Horseheads Central School District

Golden Star Gazette



October 2026

Gardner Road Elementary School

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



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GENERAL INFORMATION:

Gardner Road School Hours
8:35 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Tardy Bell – 8:50 AM
Gardner Road Office Hours
7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Elementary Lunches (Pre-K-6)
Breakfast and Lunch: Free

Explore Empower Excel

Gardner Road Main Office Updates:

Beginning of School Year Checklist:

• Bring in any medication and doctor's forms for medication to be given during school hours.
• Complete first day of school paperwork and return:
- Gardner Road student handbook- emergency 'Go Home' information sheet

Set up school lunch account (if desired) on the district website under food services and look for the Pay Schools link.

Building Security - entering:

For the safety of all students and staff at Gardner Road, all doors are locked 24 hours a day. We do welcome your visit to our school. Please report to the main entrance and press the buzzer to your right near the main entrance. You will be prompted for your name and purpose of visit. Then the secretaries will buzz you in. Please remain in the lobby and someone will assist you.

Bringing Items in for your Child During School:

To provide the most consistent learning environment for your children, we do not interrupt the classrooms during the school day. We understand that in the rush to leave the house in the morning, things are forgotten such as homework, lunches, sneakers for gym, birthday/party goodies, etc. If your child needs something during the day, please bring the item into the lobby and labeled them with your child's name and teacher. We will make sure they receive it.

Who to call first?

We as a school, we want to be able to answer any questions or concerns you have in a timely manner. The first contact should be with the staff member most directly involved. Please reach out first to your child's teacher on the following topics: classroom questions, curriculum, student discipline in the class, academic services, or questions about day-to-day things. If this question or concern remains unresolved, then please feel free to contact me as the building principal. I, as the building principal, would be the first point of contact on topics such as; school policy, residency, parent portal, scheduling, or suspension. If you have a question about transportation, please reach out to our transportation department at 739-6338.

Meeting with Teachers:

Please be aware that once the teachers have students in their class (8:35), they are not able to meet one-on-one with a parent regarding an individual concern. Please arrange a meeting with your child's teacher in advance – thank you!

Homework Requests:

If your child is out sick and you would like to request homework, please call the office before 9:00 a.m. It can either be sent home with a sibling, friend, neighbor, or parents can pick up homework after 3:30 in the office.

Gold "Go Home" Notes – Change of Plans:

Thank you for helping us assure students 'go-home' the correct way each day using our GOLD note pads. Knowing that changes occur during the day, we understand that you may need to change your child's 'go-home' plans during the day. We ask that parents call before 12:00 so that we can assure a smooth dismissal and keep all our students safe. Last minute changes delay bus dismissal for all students.

Online District Calendar

To see district & school events in 2026-2027, please go to https://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/fullcalendar.cfm, or go to the Calendar link in the main menu on the district website. The online calendar allows months to be printed. The district will not be printing a multi-page calendar this year. Our online calendar allows us to update events throughout the year.

Annual Title 1 Notice for Gardner Road Elementary School

In compliance with provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, we are informing you that Gardner Road Elementary receives Title I federal funding. Therefore, you have the right to request information regarding the professional qualification of your child's classroom teacher(s). Specifically included is your right to know the following:

Whether the teacher has met State qualification & licensing criteria for the grade levels & subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;

Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived;

The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher & any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, & field of discipline of the certification or degree;

Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals &, if so, their qualification.

Should you wish to exercise your right to make your request to: Caitlin DeFilippo, Director of Human Resources, Horseheads Central School District, Hibbard Road, Horseheads, New York 14845. (607)739-5601, ext. 4211.

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 Patricia Sotero. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student should be referred to Patricia Soero at (607) 739 – 6347.



Principal's Corner

Dear GR Parents and Caregivers,

On Friday, September 11th, we celebrated the ushering in of our back to school with our GR PTO Ice Cream Social. Our playgrounds were full as our students and their families were enjoying all the delicious treats sponsored by our PTO. Then on Friday, October 2nd, we had our annual PTO Family Craft Night. It was wonderful to see all the creative items our students and their families were able to do together. Our PTO works hard to ensure we offer special activities each month and most of them are FREE. I love having the opportunity to get to know our families a little better at all of these events! We look forward to many more special evenings coming our way. At GR, we are proud to be able to offer family friendly activities for all to enjoy. I want to encourage you if you have not signed up to be a part of our PTO, please consider joining today. We need you to be a part and help out throughout the year. We could not do this without you.

I know so many have shared comments on how much their children look forward to what is planned throughout the school year. It takes many individuals to help lighten the load. You do not need to attend every meeting; however, there are many events you could sign up for which can work within your schedule. Please consider joining today! You will not be disappointed.

Each day I come to school loving the chance to be a part of our children's lives. They have done an amazing job being respectful and showing their kindness to one another. It is a personal joy of mine to interact and receive the many hugs from our students. We have so much to be proud of at GR and being a Golden Star means the world to each and everyone. If you have any needs and / or questions, my door is always open. Stop by to see me or give me a call in the office.

In Your Service,

Patti Sotero, Principal

Gardner Road Elementary Contact Information

541 Gardner Road
Horseheads, NY 14845

www.horseheadsdistrict.com
(607) - 739-6347

Patricia Sotero, Principal
Katie Boyle, Assistant Principal
Lisa Buchanan, Secretary
Cassie Wright, Attend Clerk
Barb Hinman, Nurse, RN
Robin Plummer, Nurse, LPN

GR PTO:
Shannon Radford, President
Jessica Carswell, Vice President
Autumn Osburn, Treasurer

Newsletter in Color: https://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/HHGR.cfm



A Note from Ms. Boyle

Hello Gardner Road Families,

My first month at Gardner Road has been filled with many opportunities to get to know our students and families. From greeting students at morning arrival and connecting with families at Open House to being in the cafeteria during lunch and attending events such as the PTO Ice Cream Social, I have appreciated every opportunity to learn more about our wonderful school community.

The energy, kindness and enthusiasm I see each day make Gardner Road a special place. During my first month at Gardner Road, I have enjoyed seeing firsthand the kindness of our students, the dedication of our staff, and the strong partnership that exists between our school and families.

Thank you for the warm welcome you have extended to me. I am excited for all that lies ahead and look forward to celebrating the learning, growth, and accomplishments of our students throughout the year.

Warmly,
Katie Boyle
Assistant Principal

HCSD Annual Notifications

Please click on the following links to learn more about each program.

1900: Parental and Family Engagement
1900-E.1: Parental Involvement, Title I - School Level Exhibit
1900-R: Title I Parental Involvement Regulation
ESSA-Funded Programs Complaint Procedures

IMPORTANT EARLY RELEASE TIMES

2026-2027	Start Time	*Dismissal*
PK	9:00	*11:30*
K-4	8:40	*11:55*
5-6	7:19	*10:20*
7-8	7:15	*10:30*
9-12	7:35	*10:50*

HALLOWEEN PARADE



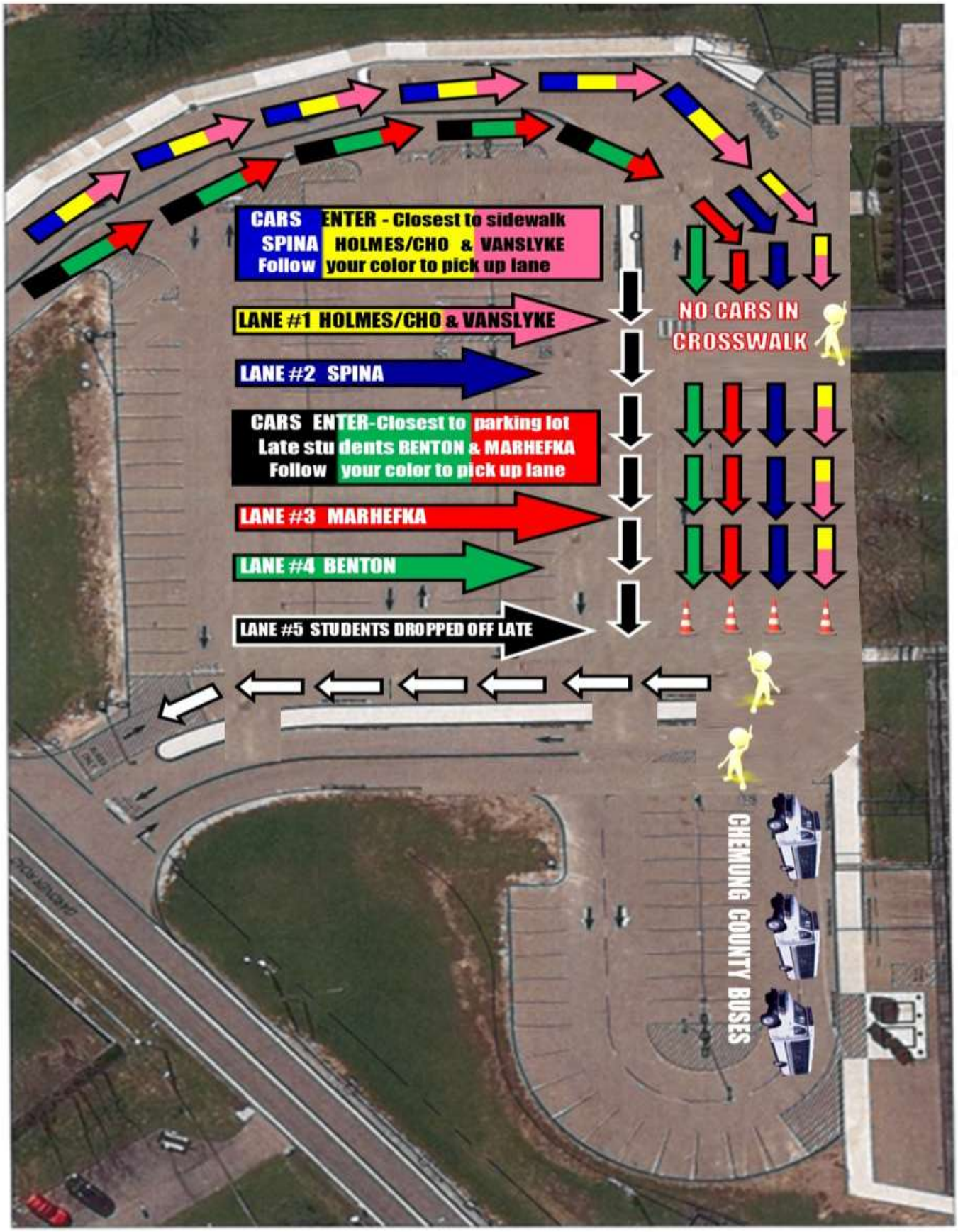
OCTOBER

30

start 1:30 PM

All parents are invited to join us for the Halloween parade. The parking lot fills up quickly so we encourage carpooling. The students and teachers will march in front of the school from the kindergarten wing towards the gymnasium. We ask that all visitors stand behind the fence in the parking lot. Please make sure that your child's costume is appropriate for our very young students to see and that it does not have any type of toy weapons, blood, etc. as a prop. We will run a normal morning schedule that is focused on academics. We appreciate that your child come to school not dressed in costume or with make-up on. All students will have an opportunity to change into their costumes prior to the parade. Because of the numbers of potential visitors and the safety concerns connected to it, we do not allow families in school after the parade. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in a wonderful event for our students.

GARDNER ROAD
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL


CARS ENTER - Closest to sidewalk
SPINA HOLMES/CHO & VANSLYKE
Follow your color to pick up lane
LANE #1 HOLMES/CHO & VANSLYKE
LANE #2 SPINA
CARS ENTER-Closest to parking lot
Late students BENTON & MARHEFKA
Follow your color to pick up lane
LANE #3 MARHEFKA
LANE #4 BENTON
LANE #5 STUDENTS DROPPED OFF LATE
NO CARS IN CROSSWALK
CHEMUNG COUNTY BUSES

Gardner Road Elementary: Pre Kindergarten

IMPORTANT ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Pre K Student arrivals CANNOT be earlier than 8:40 as we are still processing our K – 4 student drop offs.

Pick-Up Lines *begin* at 2:00 PM – 2:30 PM.

ARRIVAL

Please pull into your child's teacher's assigned line. (SEE MAP.)

Line #1 Holmes/Cho & VanSlyke (closest to the sidewalk)

Line #2 Spina

Line #3 Marhefka

Line #4 Benton

Line #5 is for STUDENTS IN ALL GRADES ARRIVING LATE OR BEING PICKED UP EARLY.

Please be sure to unbuckle your child and then return back into your car and wait for a staff member to come and get your little one. **Kindly do not remain out of your car** as we try to maintain a system that works for all.

We must keep the crosswalk lines free of vehicles, so kindly stay behind the walkway or ahead of it so that your wheels do not cover any part of it.

There is an assigned staff member in both the front of the lines and at the crosswalk to assist with directing traffic. You will be notified when you may exit your line. NO cars should be moving without the direction of the staff member up front. You will see a traffic cone in front of each line. Only when the traffic cone has been removed and you are directed to exit, should you move your car. Otherwise, your car should be in park until notified to move.

Please remember that your speed must be in compliance with our school speed limit when entering and exiting our parking lot.

If you have a concern about others using our parking lot, kindly contact me directly and do not make contact with another driver as it is important for our children not to witness or hear inappropriate conversations.

DISMISSAL

Please pull into your child's teacher's assigned line. (SEE MAP.)

Line #1 Holmes/Cho & VanSlyke (closest to the sidewalk)

Line #2 Spina

Line #3 Marhefka

Line #4 Benton

Line #5 is for STUDENTS IN ALL GRADES ARRIVING LATE OR BEING PICKED UP EARLY.

Please place your provided pick-up name sign on the passenger's side of your vehicle *either on the dashboard or on the window.* This will help to expedite the dismissal process. Suggestive places to keep your sign -your car glove compartment or on the passenger's visor so you will have it with you. *NO SIGNS ARE TO BE COPIED. IF YOU NEED AN ADDITIONAL SIGN FOR YOUR FAMILY, KINDLY EMAIL THE PRINCIPAL. We will be happy to provide you with additional signs needed.*

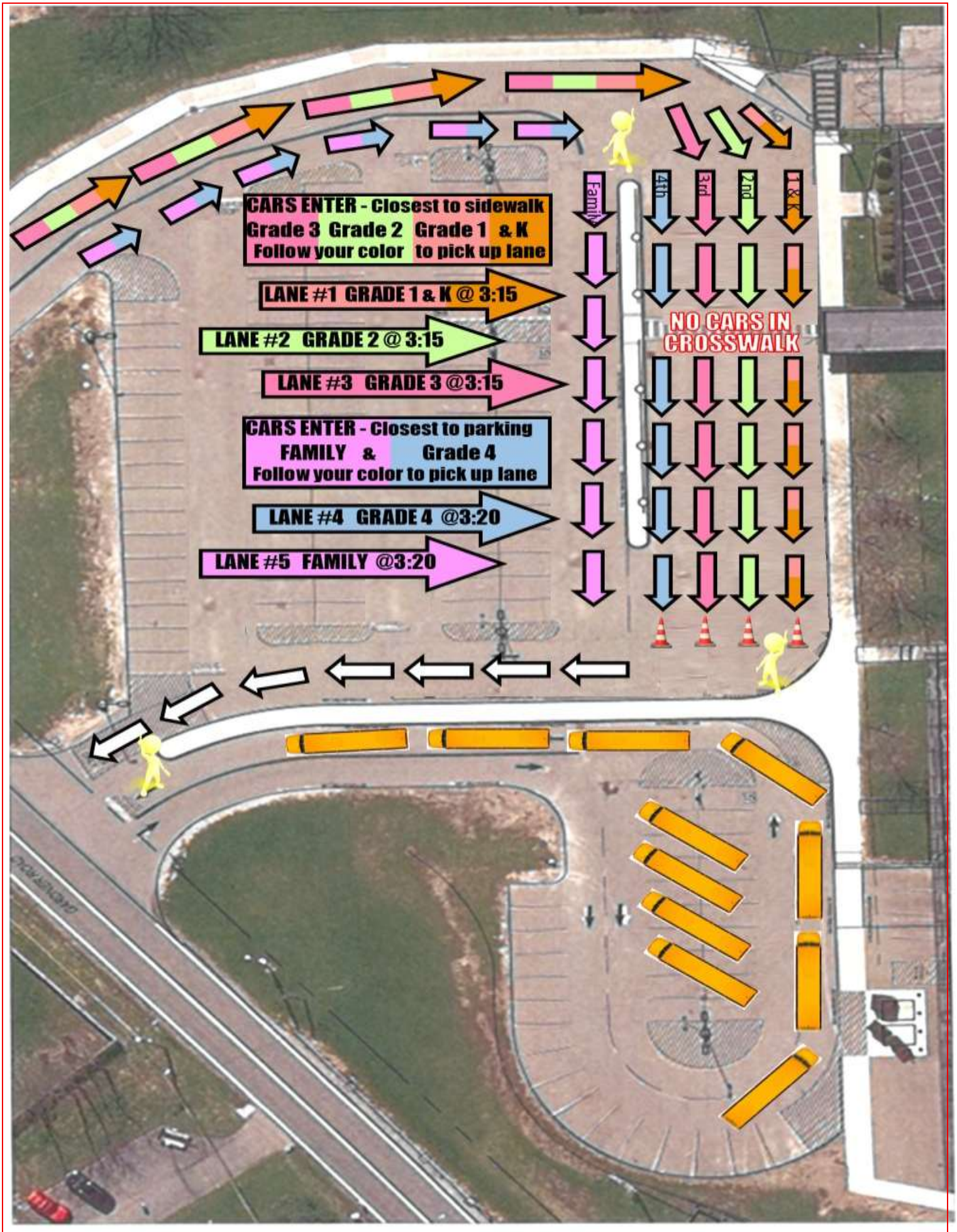
Staff will be looking for your sign and then will bring your child to you.

Please **wait in your vehicle** until a staff member brings out your child (ren) during dismissal.

As the staff member brings your child to you, the ***driver must buckle a child in if the student cannot do it for him/herself. Staff will not be able to assist with this.***

If you arrive for an earlier pick up prior to 1:45, please park in the family lane #5 to pick up your child for an appointment. This should occur BEFORE 1:45 PM. Please call the office ahead of time 739-6347 so we may help with getting your child to the office on time for the appointment. You will need to come to the lobby door, and ring the bell. You will be instructed to sign-out your child.

Please follow the directions so that your child's education will not be interrupted, and will be able to make our traffic flow operate efficiently and smoothly to get you home quickly!


CARS ENTER - Closest to sidewalk
Grade 3 Grade 2 Grade 1 & K
Follow your color to pick up lane
LANE #1 GRADE 1 & K @ 3:15
LANE #2 GRADE 2 @ 3:15
LANE #3 GRADE 3 @3:15
CARS ENTER - Closest to parking
FAMILY & Grade 4
Follow your color to pick up lane
LANE #4 GRADE 4 @3:20
LANE #5 FAMILY @3:20
Family
4th
3rd
2nd
1 & K
NO CARS IN CROSSWALK

Gardner Road Elementary: Kindergarten - 4th Grade

IMPORTANT DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Student Pick-Up Lines begin at 3:00 PM – 3:30 PM.

Please line up in your assigned grade level/family line.

Please follow the directions so that your child's education will not be interrupted and we will be able to make our traffic flow operate efficiently and smoothly and get you home quickly!

Please place your provided pick-up name sign on the passenger's side of your vehicle *either on the dashboard or on the window.* This will help to expedite the dismissal process. Suggestive places to keep your sign -your car glove compartment or on the passenger's visor so you will have it with you. All parents who have not signed up their child to be bussed will receive a sign. Two will be given out per family. The oldest sibling will receive a Family Sign should you have more than one child attending Gardner Road. Please note -*students in K – 4 cannot be dismissed with their sibling who may be in Pre- K at 2:30. NO SIGNS ARE TO BE COPIED. IF YOU NEED AN ADDITIONAL SIGN FOR YOUR FAMILY, KINDLY EMAIL THE PRINCIPAL. We will be happy to provide you with additional signs needed.*

Please **wait in your vehicle** until a staff member brings out your child (ren).

Staff will be looking for your sign and then will bring your child to you.

As the staff member brings your child to you, the ***driver must buckle a child in if the student cannot do it for him/herself. Staff will not be able to assist with this.***

If it is a unique day and you are picking up multiple students outside of your household, you will need to go back around to the appropriate line and time to pick up the additional students by grade.

If you arrive for an earlier pick up prior to 3:00, please park in the family lane #5 to pick up your child for an appointment. This should occur BEFORE 3:00 PM. Please call the office ahead of time 739-6347 so we can help with getting your child to the office on time for the appointment. You will need to come to the lobby door, and ring the bell. You will be instructed to sign-out your child.

Once multiple cars are loaded in their grade line, and students' feet are in the cars, **the driver should give a thumbs up** to indicate they are loaded and ready to go. A staff member will direct the row to go one at a time, as it is a single file when exiting our parking lot. Cars will then be directed to pull up to their appropriate grade level line. When cars are stopped, we will continue to load the next group of students.

GARDNER ROAD SPECIFIC TIME AND LOCATION TO PULL INTO PARENT'S PICK UP LINE

KINDERGARTEN – Parents may pull into the parent's pick up line at 3:00 to line up. Dismissal will be begin at ~3:15.
Pull up next to the sidewalk!
Be in Line #1.
Put your ORANGE-colored sign in your passenger's window or dashboard
Please remain in your car.
Once buckled in and a staff member notifies you to go, then you may exit.

FIRST GRADE – Parents may pull into the parent's parking line at 3:00 to line up. Dismissal will begin at 3:15.
Pull up closest to the sidewalk!
Be in Line #1.
Put your SALMON-colored sign in your passenger's window or dashboard.
Please remain in your car.
Once buckled in and a staff member notifies you to go, then you may exit.

SECOND GRADE – Parents may pull into the parent's parking line at 3:00 to line up. Dismissal will be begin at ~3:15.
Be in line #2.
Put your NEON GREEN-colored sign in your passenger's window or dashboard
Please remain in your car.
Once buckled in and a staff member notifies you to go, then you may exit.

THIRD GRADE – Parents may pull into the parent's parking line at 3:00 to line up. Dismissal will begin at ~3:15.

Be in line #3.

Pull up in the second line next to the cars parked by the sidewalk!

Put your BRIGHT PINK-colored sign in your passenger's window or dashboard

Please remain in your car.

Once buckled in and a staff member notifies you to go, then you may exit.

FOURTH GRADE – Parents may pull into the parent's parking line at 3:00 to line up. Dismissal will begin at ~3:20.

Be in line #4.

Put your LIGHT BLUE-colored sign in your passenger's window or dashboard

Please remain in your car.

Once buckled in and a staff member notifies you to go, then you may exit.

FAMILY LINE – Parents may pull into the parent's parking lot at 3:00 to line up. Dismissal will be begin at ~3:20.

Be in line #5 & line #6 (on the other side of the fence closet to the staff's parked cars.

Put your PURPLE-colored sign in your passenger's window or dashboard

Please remain in your car.

Once buckled in and a staff member notifies you to go, then you may exit.

Information From the Health Office



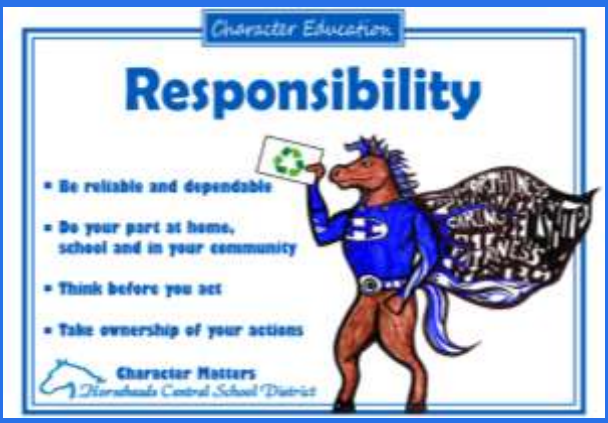
Symptoms for Exclusion:
When Students Need to Go Home Sick

Conditions Requiring Temporary Exclusion:

- Fever of 100.4° Fahrenheit or higher within 24 hours
- Lethargy (excessive sleepiness) preventing the student from participating in class
- Difficulty breathing or excessive disruptive cough
- Diarrhea within 24 hours
- Vomiting within 24 hours
- Rash with fever or behavior changes or quickly spreading rash
- Open skin sores with/without drainage or crusting that cannot be covered with a bandage or clothing
- Sudden onset of pain that is not resolving
- Abdominal pain that is not resolving or worsening
- Blood or pus drainage from the ear
- Strep throat until treated with antibiotics for 12 hours
- Mouth sores causing drooling the student cannot control
- Other conditions as determined by nursing assessment!

"We Succeed Because The Stars Lead!"

October's Character Trait is:



Our students at Gardner Road are GOLDEN STARS! Each month, our we focus on a different character trait. Students can earn GOLDEN TICKETS by demonstrating the month's trait! Students share their ticket in the main office and they are entered into the Character Education Bingo game. Be on the lookout for these certificates coming home! Students can also earn a GOOD NEWS CALL OF THE DAY if they have gone above and beyond – one student earns this special opportunity each day. Students will learn about all our character traits from our student led Character Education Leadership Team, our social workers, Mrs. Rich and Mrs. Kucmierowski ,all building staff and of course, their classroom teacher. We look forward to another great year of character at Gardner Road Elementary School!

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





JOIN US! PTO MEETING
Wednesday, October 7
6:00 PM GR LIBRARY

Golden Star Buddies Reminder:

Our school believes all students should follow the golden rule. However, we know that disagreements occur and it is our job to help students through it. We use the following definitions to determine the difference between conflicts and bullying. If any student is involved or sees either, please let a Gardner Road staff member know and they will help you!

CONFLICT:
* occurs in the heat of a moment
* is often a difference of opinion
* two or more students are upset
* does not happen continuously

BULLYING:
* intent to cause harm
* imbalance of power
* repetition - bullies often target the same people
* targeted towards a specific individual

FROM THE CONCRETE TO THE ABSTRACT



with María Vanesa Utz

Saturday, 17 October 2026

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Mansfield University
Butler Music Center
118 Campus View Drive,
Mansfield, PA 16933

Register & Pay
sites.google.com/view/ttosa/membership

Maria Vanesa Utz, a clinical psychologist and music educator from Paraguay, has dedicated over 20 years to nurturing children's development through early music education and choral conducting. She is a university teacher, leader of different Nacional sociocultural programs and founder & CEO of EducArt® Center, an intercultural hub providing bilingual music and movement children programs with a special curriculum for neurological and developmental differences.

Join us to explore bilingual Spanish-English games, activities, mindfulness resources, and intercultural learning through elemental materials!

The Orff-Schulwerk method is a child-centered approach to music education that combines music, speech, movement, and drama into lessons that mirror a child's natural world of play.

Twin Tiers Orff-Schulwerk Association

TTOSA

AOSA American Orff-Schulwerk Association

COST TO PARTICIPATE

Teachers Seeking PD Credit (including Act 48 and CTLE)	$35 for single workshop $60 Full Year Membership $40 AOSA Full Year Accompanying children FREE
Local Children and Families (Ages 5-18 years)	$10 per child Accompanying adults FREE
College Students	*FREE* (Can provide a certificate if needed)

Information about
Emergency School Closings & Delays:

Schools are closed when the weather makes it impossible to have reasonable attendance or when the schools or vehicles would not be able to operate safely. The school day is delayed when inclement weather conditions improve by early morning. Inclement weather may include snow, ice, and/or freezing temperatures. If the school day is delayed, buses will run & schools will open 2 hours later than normal.

If it is necessary to close or delay schools, the information will be posted on the district's website at www.horseheadsdistrict.com, the district's Facebook pages and Twitter, and the following local television and radio stations and their affiliates:

Radio: WNKI 106.1, WPGI 100.9, Magic FM 92.7/97.7, WGMM 98.7, WLVY 94.3, WELM 1410

TV: WENY, WETM, Time Warner Cable News

These television and radio stations also put closing/delay information on their websites. Each of our schools and the district have Facebook pages. To see school closings/delays and other information on your news feed, "like" the page(s). On Twitter, follow us at @HhdsSchools.



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

Substitutes Needed:

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

For information, please visit:
http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/subteach.html

Human Resources Office: 739-5601, x4211

e-mail: hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

School is your first and most important job. You're learning about more than math and reading. You're learning how to show up for school on time every day, so that when you grow up and get a job, you'll know how to show up for work on time every day.

When you're not here, we notice because we care, and we want you to be successful.

A student who misses 10 days or more during a school year is 20 percent less likely to graduate from high school and 25 percent less likely to ever enroll in college.

If you think missing a day here or there won't matter, think again. By missing just one day every two weeks, you would be on track to miss 10 percent of the school year – and that can happen before you know it.

School only gets harder when you stay home too much. Sometimes it's tempting to stay home but missing a day only makes that worse.
We understand that you will get sick sometimes and need to stay home. The important thing is to get to school as often as possible to help stay on track with your learning.

SMILE... PICTURE DAY!

School Pictures will be taken on Monday, Oct.5th.



We are reminding families in advance to assist you with your upcoming appointments outside of school.

The Gardner Road Elementary School playground is available to all community members **AFTER 4:00 PM each school day.** We want to maintain the safety and protection of our students at ALL times. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in this matter. **As we work together, we provide the best safety and protection of each and every student.**

Please be sure to read our GR Student/Parent Handbook for important information and return your signed form. THANK YOU!



Gardner Road Spirit Wear Sale



Sale will be held
October 2nd - October 16th

All sales will be online through the vendor. All clothing will be delivered to the school and sent home with your child, approximately 2 weeks after the sale closes.

To purchase clothing scan the QR code below





Ronald McDonald House Charities Pull Tab Project

Our school is participating in an outreach project collecting pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House Charities for the 2026/27 school year.

Please help us reach our goal.



Remember every tab makes a difference! Thank you!

Facebook: Pull Tabs For Ronald Mcdonald House Charities

We're raising dough!

GARDNER ROAD PTO

25%
OF NET SALES WILL BE DONATED*

October 21, 2026
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
950 County Road 64, Elmira, NY

Use code FUND4U at panerabread.com, in the Panera App, or at the kiosk in-cafe.

Online orders placed all day at your event cafe will count toward your total sales.

Bring this flyer or show a digital copy to your cashier when ordering at the cafe to ensure your organization gets a portion of the net sales.

Panera
FUNDRAISING

*20% fundraiser: Up to 20% of net sales from your designated and registered fundraising event will be donated to your approved organization. Minimum sales of $100 on the specified date, time and location required to receive 20% donation. 25% fundraiser: Up to 25% of net sales from your designated and registered fundraising event will be donated to your approved organization. Minimum sales of $150 on the specified date, time and location required to receive 25% donation. General terms: Details on percentage of net sales to be donated and the minimum sales requirement will be provided during the event registration process. Fundraising events available only at participating US bakery-cafes. Fundraising event details and available dates and times for fundraising events will vary by bakery-cafe. Gift card purchases, catering orders, and orders placed on third party delivery sites are excluded and will not count towards the total net sales from your designated fundraising event. This offer will be void if flyer is distributed in or near the participating bakery-cafe on the night of the event. Fundraising events may be cancelled without notice due to abuse, error, fraud, computer error, electronic or technical malfunctions, or other unforeseen or unintended circumstances. Other restrictions may apply. For more information on how our fundraising events work, please visit: https://fundraising.panerabread.com/faq.

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Veterans Day Parade coming up soon!

Gardner Road's Veterans Day Event is coming soon – Thursday, Nov. 5, 2026.

Gardner Road Elementary School would like to show our appreciation to the men and women of the military. We are looking for individuals who would be able to come to Gardner Road Elementary School on Thursday, November 5, 2026 at 9:30 am. There will be no speaking involved; our students who will be lined up outside waving flags and holding banners - thanking you for the sacrifices you have made on our behalf.

If you participated in the past, please join us again now at Gardner Road Elementary School.

Please contact Mrs. Sotero, Principal of Gardner Road Elementary School, if you or someone you know would like to participate in this special event by Friday, October, 30th.



Gardner Road Elementary School would like to show our appreciation to the men and women of the military. We are looking for individuals who would be able to come to Gardner Road Elementary School on:

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2026 AT 9:30 – 9:50 AM.

There will be no speaking involved, but rather we would like you to be greeted by our students who will be lined up along the hallways waving flags and holding banners thanking you for the sacrifices you have made on our behalf.

For those of you who have been part of our celebrations in the past - you know we LOVE having you join us! We would be honored if you would join us for this special occasion because it is important for our students to express their respect and appreciation to all of you! If you joined us last year, you know how special we have planned our event; our local firemen and policemen did a spectacular job adding to this celebration as well. We would love for you to have someone near and dear to your heart who attends GR to be able to walk alongside of you too! This year, we area opening up to our veterans to join all elementary schools on the morning of Nov. 6th. There will be a bus shuttle at the Horseheads High School Parking lot.

Shuttle at the HS should be 7:45 – 7:50

IS/MS – 8:10 – 8:30, BF - 8:50 – 9:10, **GR – 9:30 – 9:50,** RR – 10:10 – 10:30

Followed by some refreshments and a program being offered at the HH HS concluding the marches 11:00 – 11:30

If you cannot commit to all schools and/or cannot ride the bus, we will have parking available for you at Gardner Road.

If you or someone you know would like to participate in this special event, please contact Mrs. Sotero, Principal of Gardner Road Elementary School by Friday, October 30, 2026. Please email me at psotero@horseheadsdistrict.com

Name_____

Address:_____

Phone: _____Email:_____

Student/Staff Connection to GR:_____Grade/Teacher:_____

Branch of the Military:_____

October 2026

Celebrate National School Lunch Week Oct. 12-16th!

CAFETERIA CIRCUS
NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK
OCT 12TH-16TH • 2026

HORSEHEADS ELEMENTARY
GRADES PK-4TH

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
PaySchools Central Make Online Payments at Payschoolcentral.com!	FARM TO SCHOOL	JOIN US FOR NY MENU DAY! See menu for details	1 Cheese Ravioli & Marinara Sauce w/Bread Breaded Chicken Drumstick w/Breadstick Green Beans Homemade Fruit Crisp	2 Pizza Dunkers w/Marinara Sauce Tuna Salad Sandwich Sliced Carrots
5 French Toast Sticks & Sausage Buffalo Chicken Calzone Sliced Carrots Tater Tots	6 Chicken Soft Taco w/Rice Bean Taco w/Rice Chicken BLT Salad w/Bread Choice Golden Sweet Corn Refried Beans	7 **Sesame Meatballs** w/Rice Ham & Cheese Deli Wrap Green Beans	8 **NY MENU DAY!** **Chicken & NY Alfredo Sauce over Pasta** Dinner Roll **NY Roasted Broccoli** **Fresh NY Kale & Apple Salad** **Fresh NY Grapes!** **NY Juice!** **Chilled NY Milk**	9 CONFERENCE DAY NO SCHOOL
12 HAPPY Columbus Day	13 **CIRCUS CAFE: OPENING DAY!!** Chicken & Waffles Strong Man Sweet Potato Fries Show Stopping Strawberries w/Topping	14 **CIRCUS CAFE: FIESTA SPECTACULAR!!** Walking Taco **NY Cheddar, NY Sour Cream, NY Salsa, Lettuce** 3 Ring Churro Street Corn Salad Acrobat Apple Slices	15 **CIRCUS CAFE: BIG TOP BBQ!!** BBQ Pulled Chicken Sandwich BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich Silly Slaw (Coleslaw) Balancing Act Baked Beans Ringmaster Watermelon	16 **CIRCUS CAFE: Grande Finale Friday!!** Carousel Corn Dog Circus Classic Burger **Choose your own toppings!** Clown Favorite Curly Fries Carnival Cookie
19 Homestyle Chicken Bowl w/Bread BBQ Pork Rib on a Roll Sliced Carrots	20 Chicken & Cheese Empanadas Chicken BLT Salad w/Bread Choice Golden Sweet Corn Refried Beans	21 Toasted Cheese Sandwich Baked Crispy Chicken Sandwich Hot Tomato Soup Steamed Broccoli	22 Pasta w/Meatsauce & Cheese Pasta w/Marinara Sauce & Cheese Turkey & Cheese Wrap Green Beans Cinnamon Applesauce Jello	23 Cheese Pizza Crunchers w/Marinara Sauce Crispy Fish Filet Sandwich Sliced Carrots Big Apple Crunch Day!!
26 Authentic Pulled Pork Sandwich Ultimate Cheese Breadstick w/Marinara Sauce Sliced Carrots	27 Beef or Bean Soft Taco w/Rice Warm Buffalo Ranch Wrap Golden Sweet Corn Refried Beans	28 General Tso's Chicken w/Rice **NY Hot Dog on a Roll** Steamed Broccoli	29 Cheese Ravioli & Marinara Sauce w/Bread Breaded Chicken Drumstick w/Breadstick Green Beans Homemade Fruit Crisp	30 Pizza Dunkers w/Marinara Sauce Tuna Salad Sandwich Sliced Carrots HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

Celebrate National School Lunch Week! It's a great time to give school lunch & breakfast a try!

Available Daily Entrees

PBJ Sandwich
Meat Chef Salad w/ Bread Choice
Vegetarian Chef Salad w/Bread Choice
NY Cheese Stick & Yogurt w/Bread Choice
Turkey & Cheese Sandwich
Ham & Cheese Sandwich
M/W/F: Baked Chicken Nuggets w/Bread
T/TH: Cheese Pizza

Available Daily Sides

Fresh Vegetables
Fresh Tossed Salad
Assorted Fruit
NY Chilled Milk
100% Fruit Juice
***Bread Choice = Soft Pretzel or Breadstick**

PRICING:

Breakfast & Lunch: $0.00
Milk/Ala Carte Side: $0.75
Snacks: $0.50-$1.75

NOTE: Every student receives 1 bfast and 1 lunch at no charge per school day. Each bfast & lunch must be a COMPLETE MEAL, or student will be charged ala carte for each item on their tray.

Breakfast Menu

Monday: Mini Pancakes
Tuesday: Stuffed Bagel Bites
Wednesday: Breakfast Sandwich
Thursday: French Toast Sticks
Friday: Breakfast Pizza
Daily Options: Bagel, Cinnamon Roll, Asst. Cereal, Graham Crackers, Asst. Oatmeal, Muffin Top, BFast Bar, **NY Yogurt**, Asst. Fruit, 100% Fruit Juice & **Chilled NY Milk**

Contact the Food Service Office at (607) 739-5601 (ext. 3671 or ext. 3674) or go to the School District Website Food Service Page & click on the Contact Us button to fill in and submit your info. **If you have a food allergy or Intolerance, please notify us.**

This institution is an equal opportunity employer & provider.

This menu is subject to change with out advance

OCTOBER - RESPONSIBILITY 2026



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1 DAY 2 Pre K picking pumpkins at GR / courtyard	2 DAY 3 National School Custodian's Day School Store STARTS 8:20—8:50 GR Spirit Day Wear Blue/Gold PTO FALL FAMILY "CRAFT NIGHT" 6-7:00
5 DAY 4 School Picture Day	6 DAY 1 Fire Safety Assembly Fire Safety Week 10/4-10	7 DAY 2 GR PTO Meeting 6:00 Library	8 DAY 3 Homecoming Weekend Wear your Raider Blue	9 NO SCHOOL CONFERENCE DAY Home Coming Weekend
12 NO SCHOOL Columbus Day	13 DAY 4 National Lunch Week Oct. 12 - 16	14 DAY 1	15 DAY 2 BOE Mtg 6:00 @ CS	16 DAY 3 School Store 8:20—8:50 Early Dismissal Drill 9:15—9:30
19 DAY 4	20 DAY 1	21 DAY 2 Unity Day—Wear Orange Special Assembly PTO—Panera Family Dine Day /Night fundraiser	22 DAY 3	23 DAY 4 School Store 8:20—8:50 CONFERENCE DAY 1/2 DAY EARLY DISMISSAL
26 DAY 1	27 DAY 2	28 DAY 3	29 DAY 4	30 DAY 1 School Store 8:20—8:50 Halloween Parade 1:30 - 2:00 End of the 1st Marking Period Rev Sept. 20, 2026