- Amy Vence/Kate Biddle (as Co-VP)

Candidates for Secretary:

- Brandee Terry

Candidates for Treasurer:

- Tara Spiraw/Alicia Knowlden (as Co-Treasurers)

Thank you to all of our candidates!

Lastly, please also add *Tuesday, June 2, 2020 at 6pm* to your calendars for a virtual PTO meeting. Agenda and video conferencing links will be sent soon!

Many thanks!

2019-2020 PTO Officers Board

Lauren Heal

Tara Spiraw

MaryJo Wallner

Desiree White

Zuleykha Grover

Leslie Barnes



*Our Falcons continuing
to work from home...*



Mark Your Calendars

June 1

BOE Budget Presentation; 6pm

June 2

PTO Meeting; 6pm

June 9

Budget Absentee Ballot due

June 12

Last day of assignments to be assigned

June 16

Last day to turn in assignments

June 18

BOE Meeting; 6pm

June 22, 23, 24

Technology turn-in



Learn Up-To-Date Information About Our Schools and the District

Facebook: The district and each of our seven schools have pages. “Like” them to see our information in your news feed.

Twitter: Follow us on Twitter at @HhdsSchools to read our tweets.

Follow Mrs. Scaptura on Twitter at @escaptural

Instagram: The district’s page—hhdsschools

Visit our district website at:

www.horseheadsdistrict.com.

Questions about our website or social media?

E-mail hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com



FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

• Moving?

Please let us know as soon as possible if you plan on moving over the summer. It is very important for us to know this type of information, so please keep us informed!

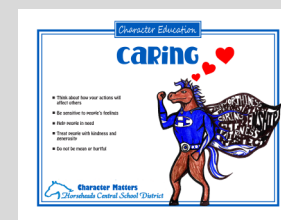
• Changes in Parent/Guardian Cell Phone Numbers

If a parent/guardian gets a new cell phone number, and had opted in to text messaging notifications with their old number, they’ll need to opt in again with the new number! Please let the Main Office know of the change and we will give you the information to opt in again.

June —The month of:

Caring

- Think about how your actions will affect others
- Be sensitive to people’s feelings
 - Help people in need
- Treat people with kindness and generosity
 - Do not be mean or hurtful



Dignity Act Coordinator

The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for Big Flats Elementary is Elizabeth Scaptura. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student should be referred to Mrs. Scaptura at (607)-739-6373. The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for the Horseheads Central School District is Caitlin DeFilippo, director of Human Resources. If there is a complaint regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student, the complaint should be filed with Caitlin DeFilippo at One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845; 607-739-5601 x4211, or cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

Non-Discrimination Notification

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 Caitlin DeFilippo, Title IX/DASA Coordinator, and Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; Anthony Gill, Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; or Kelly Squires, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.

This policy of non-discrimination includes access by students to educational programs, counseling services, course offerings, and activities, as well as recruitment and appointment of employees and employment pay, benefits, advancement and/or termination.

UPDATED

Horseheads Central School District

Technology Help

During the 2020 Extended Student Dismissal

Please note: While we will no longer have Tech Office Hours, our tech staff members are still available to assist families with technology needs. Please use the form below to request assistance. Thank you!

Tech Support Center

Technicians and librarians will assist students and families through our Tech Support Help Center.

Technicians will assist with hardware, connectivity, and network account issues. Librarians will assist students, families, and staff in their individual schools with software issues, online applications, and the basics of Microsoft teams.

In order to request assistance, please use this form:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=KtLKIY3tDEGU4Az1zjSEePHH3Uhzi7IDs958K7D4_QIUQ0FMWEpMWjhYVEY5UIZZSUQ4TUpESIBIRi4u

Families without internet can call the following number for assistance: 607-481-2850. Please leave a detailed message outlining the technology problem or issue and a phone number we can use to reach you.

A note for district staff: Please contact the GST BOCES Help Desk if you have technology issues.

For general questions, or if you need assistance in finding someone to help, please email hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.