



Horseheads Central School District



# Golden Star Gazette



## March 2024

### Gardner Road Elementary School

541 Gardner Road, Horseheads, New York 14845 (607) 739 – 6347

[ppatterson@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:ppatterson@horseheadsdistrict.com)



Dear Gardner Road Families –

I hope you and your family enjoyed the February break. We are looking forward to a great (and lucky) March at Gardner Road. Our students had a lovely February as we celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school and we created a domino rally with the generous donations for the food bank. Thank you to the GRPTO for hosting our family fun craft night.

We have a lot going on this month. We look forward to seeing our Golden Stars share their talent at our Annual Talent Show on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Our school will be marching in the Horseheads St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 9<sup>th</sup>. There will be a community forum about the capital projects across the district on March 12<sup>th</sup> at the HS Café. Check out the flyer for more details. The GRPTO will be hosting a family board game night on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at the IS cafe. Be on the lookout for more details about each event.

We are looking forward to having students sign up for the Marketplace and Multicultural Fair in May. This is a great event to have your child participate and learn entrepreneur and/or public speaking skills. Packets came out last month and sign-ups are due April 19<sup>th</sup>.

In the spring, we will be working on class placements for the 2024 - 2025 school year. We value parental input when making these decisions. Please feel free to write a letter to me by Friday, May 3, 2024. You are welcome to include information such as your child's learning style and the learning environment they learn best in. Please do not include specific teacher requests as we do not honor them. We use a team approach for class placements, and we take many things into consideration. If your child is going into 5<sup>th</sup> grade, please see page 2 of this newsletter for more details on that process.

Be sure to check out our [school website](#) for updates and please keep up to date with the happenings at our school, by following our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages. For any additional information or inquiries, please feel free to reach out to the school office. We are here to assist you and ensure that your child has a successful and enjoyable learning experience.

Your Partner in Education,

Patrick Patterson - Principal



## Inside the Gazette:

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- Main Office Updates
- 4<sup>th</sup> → 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Open House
- Construction Photos
- District Budget Timeline

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- February Snapshots
- April 8<sup>th</sup> – Half Day

### Page 4

- Character Corner
- School Mission & Vision



### Included in the Online Newsletter:

- Lunch Menu
- March Calendar
- Capital Project Community Forum
- Winter Wellness Tips



### 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 and Lunch: Free

<https://horseheadscafeteria.gstbooces.org/>

### Moishe's Quote of the Month:

“You have brains in your head, you have feet in your shoes, you can steer yourself any direction you choose.” – Dr. Seuss

# Gardner Road Main Office Updates:



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

English Language Arts: April 10, 2024 and April 11, 2024

Math: May 7, 2024 and May 8, 2024



## 4<sup>th</sup> Graders to Intermediate School



The Intermediate School (IS) will soon be completing 2024 - 2025 classroom placements for students. They create class selections with the intent to achieve a mix of students by ability, gender, personality, and individual special needs. While they are unable to honor specific requests for teachers, they 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 to the Intermediate School Principal, Mr. Bostwick, by Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. Also, please be on the lookout for more information from the IS about their Open House for incoming 5<sup>th</sup> graders which is on Thursday, April 4th at 6:00 PM in the IS Cafeteria.

## Construction Photos:



The new addition looking from the swings on the k/1<sup>st</sup> playground. Windows are coming soon.



B wing and C wing are now connected with brickwork coming to completion. We now have a courtyard.

## 2024-25 Budget Development

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

- Thursday, March 14 – Regular Meeting, High School Multi-Media Center, 6pm
- Wednesday, March 27 – Budget Workshop, High School Multi-Media Center, 6pm
- Thursday, April 11 – Budget Meeting (if needed), High School Multi-Media Center, 6pm
- Wednesday, April 17 – Special Meeting (Board Vote on the BOCES Administrative Budget), 7:30am, District Offices at Hibbard Road
- Thursday, April 18 – Regular Meeting, High School Multi-Media Center, 6pm
- Thursday, May 9 – Public Hearing on 2024-25 Budget, High School Multi-Media Center, 6pm

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

## Budget Vote/Board of Education Election

The Budget Vote/Board of Education Election is **Tuesday, May 21, 7am-9pm**, in the High School South Gym. All district residents are eligible to vote, provided they meet the following requirements:

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

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



# February Snapshots



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

## Monday, April 8 - Half Day for All Students

As you may know, a total solar eclipse affecting much of New York will take place on Monday, April 8. Like many districts along the eclipse's path throughout New York and the nation, the district will alter the school day to accommodate the conditions created by this event. **Monday, April 8 will now be a half day of school. We will dismiss grades 7-12 at 10:40am and grades K-6 at noon that day. PreK dismissal will be at 11:45am.**

A solar eclipse occurs when the moon moves between the sun and Earth. During this time, the sun is completely covered by the moon for a brief time. In our area, the partial eclipse will begin just after 2pm, reaching its maximum coverage around 3:20pm, and ending after 4:30pm. Eclipses to this extent occur rarely. Such a unique event can also draw additional people to our area.

**We remind everyone that the only safe way to view a partially eclipsed sun is with special purpose solar filters such as eclipse glasses.** Regular sunglasses are not safe to use to view an eclipse. Significant sight damage will occur without proper protection. For more information on eclipses and how to safely view them, [click here](#).



# "We Succeed Because The Stars Lead!"

## February's Character Trait is:

Character Education

### Respect

- Treat other people the way you want to be treated
- Listen to what other people have to say
- Be accepting of others
- Be kind and courteous



Character Matters  
Horseheads Central School District

Be Kind, Be Strong, Be Well

## 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**

## St. Patrick's Day Parade

Saturday, March 9, 2024



### MEETING LOCATION:

Line up between 1:15-1:30 in front of the High School South Wing near Center Street Elementary.

The parade begins at 2:00



**PULL TOGETHER.**



To report child abuse or neglect  
call toll free  
**1-800-342-3720** or  
[ocfs.ny.gov/main/cps](http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/cps)



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](mailto: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.

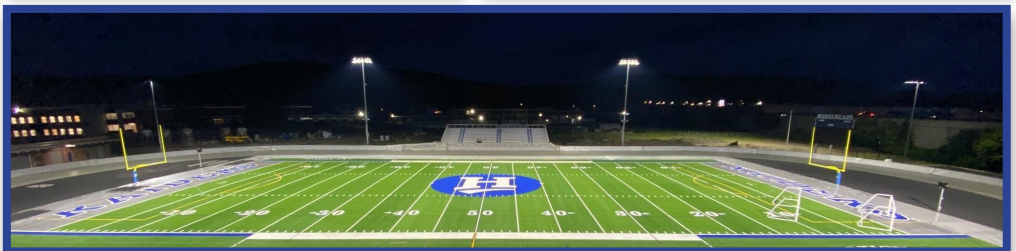
# **H**orseheads Central School District

## *Capital Project Community Update*

Parents, guardians, and community members are invited to an update on our districtwide capital project.

**Tuesday, March 12 | 6pm**  
**Horseheads High School Cafeteria**

- Updates on second referendum
- Tour of finished High School projects
- Third referendum plans
- Q&A



## Report to **PARENTS**

# 4 Tips to Promote Winter Wellness

During the winter season, it becomes easier for kids to come into contact with germs that cause illnesses like cold and flu. Encouraging healthy habit practices at home—starting with these strategies—is a proactive measure to help ensure kids maintain their health and contribute to the overall well-being of their school communities.

## 1. Prioritize Nutrition

If you're sending your little ones to school with a packed lunch, try to incorporate a variety of food groups, offering essential nutrients to keep them energized and satisfied all day long. The CDC recommends that children aged 2 and older follow a healthy eating pattern that includes fruits and vegetables, whole grains, low fat dairy, oils, and a variety of protein-rich foods. Try including in-season foods like apples, brussels sprouts, carrots, and pears.

## 2. Bundle Up

While staying indoors when it's cold is enticing, it's important to get outside when you can. Dress your child in layers to protect them from the cold and use sun protection no matter the temperature outside. Outdoor activities boost physical health and contribute to better sleep and mood regulation.

## 3. Encourage Proper Handwashing

Handwashing is a fundamental line of defense in preventing the spread of germs. As soon as your kids walk in the door after school, remind them to wash their hands before eating a snack or playing with toys.



If your kids are younger, make it an activity you do together by going to the sink and reminding them that the correct technique for thorough hand cleaning is scrubbing for at least 20 seconds.

## 4. Refresh Your Disinfecting Routine

Wintertime is a great moment to restock classroom essentials like Lysol Disinfecting Wipes and Lysol Disinfectant Spray. When used as directed, Lysol products kill 99.9 percent of viruses and bacteria. Regularly disinfecting high-touch surfaces like kitchen tables and doorknobs can help cut down on the spread of illness-causing germs.

Find resources and downloadable activities about handwashing and germ transmission at [Lysol Here for Healthy Schools](#).

# March 2024



## HORSEHEADS ELEMENTARY

### GRADES PK-4TH

National School Breakfast Week is March 4th-8th!! Come check out what your school cafeteria has to offer!

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
<p>Make Online Payments at <a href="https://payschoolcentral.com/">Payschoolcentral.com!</a></p>				<p><b>JOIN US FOR NY MENU DAY!</b> See menu for details</p>		<p>2024 National School Breakfast Week Theme:</p>		<p>1 Pizza Dunkers w/Marinara Sauce Tuna Salad Wrap Sliced Carrots</p>	
4	<p>French Toast Sticks &amp; Sausage Turkey Club Sub Green Beans Tater Tots</p> <p><b>National School Breakfast Week March 4th-8th!</b></p>	5	<p>Sesame Chicken w/Rice <b>NY Hot Dog on a Roll</b> Steamed Broccoli</p>	6	<p>Chicken Alfredo w/Bread Cheeseburger on a Roll Steamed Broccoli <b>Fresh Baby Carrots</b> Homemade Fruit Crisp</p>	7	<p>Chicken Soft Taco w/Rice Bean Taco w/Rice Chicken BLT Salad w/Bread Choice Golden Sweet Corn Refried Beans</p>	8	<p>Buffalo Wing Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Crispy Fish Filet Sandwich Sliced Carrots</p>
11	<p>Philly Cheese Steak Sub Baked Crispy Chicken Sandwich Green Beans Oven Fries</p>	12	<p>Toasted Cheese Sandwich Chicken Ranch Wrap Hot Tomato Soup Sliced Carrots</p>	13	<p>Pasta w/Meatsauce &amp; Cheese Pasta w/Marinara Sauce &amp; Cheese Authentic Pulled Pork Sandwich Steamed Broccoli <b>Fresh Pepper Strips!</b> Fruity Jello w/Whipped Topping</p>	14	<p><b>NY MENU DAY!</b> <b>NY Beef Taco</b> w/Rice <b>Toppings: NY Sour Cream, NY Cheddar, Lettuce &amp; Salsa</b> <b>NY Sweet Corn</b> Refried Beans <b>Fresh NY Apples</b> <b>NY Juice!</b></p>	15	<p>Pizza Dunkers w/Marinara Sauce Tuna Salad Sub Sliced Carrots</p>
18	<p><b>CONFERENCE DAY</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b></p>	19	<p>Chicken &amp; Orange Sauce w/Rice <b>NY Hot Dog on a Roll</b> Steamed Broccoli</p>	20	<p><b>Homemade NY Macaroni &amp; Cheese</b> w/Bread Italian Meatball Sub Green Beans <b>Fresh Green Pepper Strips!</b> Homemade Fruit Crisp</p>	21	<p>Chicken Soft Taco w/Rice Bean Taco w/Rice Chicken BLT Salad w/Bread Choice Golden Sweet Corn Refried Beans</p>	22	<p><b>Cheese Pizza Crunchers w/Marinara Sauce</b> Crispy Fish Filet Sandwich Sliced Carrots</p>
25	<p>Chicken Philly Sub Ultimate Cheese Breadstick w/Marinara Sauce Sliced Carrots Oven Fries</p>	26	<p>Homestyle Chicken Bowl w/Dinner Roll Ham &amp; Cheese Deli Wrap Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy Green Beans</p>	27	<p>Cheese Ravioli &amp; Marinara Sauce w/Bread Turkey Club Sub Steamed Broccoli <b>Fresh Cucumber Slices!</b> Cinnamon Applesauce Jello</p>	28	<p>Pulled Pork Nacho Grande w/Rice Chicken Caesar Salad w/Bread Choice Golden Sweet Corn Refried Beans</p>	29	<p><b>NO SCHOOL</b></p>

#### 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: \$0.75-\$1.50  
**NOTE: Every student receives 1 breakfast and 1 lunch at no charge per school day. Each breakfast & lunch must be a COMPLETE MEAL, or student will be charged ala carte for each item on their tray.**

#### Breakfast Menu

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

# March 2024

## Gardner Road Elementary School



Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
<p><b><u>Character Education Monthly Focus: Respect</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Show respect for the Earth.</li> <li>Point out and praise children for showing respect.</li> </ul>								<p>1 Day 5 Spirit Day Wear Blue &amp; Gold</p> <p>Talent Show IS Café 6:00</p>	
4	Day 6	5	Day 1	6	Day 2	7	Day 3	8	Day 4
								<p>9th: Scripps Bee @ Corning <b>St. Patrick's Parade</b> (lineup at CS/HS at 1:20)</p>	
11	Day 5	12	Day 6	13	Day 1	14	Day 2	15	Day 3
<p>Grade K and 1st to HS for</p>		<p>Community Forum: Capital Project Update HS Cafeteria 6:00</p>		<p>Principal Chat 5:30 GRPTO Meeting 6:00</p>		<p>BOE Meeting HS MMC 6:00</p>			
18	No School	19	Day 4	20	Day 5	21	Day 6	22	Day 1
<p>Superintendent's Conference Day</p>								<p>GRPTO Board Game Night IS Café 6:00</p> <p>G<sub>2</sub> A<sub>1</sub> M<sub>3</sub> E<sub>1</sub></p> <p>N<sub>1</sub> I<sub>1</sub> G<sub>2</sub> H<sub>4</sub> T<sub>1</sub></p>	
25	Day 2	26	Day 3	27 Day 4		28	Day 5	29	
				<p>BOE Meeting HS MMC 6:00</p>				<p>No School!</p>	