

CENTER STAGE



sharing, caring,
and learning for life



Feb/Mar. 2021



MARCH MADNESS



The CS PTO has created a **March Madness Reading Challenge**. Each week every student will receive a Reading Log along with a cool bookmark. Each night we are encouraging students to read even more the classroom assigned book and/or a book of your choice. For Pre K students, parents reading to your child counts! Record the minutes and have your parent/guardian sign it off. The reading logs are to be turned in to your classroom teacher or when you pick up your classroom materials on Wednesdays. **There will be LOTS OF PRIZES. Did we mention, there will be LOTS OF PRIZES?**

What PRIZES?

Two fun filled baskets of cool toys will be in every classroom so that boys and girls will have a chance to win them!

2 brand new bikes with helmets

A camera

8 regulation basketballs

Book and so much more!

How to win the PRIZES ? All of the minutes you are reading and recording will be turned into points. The points will determine how many tickets you will receive to be placed in the classroom basket container. The more you read, the more minutes –will turn into points, the more tickets you get, the greater chance of winning a basket.

Each week we will put all of the week's tickets into a large container to draw from so that students will be able to win a basketball and so much more. The last week, we will have the exciting drawing for the bikes!

There will be special prize for every student who participates!

READING IS FUN - READ ON COLTS!!!!

Center Street Information

BUILDING DOORS WILL BE LOCKED

As part of the District-wide security system and our emphasis on safety, the building doors will be locked during the day. Both of the main lobby entrance doors have a white box. Please push the button, wait for a response and someone will assist you. During this pandemic, no adults are permitted in the building. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Visitors to the Schools—We are not accepting visitors to our building at this time due to the pandemic Covid-19. Students may enter the building upon their temperature check through the main entrance ONLY beginning at 7:45 am.

Also, as parents arrive in the morning with children, please remain outside of the school. Children must learn to proceed to their room on their own.

Teachers are expected NOT to take class time to discuss individual matters with visitors.

Please note these district rules are approved by the Horseheads Board of Education. These safety procedures need your support. If you have any questions regarding these procedures, please call the office. Thank you in advance for your help and support with keeping safety a priority.

DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, WE ARE MAKING TEMPORARY ADJUSTMENTS TO OUR STUDENT HANDBOOK FOR THE 2020—2021 ACADEMIC YEAR. Please see the adjusted details below and thank you in advance for your flexibility and understanding as we create a safe learning environment for our students.

Birthday Treats—We know birthdays are very important days for our students. Due to the DOH and the CDC guidelines, treats are not allowed to be brought in the building to be shared, even if they are individually pre-packaged or store bought.

Breakfast—Breakfast is available to students as it has been in the past. This year, our cafeteria will offer a “GRAB and GO” breakfast that will be taken back to the classroom to be eaten.

Class Snacks—Students are allowed to bring in their own daily snack as in the past. Due to the DOH and CDC guidelines, teachers will not be coordinating a classroom snack schedule where snacks are shared among students.

MEDICATION IN SCHOOL - If a student needs any form of medication at school, a written physician's prescription and written parental consent are necessary. Any medication should be brought in the original container to the health office by an adult where it will be stored and dispensed. Please contact Mrs. Reazor with further questions, please call the office at 795-2580.

APPR of Teacher and Principals -The District is required to implement Annual Professional Performance Reviews (APPR) of teachers and principals. The outcome of the APPR is that each teacher and principal will receive an Overall Composite Rating based upon Observation and Student Performance scores. The four possible Overall Composite Ratings are Highly Effective, Effective, Developing and Ineffective (HEDI). You may request the Overall Composite Rating for the teachers and principals in the school building to which your child is assigned for the current school year by contacting the building principal of your child's school. Further, if you require additional explanation of the ratings for the teachers and principals, you may contact Tony Gill, Assistant Superintendent, at 607-739-5601, x4263. Please note that this information may be released only to parents or legal guardians. The District will verify that any request received is a bona fide request submitted by a parent or legal guardian.

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 the HR Directors, 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,

Safe Schools Line - To report a concern, rumor, or other safety issue - call 795-2044 or 1-800-305-4984. Line is available 24 hours a day - ALL CALLS ARE ANONYMOUS AND CONFIDENTIAL.

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Dear Parent (s) / Caregiver (s),

Spring is just around the corner, and I am sure most of us are anxious to say goodbye to winter! While it still may be cold outside - things continue to heat up at Center Street. February was indeed, a

busy month involving so many wonderful activities, our Celebration of Black History Month, Making Special Valentine Cards for our Veterans, Red, White and Pink School Spirit Days and the many fun activities our classroom teachers put together for our students.

I want to thank each member of our outstanding PTO and the Site Base Committee for their diligence and dedication in supporting our Center Street School community. They have been an invaluable resource to the school and community, and we could not have accomplished what we have without them.



Sincerely,

Patti Sotero, Principal

Center Street Elementary Contact Information

812 Center Street
Horseheads, NY 14845
607-795-2580
Patricia Sotero, Principal
Jessica Fierro, Secretary
Dee Patrick, LTS Attendance Clerk
Carrie Reazor, Nurse

www.horseheadsdistrict.com
Melissa Yearkick - Executive Officer
Melanie Pedit - Executive Officer

Newsletter in Color: <http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/centerst/csnews.cfm>



Character

Always value ourselves and others!

This month's Character Education word is **RESPECT**.

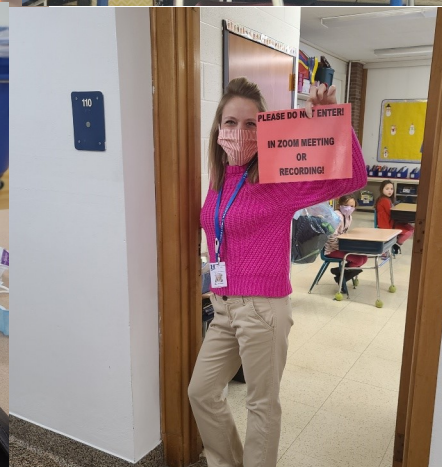
We show respect by speaking and acting with courtesy.

Corner

RED, WHITE & PINK DAY!



RED, WHITE & PINK DAY!



PTO FAMILY FUN NIGHT!



HELP SUPPORT

CENTER STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

WHERE 950 County Route 64, Elmira, NY 14903

WHEN Wed, Mar 3rd

FROM 4:00pm - 8:00pm

Bring this flyer or show an electronic version to the cashier when you place your order and we'll donate a portion of the proceeds from your purchase.*

We're committed to your safety.

This cafe offers these additional ordering options so you can support the cause in whichever way you feel most comfortable. When ordering online, enter code **PRFUND** at checkout to ensure your organization gets a portion of the proceeds.



Drive-Thru



Panera Cafe



Delivery*



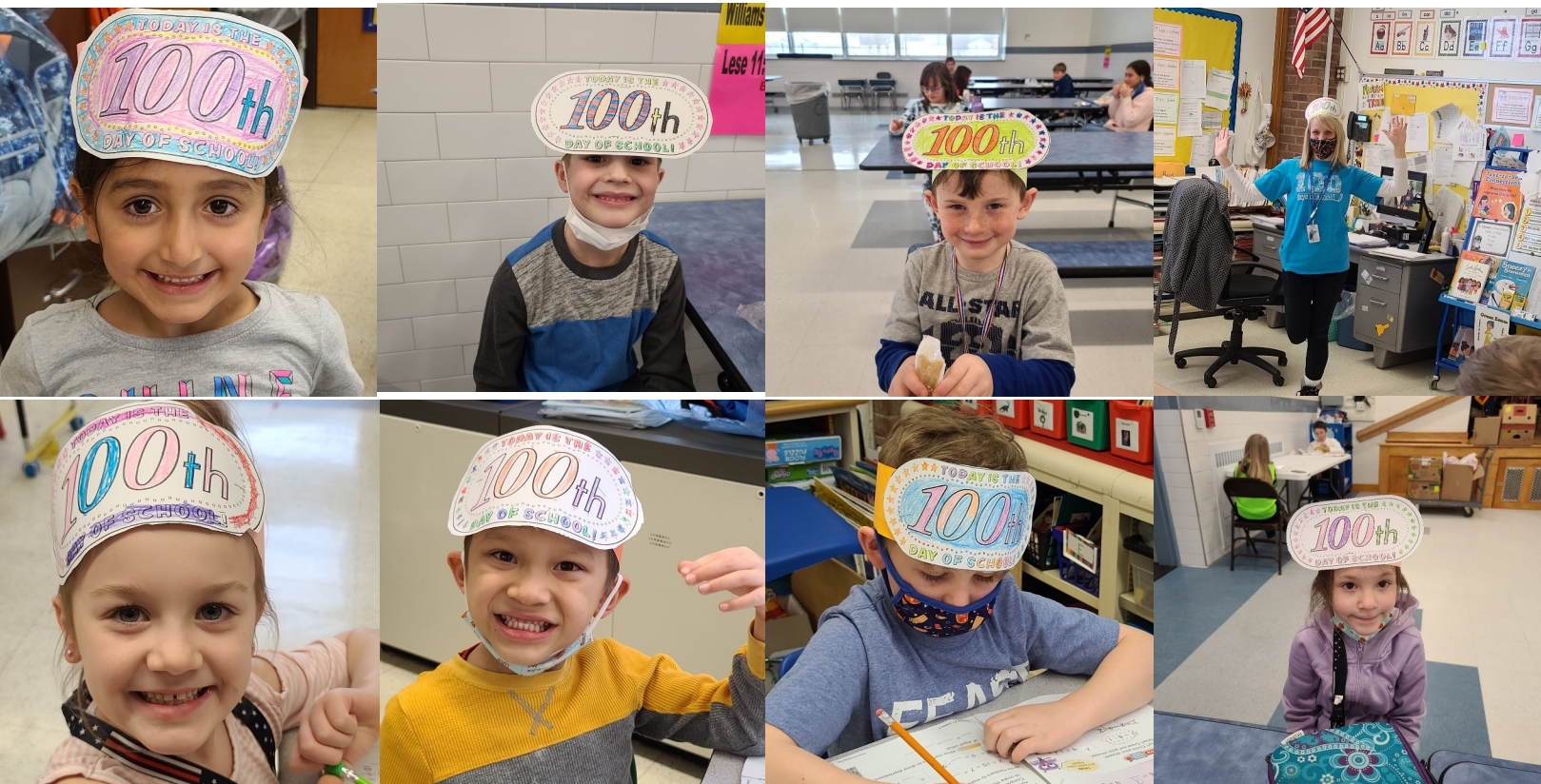
Bagel Pub-Itz*

*Gift card purchases, catering, kiosk, and third party delivery orders are excluded and will not count towards the event. Services vary by cafe.

Learn more at Fundraising.PaneraBread.com

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Hip Hip Hooray! It's the  th Day!



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR 4TH GR

PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR 5th GRADE at the Intermediate School

The Intermediate School will soon be completing 2021-2022 classroom placements for students. We create class sections with the intent to achieve a mix of students by ability, gender, personality, and individual special needs. While we are unable to honor specific requests for teachers, we value your input from a parent's perspective. If you have specific information about your child's needs which should be taken into consideration or a specific previous personal experience, please put them in writing and send them to the Intermediate School no later than **Thursday, April 1st**. We look forward to working with you to ensure your child's academic success! Thank you!

Join the Horseheads Central School District as a School Bus Driver

UPDATE: Rate is now \$16.40/hour; on July 1, rate increases to \$19.40/hour (\$15/hr for drivers in training)



- Paid training
- Benefits package including health insurance
- No weekends, holidays, summers

To apply, call (607) 739-6338 or pick up an application at our Transportation Department, 601 Sayre Street Extension, weekdays from 7:30am to 4:30pm. Our application may also be found at www.horseheadsdistrict.com/employment. (Both district application and supplemental transportation application are required.)

Applicants must be at least 21 years old.
Fingerprint/background check and drug testing are required.

Questions?

Call (607) 739-6338 or email hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.



SQUARE 1 ART



**WELCOME
PARENTS**

**TO YOUR SQUARE 1
ART PROJECT**



Order Reminder

Your school's fundraiser ends 2/26/2021

Don't miss out on a great opportunity to support your school.

[Order Now](#)

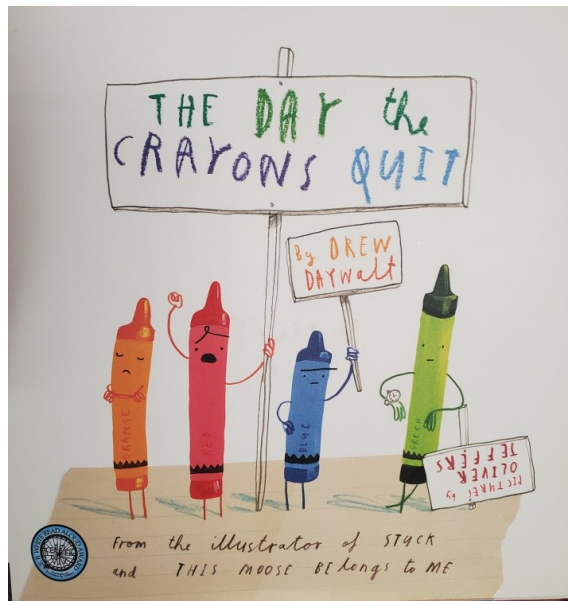
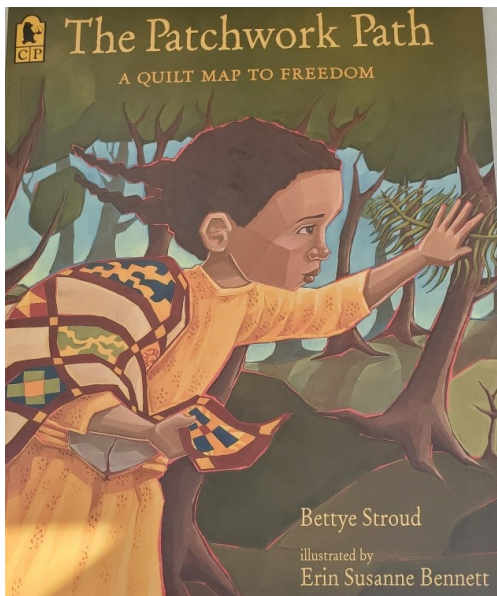
Parent's Portal

Your One-Stop Shop for everything you need for your project including instructional videos, printable lessons and helpful links.

[Go to the Parent's Portal](#)

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH!

Thank you to the dedicated volunteers who read and discussed books as a part of the National African American Read In program sponsored by the National Council of English Teachers. The local [African American Read-In of the Southern Tier of NY](#) program is lead by Corning Incorporated volunteers along with volunteers from the Corning Museum of Glass. In 2019, the local program connected volunteers to 9 different school districts/systems with 258 classrooms and over 3000 students! This year, we had the privilege of having these wonderful books shared virtually with our students in grades Pre K - 4. Below are just a couple of books that were read.



CENTER STREET PTO

Come out and join the fun on Tues. March 2, 2021 at 6:30 pm for our CS PTO meeting via zoom for a great night of planning exciting activities for all to enjoy!

Thank you to all of our CS Families who helped to support our Gertrude Hawks Candy Sale.

More details will be shared regarding when the candy arrives and how to pick up your order.



Gasoline



Insect Sprays



CFL's



Oil Base

Chemung County's SPRING

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT

is scheduled for Saturday, May 22nd, 2021

This event is FREE and for
Chemung County residents only (no businesses)

Pre-registration is required by calling

Cornell Cooperative Extension at 607-734-4453, Wednesday, April
28th-Wednesday, May 19th, weekdays only from 9am-noon and 1-4pm
Registration will end on Wednesday, May 19th at 4pm

For more information and a detailed list of acceptable
items please visit our website at
chemung.cce.cornell.edu or call (607) 734-4453

(funded by Chemung Landfill, LLC, a division of Casella Waste Services)

NO ELECTRONICS!!

March Madness Reading Log

Name _____ Teacher _____

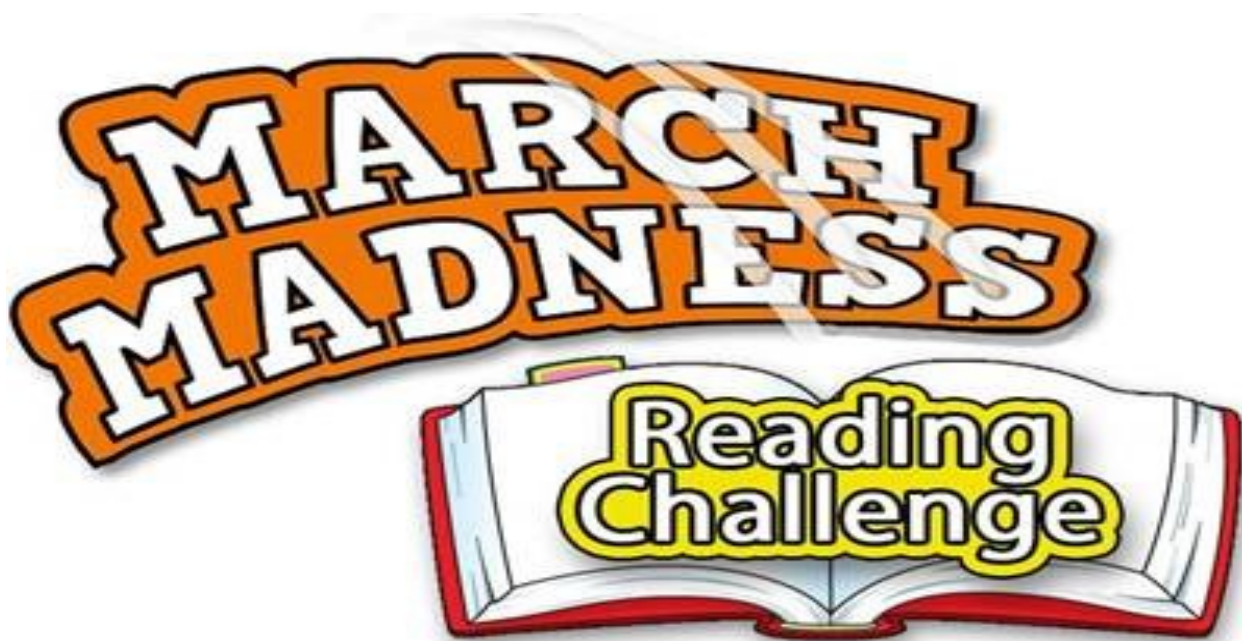
 Record the number of minutes you read outside of school on the chart below. 

 Return your reading log each week to your teacher. 

 Every 20 minutes you read, you will receive a raffle ticket entry for our classroom. 

Date	Book Read	Minutes Read
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday		

Announcing our first ever **March Madness Reading Challenge**, coming to Center Street March 1st to 26th, 2021. We're excited to bring our students an enriching challenge, where reading time will translate to opportunities to win prizes contributed by partners throughout the community. Join us in spreading the word, both to get our students pumped, and to encourage prize donations – let's make this a great school activity.




Please consider supporting our challenge by donating either directly to Center Street Elementary PTO, 812 Center Street, Horseheads, NY 14845, or by PayPal or Venmo on our homepage www.cspto.org! We would also be happy to pick up a donation from you or your business! Thank you for supporting our kiddos!


Please feel free to share this post to help get the word out!

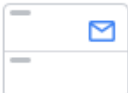
Helpful Info!


Quick settings ×


[See all settings](#)

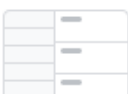
☒ Default 

☐ Important first 


☐ Unread first 


☐ Starred first 

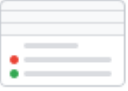
☐ Priority Inbox 

☐ Multiple Inboxes 


READING PANE

☒ No split 

☐ Right of inbox 

☐ Below inbox 

EMAIL THREADING

☒ Conversation view 

IMPORTANT STAYWELL SURVEY HELPFUL INFORMATION

If you have a gmail account, and you are receiving a staywell email reminder for one of your children but all, it may be because gmail is grouping all of the messages into one as a “conversation.”

Here’s how to change that setting:

- Click the settings wheel at the top right next to your name and scroll to the very bottom, you will likely see the “Conversation view” box checked.
- Uncheck that box, and it shouldn’t happen again.

See the helpful screenshot.

PreKindergarten Registration for 2021-22

Due to the ongoing pandemic and out of an abundance of caution, registration for Pre-K will not be in person this year. Parents of PreK eligible children are asked to submit forms via email, fax, or postal mail. The district is mailing registration packets around March 1 to parents of all eligible children in our database. If you do not receive a packet by March 5, or have questions about pre-k registration, please contact us at kmclain@horseheadsdistrict.com or (607) 739-5601, x4251.

IMPORTANT DISTRICT NEWS

Horseheads Central School District Parents' Bill of Rights Relating to Student Data

The District, in compliance with Education Law 2-d, hereby establishes the following Parents' Bill of Rights in regard to student data:

1. A student's personally identifiable information will not be sold or released for any commercial purpose;
2. Parents have the right to inspect and review the complete contents of their child's educational record. Procedures for reviewing student records can be found in the Board Policy entitled "Student Records," Policy 5500, Regulation 5500-R;
3. Security protocols regarding confidentiality of personally identifiable information are currently in place and the safeguards necessary to protect the confidentiality of student data are maintained at industry standards and best practices. The safeguards include but are not limited to encryption, firewalls, and password protection.
4. New York State maintains a complete list of all student data collected by the State and the data is available for public review at www.nysed.gov, or by writing to 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12234
5. Parents have the right to have complaints about possible breaches of student data addressed. Complaints should be directed to the Superintendent of Schools, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845.

2021—2022—Budget Development

2021-22 Budget Development

The Board of Education and district are currently developing the proposed 2021-22 School Budget. The global pandemic, now nearing a year, has led to a challenging time for budgets in our district, nation, state and homes. The board will continue budget development at their next several meetings until the final adoption of the budget to be offered to voters May 18. All meetings begin at 6pm and are held via zoom with live streaming. Here is the schedule:

- Thursday, February 25 – Regular Meeting
- Thursday, March 4 – Budget Workshop
- Thursday, March 18 – Regular Meeting
- Thursday, April 15 – Budget Workshop
- Wednesday, May 5 – Tentative Board Candidates' Forum
- Thursday, May 6 – Public Hearing on 2021-22 Budget

The Budget Vote/Board of Education Election is Tuesday, May 18, 7am-9pm, in the High School South Gym.

All meetings are live streamed (at <http://ideas.gstboces.org/hhds/>), recorded, and posted to the district website. As reported prior to the January meeting, public comment is allowed via zoom at the meeting's designated location. For more information on the process, schedule, and locations click here: [HCSD Board of Education](#).

Questions about the budget or voting? Email the district at hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com or call (607) 739-5601, x4295.



Good Apple Awards



The Good Apple Award is a tool to promote pride, self-esteem and positive character development. All faculty and staff nominate students exhibiting good character. At the end of each month, the principal will announce the recipients names, and will present the students with their award during their scheduled lunch time. A bulletin board is in the Main Lobby to display each month's recipients. The following students earned a good apple award for showing exceptional character during this month.

The following students received Good Apple Award Certificates for February 2021.

Last Name	First Name	Grade
Harvey	Declan	PK
Kizis	Nicholas	PK
Stansfield-Zink	Kaiden	PK
Thatcher	Lennox	PK
Wolf	Nathaniel	PK
Zimmer	Abby	PK
Beaver	Olivia	K
Ettenberger	Madison	K
Miller	Emma	K
Welch	Aaron	K
Bruer	Ernest	1
Campanelli	Parker	1
Hartman	Rhyder	1
Koellner	Khloe	1
Monthie	Camdyn	1
LaNeve	Ben	1
Paul	Lily	1
Rudy	Dalilah	1
Blake	David	3
Coon	Charlie	3
Fieno	Kaiden	3

Reminders

Gym Days -
are sneaker
days - and
you are then
prepared to
have fun!

Art Days -
students
need smocks
to keep
clean - any
old shirt will
do!



MARCH - RESPECT

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 DAY 3 <i>Dr. Seuss Week</i> <i>March Madness</i> <i>Reading Begins</i>	2 DAY 4 <i>PTO Mtg. 6:30pm</i> <i>Via Zoom</i>	3 <i>Panera Family</i> <i>Fun Night</i> <i>CIM 3 - 4 MTGS</i>	4 DAY 3	5 DAY 4 <i>Raider Day - Wear Blue!</i>	6
7 <i>National</i> <i>Breakfast Week</i>	8 DAY 1	9 DAY 2	10 <i>Faculty Mtg.</i> <i>Women's History Focus</i>	11 DAY 1 <i>CSE Mtgs</i>	12 DAY 2	13
14	15 DAY 3	16 DAY 4 <i>504 Mtgs 8:30am</i>	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> <i>Green Day -</i> <i>CSE Mtgs.</i>	18 DAY 3 <i>BOE 6:00 MMC</i>	19 DAY 4	20
21	22 DAY 1 <i>SBT Mtg. 2:45pm</i>	23 DAY 2	24 <i>CIM K - 2 MTGS</i> <i>National Youth Art</i> <i>Month</i>	25 DAY 1	26 DAY 2 <i>March Madness</i> <i>Reading ends!</i>	27
28	29 DAY 3	30 DAY 4	31 DAY 3 <i>Cohort B</i> <i>No Remote Day</i>			



**PE FUN - TRAVELING DOWN
THE CS HIGHWAY!**

Safety Protocols

Our top priorities are the health, safety, wellbeing, and education of all our students. While we must follow the requirements of health and education agencies, we also have our own protocols we have instituted in order to guard the health and safety of our students and staff.

Monitor your child's health

On the days students attend school, parents/guardians are required to check the student's temperature and monitor for symptoms of COVID-19. Please be mindful of your child's overall health when screening your child in the morning. If your child has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher and/or exhibits other symptoms (including but not limited to cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle aches, loss of taste/smell, etc.), please keep your child home. If our screening determines your child has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher and/or symptoms of COVID-19, you will be notified and required to immediately pick up your child.

Please remember to complete the Stay Well survey using the link sent to you each morning on the days your child attends school. The Stay Well survey links are sent to both parents/guardians as listed in our database. If you are not getting these emails or you have questions, please contact your child's school.

Masks

All staff and students are required to wear masks while in school, on the playground, and on buses. Students will be allowed mask breaks when eating and when at least six feet of social distancing is consistently maintained. It is very important that masks are worn correctly; this means covering the nose and below the chin. [Click here for the district mask procedure.](#)

Hand Washing

One of the most effective ways to stop the spread of viruses is washing hands properly and often. Click here for a video on [How to Wash Your Hands](#).

Returning to school in COVID-19 health-related situations

Please note: This information has been updated using newly-released guidance from the New York State Health Department.

Please also note: The district must follow requirements of the New York State Health Department, the Chemung County Health Department, and the New York State Education Department in regard to safety protocols. The district also has its own additional safety protocols to guard the health and safety of students and staff.

If a student tests positive for COVID-19, here are the requirements to return to school:

1. Release from quarantine by the Health Department:
 - If symptomatic, the student must complete at least ten days of isolation from the onset of symptoms
 - If asymptomatic (no symptoms), the student must complete ten days of quarantine after the positive test

If a student has symptoms of COVID 19, one of the following is required to return to school:

A

1. COVID-19 diagnostic test with negative result,
and
2. Improvement of symptoms with child being fever-free without medication for at least 24 hours

OR

B

1. Alternate diagnosis from the child's health care provider

OR

C

1. At least ten days have passed since the date of first symptoms,
and
2. Improvement of symptoms,
and
3. The child is fever-free without medication for at least 72 hours

If a student is in direct contact with a person who tests positive for COVID-19, the following are required to return to school:

1. Release from quarantine by the Health Department (generally 10 days, but if the direct contact lives with the COVID-19 positive person then the quarantine period starts after the positive person is cleared by the Health Department.)

Testing locations

Below is a list of testing locations within Chemung County as listed with the NYS COVID-19 Resource Center:

Arnot Ogden Medical Center – Horseheads
Appointment and Physician order required
100 John Roemmelt Drive, Suite 301
Horseheads, NY 14845
(607) 737-4100

Elmira VA Clinic
Appointment and Physician order required
1316 College Avenue
Elmira, NY 14901
(607) 664-4640

Arnot Ogden Medical Center - Big Flats
Appointment and Physician order required
31 Arnot Road
Big Flats, NY 14845
(607) 795-5100

Wellnow Urgent Care - Big Flats
Walk-in
830 County Road 64
Big Flats, NY 14903
(607) 846-2030

Arnot Ogden Medical Center - Hospital and Drive-through
Appointment and Physician order required
600 Roe Avenue
Elmira, NY 14905
(800) 952-2662

Smith Allergy & Asthma Associates
Appointment required
2977 Westinghouse Road
Horseheads, NY 14845
(607) 684-6115

Visitors to Schools

Click this link for our [District Protocol on Visitors to Schools](#).

Questions? Contact your school office or email hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

January 2021



Digital Citizen News

March 2021

MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



Volume 4 : Issue 7 - March 2021

This month we focus on Digital Reputation

This month our main topic is **Digital Reputation**.

This is important for **Good Digital Citizens** to consider and is closely related the the topics of **Digital Privacy** and **Digital Security**.

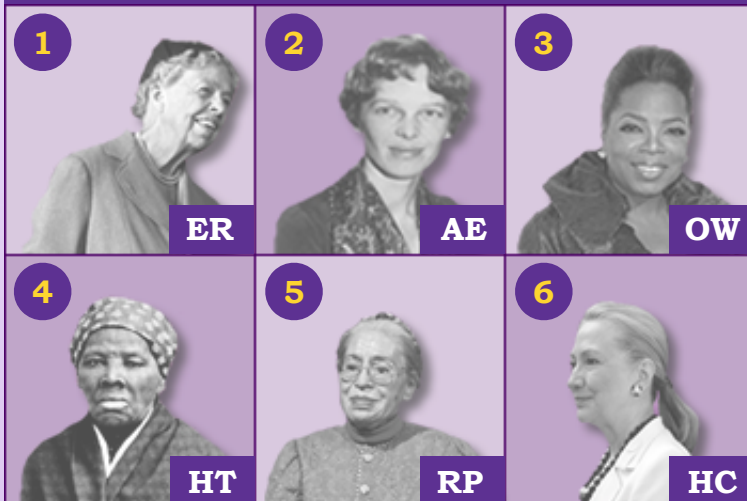
So what is your **Digital Reputation**? It is **all of the information** that someone can find if they were to search for **your name online**.

Is it easy to find **personal information** about you like where you live, what school you go to, or where you work? Can someone find **what you ate last night**? Or **where you are** shopping right now?

Have others posted things about you on **social media**? Are they **positive** messages? Or do they put you in a **bad light**?

(Continue reading about digital reputation on page 3.)

WOMEN IN HISTORY - WHO ARE THEY?



WHO ARE THESE WOMEN? WHAT ARE THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS?

Use your Digital Citizenship Detective Skills to identify these women. We've included their initials in the bottom right corner of each image to help you on your way. Let us know what you learn. Visit <http://dc.gstboces.org>

#ChooseToChallenge

International Women's Day March 8th, 2021

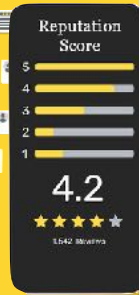
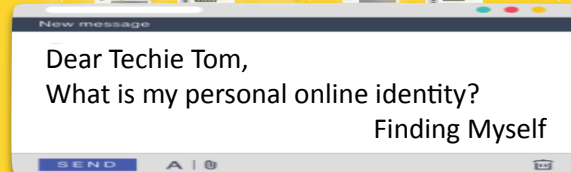
MISSION: To celebrate digital advancement and champion the women forging innovation through technology

"Technology is way too important for women to be excluded from its development and use."

Int'l Women's Day site - <http://go.gstric.org/407-IWD>

Selfie Card Activity - <http://go.gstric.org/407-selfies>

DEAR TECHIE TOM



Dear Finding Myself,

Your personal online identity is anything you put online. You need to be careful with this data because it could be stolen or sold to do harm to your digital reputation. Things you can do to keep yourself safe is to never use your home address or phone number when signing up for something, being mindful that anything you put on the internet is always on the internet even after you delete it and check your privacy settings on any accounts you may have. You should also always read the privacy statements for any accounts you may have. Even if they say they are safe and secure often they are using data in some way. Remember free accounts are free for a reason! Stay Safe!

Techie Tom



“ROOMERS” AND “ZOOMERS” LEARNING TOGETHER

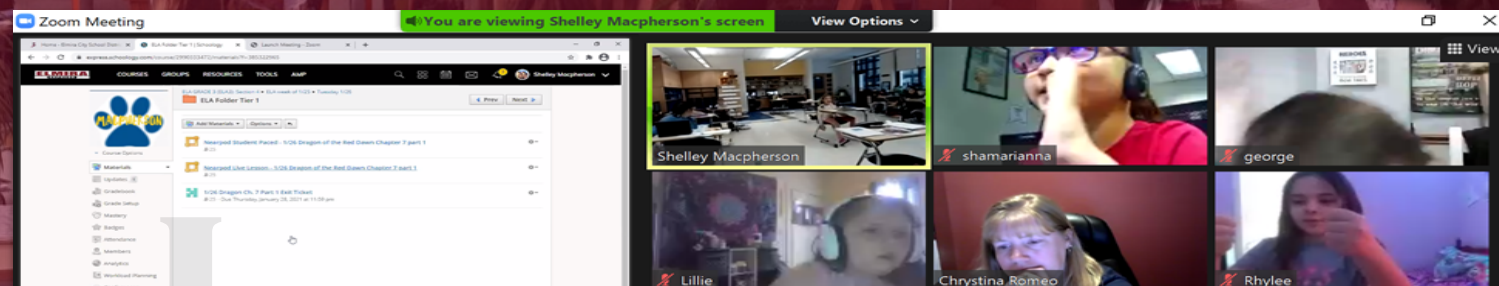


Elmira City
School District

Investing in Relationships and Experiencing How to Interact in an Online Environment

In our current pandemic world, many districts are moving toward a model referred to as concurrent teaching. This method of teaching is bringing our virtual and in-person learners together, allowing them to connect, collaborate and learn together in real time!

For this month's Digital Citizenship Spotlight, we will highlight Shelley MacPherson, a third grade teacher at Hendy Avenue Elementary School in Elmira, NY. Mrs. MacPherson, who describes herself as “the least techie person”, considers why she and her students are so successful with this model of Roomers and Zoomers learning together. See four of her insights below.



By having clear expectations on how to interact in a respectful and positive way online, Mrs. MacPherson and many more amazing and hard-working teachers are setting the stage for these students to understand and build a positive Digital Reputation.

Time has been invested in checking in on student social and emotional health.

Mrs. MacPherson and her student teacher, Mrs. Romeo, who is a Zoomer spend their Morning Meeting time having ALL students share how they are feeling based on the emoji icons shared on the teacher's screen.

Clear protocols are in place and time has been invested in classroom management!

A “Roomer” was rewarded immediately with a silent cheer from Zoomers when she shared her happy feeling about the act of kindness she did that morning (which was giving everyone in-person a picture to color). The zoomers reaction was part of the regular classroom protocol.

An amazing team of teachers working together with no fear of asking questions!

Mrs. MacPherson is not afraid to ask technical questions to build on her understanding of technology, and credits her amazing team of teachers with helping to build her confidence with technology.

Nurturing Positive Relationships are

HUGE!

Mrs. MacPherson has had the benefit of these students looping with her for multiple years. “No matter what is thrown our way, including COVID and quarantining, you have to have positive relationships for student success and growth.”





Your Digital Footprint, which we have written about many times, is all of the little bits of information that you leave behind as you use browsers, apps, and digital devices.

What does your Digital Footprint or Digital Reputation say about you?

Does it represent you in a fair way? Is it something that you would be proud of? Would you be embarrassed by anything that you have posted? Are there any images that don't reflect your current intellectual, or maturity level?

Has anyone deliberately posted something to try to make you look bad?

If a future employer did research on you, what would they find? Would they hire you?

Do you judge other people by the information that you see posted about them online? Or do you keep an open mind about people until you have gotten to know them?

Finally, would someone be able to track you by following all of the little pieces of information that you give freely online?

Try to manage what is available in your digital footprint. Use privacy settings, delete items and close old social media accounts if they don't show you in a positive light.

Tips for protecting your digital footprint <http://go.gstric.org/407-footprint>

KEEP IT SAFE AND KEEP IT POSITIVE

New York State Education Law Section 2-d & What it Means for You

Last month's issue had a short article introducing NYS Ed Law 2-d. We follow up this month by providing a few more details about this important addition to education law in New York State.

Digital data is everywhere and is being created at a dizzying pace. It is important as an employee of an Educational Institution **that you know and understand your responsibility for protecting data** and adhering to State and Federal laws.

In 2014 New York State implemented Education Law Section 2-D which addresses the **unauthorized release of personally identifiable information**. In January 2020 section §121.7, Training for Educational Agency Employees, was approved as part of the NYS Education Law Section 2-D law. It states that **"All staff must receive annual training on Data Privacy and Security Awareness."**

GST BOCES provides a self-paced online interactive training, including audio narration, to meet this new requirement. This training offers an opportunity to learn about State and Federal **laws protecting personally identifiable information**, and **what districts and employees must do to comply with such laws**. Part 2 introduces the **concepts of Phishing, Business Email Compromise and other malicious attempts** to gain your network credentials. Part 3 **outlines Best Practices and offers privacy and data security tips** for use not only at school but home as well. Your district decides which of the three parts are required and the training will track your progress.

Links about NYS Education Law Section 2-d

GST BOCES Data Privacy and Security Training site - <http://go.gstric.org/407-gst-dps>

NYS State Education Law site on NY Senate website - <http://go.gstric.org/407-edlaw2d>

NYSED site with details of Part 121 of the Education Law - <http://go.gstric.org/407-part121>

NYSED site with details of Parent's Bill of Rights regarding Data Privacy - <http://go.gstric.org/407-billofrights>





Professor URL's

Free Lesson Today

Understanding Locations on the World Wide Web

Most of us use an internet browser program to navigate the World Wide Web every day. Near the top of the browser is the location box, or as some call it, the address bar. Often we see a location that looks something like this one:

(This just happens to be the address of the training for the article above.)

<https://www.gstric.org/training/dps/index.cfm>

protocol

host and domain name

the path to the

page content

The first part of the URL (Uniform Resource Locator - because it is uniform it can be used to address any piece of content on the web; a page, an image, a video, etc.) is the **protocol**. In this case it is **http://** (the hypertext) protocol, but you might see other protocols like **ftp://** (file transfer), or **rtsp://** (for streaming media). The next part of the URL is the **host name** and **domain name** of the server that you will be connecting to. The part up to the first dot, **www**, is a host server in our domain **gstric.org**. (We also have another domain name that we use **gstboces.org**).

The next part of the URL is the path to where the content is located on the host server. Usually it is a **list of words separated by /** ("forward" slashes - note: all of the slashes in a URL are forward slashes). These words represent directories on the server. You could think of the directories like folders on your computer. This piece of content is in a directory called "**dps**", which is inside a directory called "**training**", which is at the top level of that server. The path tells the where to find the content that you want. The final part of the URL is the content itself. Usually it is a filename followed by a dot and a file extension like **index.htm**. Files ending in **.htm**, **.cfm**, **.aspx** are types of **web pages**, **.gif** and **.jpg** are **image files**, **.mp4** or **.mov** are **video files**. Sometimes a URL may end with a forward slash (/). In this case the web server will look for an "index" file like **index.htm**, **index.cfm**, or **index.aspx**.

Sites can include more than just the address in the URL.

https://www.google.com/search?ei=tYIqYOq&q=url+location&gs_lcp=Cgdnd3Mtd...

the query string

You may see a ? (question mark) in a URL. Everything after the question mark is called "the query string". Each piece of information in the query is separated by an ampersand (&). The &q= shows the string searched for at Google ("url location").

The TLD (Top-Level Domain) or "End Domain" - in the lesson above we learned about the domain name of a web site but we didn't mention the top-level domain. Common TLDs are **.com** (commercial), **.edu** (higher education), **.gov** (government), **.org** (non-profit organizations), etc. Google has their own TLD **.google**. Try these domain names below.

about.google design.google safety.google teachfromanywhere.google and wellbeing.google

STAYING SAFE IN A DIGITAL WORLD

MARCH 2021 POSTER

- Keep personal information secret – your phone number, your email address, your home or school address, or the name of your school.
- Avoid using flirty or suggestive usernames.
- Use privacy settings to limit viewing of your information and enhance your cybersafety.
- Ensure all online communication is respectful.
- Only post comments you would be happy to receive yourself.
- Make sure emotions are expressed appropriately.
- Avoid posting photos which may identify any personal information like schools, or sporting teams.
- Be very aware of the risks involved of sexting.
- Understand the concept of digital archives – once an image or information is in a digital format and is live through technology, it is there for a long time.
- It's public! It is possible that many other people across the world could be watching.
- Think twice before you post – your parents, future employers (and perhaps your children) may end up seeing what you have posted.
- If you wouldn't say it face to face, then you shouldn't write it in a digital environment.
- Think before posting photos of others without their permission – you never know if it will hurt, humiliate or offend them.
- Free offers are usually too good to be true – just say no.
- Delete junk mails immediately and forget about them.
- Use strong passwords for all your accounts.
- Before you believe everything you read – make sure it comes from a reliable source.
- Do not allow anyone else to access your mobile phone. What they do might be attributed to you.
- If someone sends you a nasty, bullying message that makes you feel uncomfortable tell an adult (parents or someone you trust).
- Only Accept friend requests from people you know.
- Do not access sites that contain personal or sensitive information from public computers.

Research tells us that cyberbullying stops within 10 seconds of peer intervention. Students who are defended online by a peer recover far more quickly from the actions of the bully. If students are aware of cyberbullying they must have the courage to take the appropriate action to ensure the safety and welfare of others.



GST BOCES Digital Citizenship Initiative
Staying Safe in a Digital World - March 2021

