



Big Flats News

May 2024

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 begin the month of May, I find myself incredibly thankful once again for our amazing students, parents, guardians, faculty, and staff! Next week, we will celebrate all of our AMAZING BFE faculty and staff during our annual Teacher Appreciation Week. Please help me and our wonderful PTO in celebrating and appreciating our teachers and support staff! Please mark your calendars for the remaining early dismissals and special events:

- ◆ May 6-10th, Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week
- ◆ May 6th– Kindergarten Capstone Photos
- ◆ May 7th & 8th– 3rd & 4th Gr. NYS Math Assessments
- ◆ May 7th– 19th Art Show Arnot Mall
- ◆ May 9th– 23rd– AimsWeb+ Screenings
- ◆ May 14th– Career Day
- ◆ May 15th, Spring Concert at the High School Auditorium 7:00pm
- ◆ May 17th, Kindergarten Orientation
- ◆ May 20th-23rd Kindergarten Screenings
- ◆ **May 21st- SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE– High School South Gym 7am-9pm**
- ◆ May 24th-28th NO SCHOOL Memorial Day Recess
- ◆ May 30th- Mud or Not Fun Run! & PTO Spring Book Fair 5:30pm
- ◆ June 11th- 4th Grade Unity Day at the High School Stadium
- ◆ June 18th- Senior Walk
- ◆ June 19th- No School, Juneteenth National Holiday
- ◆ June 20th- Field Day (Pre-approved volunteers only, no spectators)
- ◆ June 21st- Half Day Dismissal
- ◆ June 24th- Half Day Dismissal & PK Celebration 8:45-10:00 Cafeteria
- ◆ June 25th- Half Day Dismissal, PreK Orientation 12:45-1:30
- ◆ June 26th– Half Day Dismissal, Last Day! Move-Up Day

Sincerely,

Elizabeth M. Scaptura

Elizabeth M. Scaptura, Principal

Elementary Lunches (K-6)

School Food Services prices for the 2023-2024 school year will be:

Breakfast: Free

Lunch: Free

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

Happy Teacher Appreciation Week!
May 6, 2024– May 10, 2024



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



Tuesday, May 21, 7am-9pm

2024-25 Budget Development

Budget development for the following school year begins early in the calendar year. Regular board meetings and budget workshops are held from February to April until the final adoption of the budget to be offered to voters May 21. All meetings begin at 6pm and are open to the public. Here is the schedule:

- Thursday, May 9 – Public Hearing on 2024-25 Budget, High School Multi-Media Center, 6pm

Meetings are live streamed (at <http://ideas.gstbooces.org/hhds/>), recorded, and posted to the district website. For more information on the development of the 2024-25 Budget, including links to videos and presentations from board meetings, click here: <https://horseheadsdistrict.com/HCSDBudget2024-25.cfm>.

Budget Vote/Board of Education Election

The Budget Vote/Board of Education Election is **Tuesday, May 21, 7am-9pm**, in the High School South Gym.

All district residents are eligible to vote, provided 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

OR

- Are registered to vote in general elections



For information on absentee ballots or other questions about the budget or vote, please call (607) 739-5601, x4260 or mail hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

ATTENTION PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF 3RD AND 4TH GRADERS

To provide schools and parents with an assessment of student achievement, New York State has developed the New York State Testing Program. These standardized tests challenge all students in grades 3 through 8 to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. Please visit the site at <https://www.engageny.org/parent-and-family-resources>. If you are interested in viewing this site but do not have access to the Internet, please call the school office so that we can make arrangements for you to see this guide.

3rd and 4th grade Computer Based ELA—April 10, 2024 and April 11, 2024

3rd and 4th grade Computer Based Math—May 7, 2024 and May 8, 2024

FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

Drop Off/Pick Up

Please remember K-4 students may be dropped off as early as 7:40am, following the drop off procedures. Also, K-4 parents may line up **no earlier** than 2:10pm following the pick up procedures. Please remember our PK students are picked up from 1:50pm –2:05pm. The safety of our students and staff is our main priority, so please adhere to these procedures. If you need to change your child's dismissal plans, please send in a blue note. Also, please note: *It is District policy that students cannot ride a different bus home with another student for a playdate.* Thank you for your understanding. For more information regarding your child's pick up procedure, please contact the main office.

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.

Grade 4 Intermediate School Presentation and Self-Guided Tour

The Intermediate School will be hosting a presentation and self-guided tour for all current 4th graders. The presentation will be held on Thursday, May 2nd in the Intermediate School cafeteria beginning at 6:00 PM. Immediately following, students and families will have the opportunity to take a self-guided tour around the Intermediate School. Should you have any questions, please contact the Intermediate School office at 607-739-6366.

Automated Attendance Update

Big Flats Elementary wishes to keep parents/guardians informed of students' attendance at school and assist students in meeting attendance requirements. To this end, we have been mailing letters to parents/guardians when their student is absent from school eight, sixteen, or more times in a school year. Beginning Tuesday, April 30, this process will move to an automated email rather than a mailed letter. Emails will be sent to parents/guardians of students who are absent from school eight, sixteen, or more times. This change will allow for quicker and more efficient delivery of important information regarding your student's attendance.

As a reminder, regular school attendance is crucial for your students' academic success and overall well-being. Consistent attendance ensures that students do not miss out on valuable instruction, opportunities, and important classroom activities. Our attendance policy is designed to promote a positive and engaging learning environment for all students. It is essential that your student attends school regularly and arrives on time. In the event of an absence, please notify the school as soon as possible, please remember that an excused absence still counts towards the student's absence count. Please [click here](#) to see the district's attendance policy.

Art Show

Swing by the Arnot Mall beginning next Tuesday afternoon, May 7th, through May 19th to check out our district Art show. Big Flats students all have at least one piece in the show, and our display is located in the wing just outside of JCPenney.

ATTENTION KINDERGARTEN

PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

All Kindergarten students will be photographed for their cap and gown photo on Monday, May 6th!

Construction Corner

Updates:

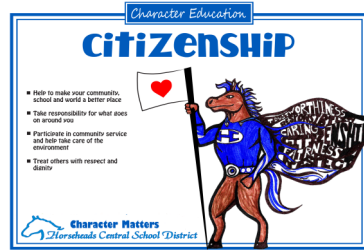


- Brick work in the new wing is 90+% completed.
- Roofing is complete and detailing is ongoing.
- Classroom flooring is completed.
- Drywall is nearing completion and painting has begun. Casework is nearing completion.
- The mechanical, plumbing and electrical work is nearing completion.
- Underground plumbing and electric to the new kitchen is completed.
- Hallway terrazzo work will begin soon.

Mark Your Calendars

May 2023

- May 6-10– Staff Appreciation Week
- May 6– Kindergarten Capstone Photos
- May 7th & 8th– 3rd & 4th NYS Math Assessments
- May 7– 19 Art Show Arnot Mall
- May 14– Career Day
- May 15—4th Grade Spring Concert High School Auditorium 7:00pm
- May 17– Kindergarten Orientation
- May 20-23– Kindergarten Screenings
- May 21– School Budget Vote– High School South Gym 7am-9pm
- May 24-28 No School Memorial Day Holiday
- May 30– Mud or Not Fun Run—Big Flats Falcon Field—5:30
- PTO Spring Book Fair—5:30



May — The month of: Citizenship

- Do your share to make your community better
- Cooperate
- Be a good neighbor; follow laws and rules
- Get involved in community affairs
- Stay informed: Vote
- Protect the environment
- Volunteer

Coming Soon – 2024-25 Busing Form

On Monday, May 6, the Transportation Department will send the 2024-25 School Year Busing Form for parents/guardians to complete. This process was implemented in 2023 and has been refined for the upcoming school year. The busing form helps the Transportation Department determine the schedule and routes. This form must be completed for every student. Please stay tuned for more information.

Lost and Found

The lost and found box has many items in it, such as coats, hats, snow boots, and water bottles. Please have your child check the box for their lost items.



PTO Officers

President- Jane Tanner	Secretary- Suzette Baldwin
Vice President—Brandon Spirawk	Co-Treasurers- Tara Spirawk & Leanne Hull

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](https://twitter.com/HhdsSchools) to read our tweets. Follow Mrs. Scaptura on Twitter at [@escaptura1](https://twitter.com/escaptura1)

Instagram: The district’s page—[hhdsschools](https://www.instagram.com/hhdsschools)

Visit our district website at: www.horseheadsdistrict.com.

Questions about our website or social media? E-mail hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com



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.

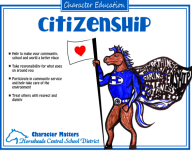


Non-Discrimination Notification

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.



May 2024

Big Flats
Elementary School

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 CSE Meetings	2	3 Raider/Falcon Pride Day	4
5	6 Staff Appreciation: Coffee/Sweets K Capstone Photos	7 Staff Appreciation: School Supply Item 3rd & 4th NYS Math Assessments PTO Mtg, 6pm Bridge	8 Staff Appreciation: Pampering Day 3rd & 4th NYS Math Assessments	9 Staff Appreciation: Staff Lunch Band Rehearsal 8 -8:40 Aimsweb+ Screenings (5/9-5/23)	10 Staff Appreciation: Thank you note, flower or plant	11
12	13 CSE Meetings Band Rehearsal 8:00 Chorus Rehearsal 9:15 1st Grade Clemens Center Pete the Cat	14 Band Rehearsal 800-8:40 Career Day	15 CSE Meetings Spring Concert HS Aud. 7pm	16 CIM Meetings	17 Science & Discovery Center 3rd Grade Presentation 8:30-10:30 AM K Orientation	18
19	20 K Screening 8-3	21 K Screening 8-3 4th Grade Benjamin Patterson Inn	22 K Screening 8-3 4th Grade Benjamin Patterson Inn	23 K Screening 8-3 Mismatch Day– Wear mismatched clothes 4th Gr Maturation BOE 6:00pm HSMCC	24 <i>No School</i> 	25
26	27 <i>No School</i> 	28 NO SCHOOL <i>Give Back Day</i>	29	30 PTO Mud or Not Fun Run & PTO Spring Book Fair 5:30 PM	31	

Character Trait of the Month **Citizenship**

- Do your share to make your community better
- Cooperate
- Be a good neighbor; follow laws and rules
- Get involved in community affairs
- Stay informed: Vote
- Protect the environment
- Volunteer



Fight Flu

at Home and School

Influenza (flu), spreads easily and can make people very sick, especially kids. You can help stop flu!

Flu symptoms include:

Fever or chills, body aches, cough, sore throat, headache, runny or stuffy nose, feeling very tired. Some people, especially children, may have stomach problems and diarrhea. Unlike a cold, the flu comes on very suddenly.

Prevent flu!

- Flu vaccine is the best protection against the flu. It is recommended every year for everyone 6 months and older.
- Get the flu vaccine for you and your children every year! It helps make flu sickness milder or prevents it altogether.
- Getting the vaccine early in the fall means you and your children will be protected when flu season starts.
- Make sure people close to your children, like babysitters and relatives, are also vaccinated.
- The vaccine is especially important for people with certain medical conditions like asthma, diabetes, and heart or lung disease, because the flu can make them even sicker.

If your child gets the flu:

- Your child will need plenty of rest and lots of fluids.
- Keep your child home from school for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone without using fever-control medicine. This helps avoid giving the flu to others.
- Talk with your child's health care provider before giving a child any over-the-counter medicine.
- Never give your child or teenager aspirin or any medicine that has aspirin in it. Aspirin can cause serious problems for children and teens.
- Young children and those with certain medical conditions, like asthma, diabetes, and heart or lung disease, are at greater risk for getting seriously ill from the flu.
- If your child gets flu symptoms and is younger than 5 or has a medical condition, call their health care provider and ask about antiviral treatment.
- If you are worried about your child, call their health care provider.

Don't spread flu!

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water aren't handy, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow, not your hands. Put used tissues in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. That's how germs spread.
- Stay away from people who are sick.

health.ny.gov/flu

