



Golden Star Gazette

December 2019

Gardner Road Elementary School

541 Gardner Road, Horseheads, New York 14845 (607) 739 – 6347
ppatterson@horseheadsdistrict.com



Dear Gardner Road Families –

Happy Holidays to all of our families and staff at Gardner Road. This is a great time of the season to enjoy the company of family and friends. This is a great time to get your child to play board games, play dress-up, cook, make a memory book, act out a play and more. These opportunities help students build literacy, math and problem skills while also learning concepts of growth mindset, and interaction with peers and adults. All of these skills are critical to help your child learn. We look forward to another month of [#LearningatGR!](#)

It was wonderful seeing families at our events, conferences, meetings and more throughout November. We look forward to our PTO events this month including their meeting, Blood Drive and Holiday Shoppe. See the PTO newsletter for more details on each. We also look forward to our 4th grade concert (see details on page 2) and our spirit week which includes our tradition of The Polar Express for our students in PK-1st grade (see calendar for more details).

To keep up to date with the happenings at our school, follow our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages. This month we had so many pictures from our Veterans Celebration. Career Day and snapshots of learning each day. Don't forget to listen in to Sunday Stories with the Principal at 7:00 pm each Sunday. All videos are posted so you can watch at a time convenient for your family! Please contact me if you need anything, have any questions or would just like to chat about our school/your child.



Your Partner in Education

Patrick Patterson - Principal

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Included in the Online Newsletter:

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GENERAL INFORMATION:

Gardner Road School Hours

8:00 a.m. to 2:25 p.m.
Tardy Bell – 8:15 AM

Gardner Road Office Hours

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

Elementary Lunches (K-6)

Breakfast: \$ 1.25
Lunch \$ 2.10

Arctic League Penny Drive!

Annually, our school hosts a Penny Drive for the Arctic League. This past year we collected \$498.51 - that was a record amount. Let's continue our tradition of giving back to families in our community and collect even more this year. Our character trait for the month of December is to demonstrate caring. Bring in your spare change for our penny drive. Thank you in advance for your generosity!



Moishe's Quote of the Month:

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts!" - Winston S. Churchill



Gardner Road Main Office Updates:



Spring New York Assessment Dates (Grades 3 & 4):

English Language Arts: March 25th & 26th
Grade 4 Science Performance: May 19th

Math: April 22nd & 23rd
Grade 4 Science Written: June 1st

School Delays and Closings:

The cold, slippery, white flakes are just around the corner. When the ice and snow arrive, it is often necessary to delay or close schools. The announcements can be found on our District website

www.horseheadsdistrict.com and the local media stations. In the event of a 1 or 2-hour delay, students can be dropped off at the cafeteria entrance beginning at the adjusted time. Please be aware that **NO** breakfast is served when there is a 2-hour delay. I will also post our current status on the Gardner Road Twitter feed. To sign up for the tweets, go to our school website and follow the link. PK start time for a 2-hour delay is 10:30.

Recess:

Students will be going outside for recess as the weather becomes colder (20 degrees wind-chill and warmer) Please make sure that your child has a warm coat, a hat and gloves/mittens so they can stay warm as they play.



Please consider donating to Toys for Tots this month. Brand new toys or books are appreciated. Bins are in the cafeteria & main lobby and the last day for donations is December 6th. Thank you!



Thank you to the Career Development Council for a coordinating a great Career Day – see more photos on Facebook!

Substitutes Needed:

The Horseheads Central School District is seeking applications for substitute teachers, nurses, bus drivers & substitute teaching assistants.

For information, please visit:

<http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/subteach.html>

Human Resources Office: 739-5601, x4211

e-mail: hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com

Gardner Road Winter Concert:



The 4th grade Chorus will be performing their **Winter Concert** on Tuesday, December 10th, at 7:00 PM in the Gardner Road Cafeteria. Students in chorus should wear white on top and black on bottom, and arrive at 6:30PM. For family that may not be able to attend, we plan to live stream the concert on the Gardner Road Facebook page. Please come out to support our students and enjoy some holiday music!

November Snapshots



Check out more photos and events on our [Facebook Page!](#)



"We Succeed Because The Stars Lead!"

December's Character Trait is:

Our students excelled at being great citizens in November by giving back to our community. We celebrated our veterans, collected treats for troops and made thank you cards for volunteers in our community that helped at our career day. We will continue this in December as we focus on caring!

Character Education

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

Character Matters
Horseheads Central School District

Horseheads Central School District's Mission & Vision:



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

To report child abuse or neglect call toll free
1-800-342-3720 or
ocfs.ny.gov/main/cps



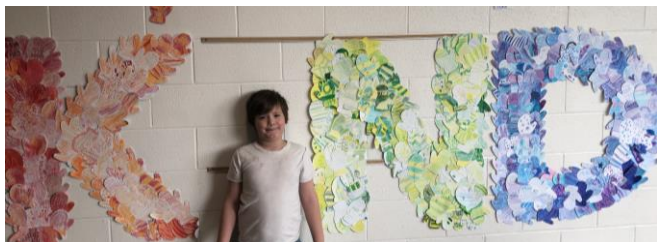
CHOOSE TO BE NICE
choosetobenice.com



Proud Supporter of
School Matters!

Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Be the 'I' in Kind!



SAFE SCHOOLS LINE

795-2044 or
1-800-305-4984



Report a concern, rumor, bullying incident, or any safety issue anonymously and confidentially, 24 hours a day.

PULL TOGETHER.



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.

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. The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for Gardner Road Elementary is Patrick Patterson. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student should be referred to Patrick Patterson at (607) 739 – 6347.

Reinforce Math Skills With Everyday Activities

Report to PARENTS

A solid foundation in math is essential for students to succeed in school and beyond. Incorporate math into your family's daily life—without a lot of time, effort, or expense—with these fun ideas.

In the kitchen. Cooking is not only a terrific way to help children understand fractions—it's also excellent family bonding time. Show younger children how measuring two half-cups of flour yields the same amount as one full cup. Ask older children to help you cut a recipe in half or double a recipe. Have them write down the new measurements and check the computations together.

At the grocery store. Bring a calculator with you to the store when you shop. Young children can add up how much you have spent on groceries or saved with coupons. Kids in third grade or higher can help determine which size of detergent offers the best value, or whether using a particular coupon is cost-effective.

In the garage. A tire gauge is one of the simplest tools for a child to use, and can help him or her learn about addition and subtraction. Show your child how to measure the pressure in your bicycle or car tires. Then, have your child help you determine how much air you need to add or release. Older children can calculate gas mileage.

On the computer. Find activities that reinforce math skills, from computer games like Math Blaster to apps.

On the road. Long car trips were made for math games. Pick a number from one to 10 and have each family member try to find a license plate with the target number. Younger children can add the numbers together. Children who have learned subtraction can try to find one that involves adding a few of the numbers and then subtracting one.

Kids who have learned multiplication and division can put those skills to use.

At the toy store. If your child is trying to save up to buy something special, keep a chart of how much money they will need and what they have saved to date.

At home. Classic games such as dominoes, cards, puzzles, or Monopoly teach math reasoning. Sewing and building projects both involve plenty of computation. Teach your child how to measure and sew fabrics together, or build basic structures out of wood (with adult supervision).

Above all, avoid passing any math phobias that you might have on to your child. It's important for children to hear at home that what they're learning is valuable—that all the work they're doing trying to comprehend division or fractions or measurement will pay off their whole lives.

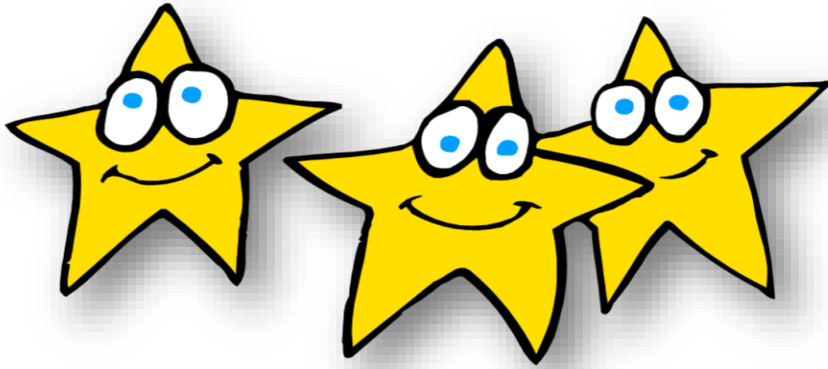


Web Resources

Common Sense Media provides reviews of education apps.
www.commonsensemedia.org

PBS Parents has a math portal with tips, games, and everyday activities.
www.pbs.org/parents/education/math/

The **Figure This Family Corner** offers tips, tricks, and downloadable brochures.
www.figurethis.org/fc/family_corner.htm



***GARDNER ROAD PTO DECEMBER 2019
NEWSLETTER***

HOLIDAY SHOPPE!!!

The Holiday Shoppe is coming!!! The Gardner Road PTO will be having our annual Holiday Shoppe again this year. The price of gifts range from \$.025-10.00 with most of the items in the \$1-5 range. There will be volunteers to help students purchase their items and stay in their budget. The kids really enjoy being able to pick out presents for their family members. Each classroom will have a scheduled time to go purchase their gifts.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044FA4AD22A4FF2-gardner2>

Volunteers are also still needed for other events. Without volunteers events can't happen. Voting on PTO board positions will take place at our December meeting. If you're looking to get involved join us at our next meeting.

**December 3rd:
Principal Chat
at 5:30
PTO Meeting
at 6:00**

**December 6th:
Red Cross
Blood Drive**

**December
11th – 13th:
Holiday Shoppe**

**December 23rd –
January 3rd
No School
Winter Break**

PTO BOARD:

President: Lita Mata
Vice President:
Treasurer: Courtney Bola
Secretary: Stacy Witzel

pto.gardnerroad@gmail.com

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Our Digital Citizenship team wishes you a safe and happy holiday season.

This time of year, many of us start to think about celebrations and gift-giving. We thought it might be good to mention a few tips to keep you safe if you are purchasing things online.

Do business with reputable vendors - Some attackers may try to trick you by creating malicious websites that appear to be legitimate, so you should avoid using sites that you can't verify.

Make sure your information is being encrypted - Look for URLs that begin with "https:" instead of "http:" and display a padlock icon. If the padlock is closed, the information is encrypted.

Use a credit card - There are laws to limit your liability for fraudulent credit card charges, but you may not have the same level of protection for your debit cards.

Check your shopping app settings - Look for apps that tell you what they do with your data and how they keep it secure.

Check your statements - Keep a record of your purchases and copies of confirmation pages, and compare them to your bank statements. If there is a discrepancy, report it immediately.

Protect your privacy - Before providing personal or financial information, check the website's privacy policy.

Source: <http://go.gstric.org/304-shopping>



Taking Care of Your 1-to-1 Device

Our Best Tips and Practices

So your district has provided a 1:1 device for you to take care of? While this is a big responsibility, you can do it!

Here are some tips to help you keep your device in top shape!

1. Transport the device with care.
2. Always support a device from its bottom with lid closed.
3. Devices should always be closed and tightly secured when moving about the building.
4. Heavy objects should never be placed on top of your device.
5. No food or drink should be next to your device at any time.
6. Cords, cables, and removable storage devices must be inserted carefully into the device.
7. Never leave your device in an unlocked locker or any unsupervised area.
8. Take care to protect your password. Do not share your password.

Taking care of your screen deserves some extra special tips because screens can be easily damaged!

To protect your screen:

1. Do not lean or put pressure on the top of the device when it is closed.
2. Do not store the device with the screen in the open position.
3. Do not place anything near the device that could put pressure on the screen.
4. Do not place anything in a carrying case or backpack that will press against the cover.
5. Do not poke the screen with anything that will mark or scratch the screen surface.
6. Do not place anything on the keyboard before closing the lid (e.g. pens, pencils, or disks).
7. Clean the screen with a soft dry cloth only.

These tips should help you in taking care of your 1:1 device. Also, remember that if you ever have trouble with your 1:1 device, make sure you report it to the school's IT Help Team.

TIPS FOR BATTERY LIFE - <http://go.gstric.org/304-battery>



Sign Up to receive this newsletter in your email inbox

Scan this QR code with your phone, or go to <http://go.gstboces.org/dcnews-signup> in your browser.



FATHER TIME SAYS

MAKE YOUR NEW YEAR'S DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP RESOLUTION NOW!!

Send comments, suggestions, and questions to dc@gstboces.org
Visit <http://dc.gstboces.org> December 2019 - page 1 of 3





**Waverly
Central Schools**

Creating a Student Help Desk

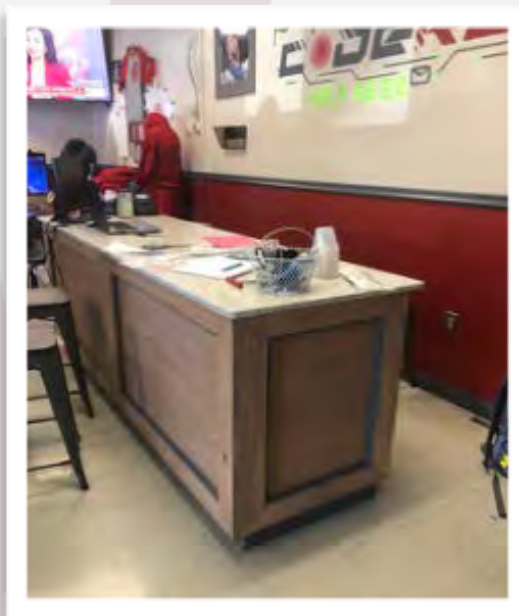
When Waverly CSD rolled out their 1-1 Device initiative for grades 3-12 in September they found that with more technology devices come more technology issues. Students in grades 9-12 have each been assigned a laptop which they are responsible for the entire school year. They have the option to take them home as needed and are required to bring them to each of their classes daily. Because of this major increase in device use the Waverly Student Help Desk was created.

Ryan Alo, the Director of Work-Based Learning at Waverly oversees the students who work the help desk. He and the Director of Technology, **Kyle Ackland**, worked together to create the help desk and get it up and running. To help the students with troubleshooting, Kyle created a flowchart of common issues that students may have with their devices.

The help desk's main goal is to get students in and out as quickly as possible. Loaner laptops are given to students so they can quickly return to class while the help desk works on troubleshooting problems. Loaner laptops are also available for students who may have forgotten a device at home or whose laptop is not charged. The help desk team uses a form to keep track of all devices that come in and out.

The students who run the help desk completed an interview process with Ryan and receive credit for a work-based learning program with the goal being that they will earn an internship in a tech-related field outside the school day. One student has been placed in a manager position and he oversees the other 9 students working the help desk. The manager meets with Ryan regularly to discuss any issues that may arise. The help desk has been scheduled into each student's day up to 2-3 times a day. It is scheduled as a class and replaces study halls to allow for coverage throughout the school day.

Kyle has a couple of long-term goals for the help desk as the year progresses. One goal he has is that the help desk team will be able to provide password help for students who may have forgotten a password or need help changing one. He is also hoping that the help desk team will begin troubleshooting in classrooms. He would like to see teachers calling the help desk to come to the classroom to help students rather than sending them out and missing instruction time.








Do you have a hard time keeping up with the newest movies, tv shows, games, books and apps? New things are literally coming out every day.

The good news is that <https://www.common sense media.org> is a great resource where you can go and see how other parents, teachers, and children have rated all of these items. They also provide other great resources for parents on topics such as cellphones, screen time, and social media. With the winter recess coming up this is a great tool to use!



Some Popular Apps That Parents Should Know About

Do you what apps your children are using? Chances are that your children have used one or more of these apps. Know what apps are on your kids' phones, what they do, and how they work.

 <p>SNAPCHAT</p>	 <p>TIKTOK</p>	 <p>WHATSAPP</p>	 <p>MEETME</p>
<p>One of the most popular apps in recent years. While the app promises users can take a photo/video and it will disappear, new features, including "stories", allows users to view content for up to 24 hours. It also allows users to see your location.</p>	<p>A new mobile device app popular with kids. It's used for creating and sharing short videos. With very limited privacy controls, users are vulnerable to cyber bullying and explicit content</p>	<p>This app is a popular messaging app that allows users to send texts, photos, voicemails, and make calls and video chats.</p>	<p>This is a dating social media app that allows users to connect with people based on geographic proximity. App users are encouraged to meet in person.</p>
 <p>BUMBLE</p>	 <p>LIVE.ME</p>	 <p>ASK.FM</p>	 <p>GRINDR</p>
<p>Similar to "Tinder." The dating app requires women to make the first contact. Kids have been known to create fake Bumble accounts that falsify their age.</p>	<p>A live-streaming video app that uses geolocation to share videos so users can find out a broadcaster's exact location. Users can earn "coins" as a way to "pay" minors for photos.</p>	<p>This app is known for cyber bullying. The app encourages users to allow anonymous people to ask them questions and make comments.</p>	<p>A dating app geared towards the LGBT community. The app gives users options to chat, share photos, and meet up based on a phone's GPS.</p>
 <p>KIK</p>	 <p>WHISPER</p>	 <p>HOLLA</p>	 <p>CALCULATOR%</p>
<p>Allows anyone to contact and direct message your child. Kids can bypass traditional messaging features. KIK gives users unlimited access to anyone, anywhere, anytime.</p>	<p>An anonymous social network that promotes sharing secrets with strangers. It also reveals a user's location so people can meet up.</p>	<p>An "addicting" video chat app that allows users to meet people all over the world in just seconds. Users say they have been confronted with racial slurs, explicit content and more.</p>	<p>Only one of several secret apps used to hide photos, videos, files and browser history.</p>

Source: <http://go.gstric.org/304-apps>

The original presentation of this information was created by the Sarasota County Sheriff's Department but many other sites have links or modified versions available. A quick Google search will offer many choices.



This Holiday Season . . .



What gifts will you bring?



59

% of parents feel their teens are addicted to their mobile devices

77

% of parents feel their teens get distracted by devices and don't pay attention when they are together

28

% of teens feel their parents are addicted to their mobile devices

41

% of teens feel their parents get distracted by devices and don't pay attention when they are together

#UnpluggedTime

#Respect

#PayingAttention

#BeingPresent

#Understanding

#DeviceFreeDinner

#OpenConversation

#HonestyMatters

Statistics from: <https://www.common sense media.org/technology-addiction-concern-controversy-and-finding-balance-infographic>

GST BOCES DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP INITIATIVE

Poster for December 2019 - "What gifts will you bring?"

<http://dc.gstboces.org>





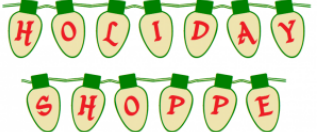

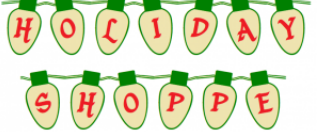




December 2019



Gardner Road Elementary School



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 SNOW DAY	3 Day 4 Principal Chat 5:30 Library GRPTO Meeting 6:00 Library	4 Day 5 Penny drive for Arctic League! 	5 Day 6	6 Day 1 GR Gym  Last day to drop off items for: 
9 Day 2	10 Day 3 4th Grade Winter Concert 7:00 GR Cafeteria 	11 Day 4 	12 Day 5 	13 Day 6 
16 Day 1 RED DAY Scripps Spelling Bee—Grade Level Round (2-4) 	17 Day 2 WHITE DAY—Elf Yourself	18 Day 3 GREEN DAY Science and Discovery Center Assemblies	19 Day 4 Polar Express—Pajamas Day BOE Meeting 6:00 GR Cafeteria	20 Day 5 Holiday Sweater Day Holiday Sing Along 9:15 
<p><u>CARING—Character Education Tips for Home</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> --Help a neighbor --Talk about how characters in a book represent caring. --Discuss with your kids what/who they care about & why --Donate time/items to a favorite charity --Make a card/ write a letter to a friend/relative you care about 			<p>Season's Greetings & Happy New Year</p> 