

HORSEHEADS HIGH SCHOOL “NOTES”



Volume 46 Number 3

Nov/Dec 2023

High School Phone Number: 739-5601

- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Ext. 1600 | Kris Earl | Ext. 1608 | Main Office |
| Ext. 1602 | Dan Buseck | Ext. 1612 | Attendance Office |
| Ext. 1603 | Mike McCawley | Ext. 1630 | Counseling Office |
| Ext. 1618 | George Bacalles | Ext. 1623 | Health Office |

IMPORTANT: PLEASE SUBMIT CENSUS INFORMATION

The district is conducting a census of the entire district to provide important demographic information and to assist in the process of redrawing elementary boundary lines as we prepare to move to three PK-4 schools (Big Flats, Gardner Road, and Ridge Road) in the 2025-26 school year. Please submit your information if you haven't already done so. The census is for the entire district, so we also ask that you encourage neighbors to do the same, even if they do not have children in the district. Here is the link and QR code to the census form: www.Horseheads.fyi/Census or



FREE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

At the beginning of the school year, the USDA approved the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), allowing for free breakfast and lunch for students in grades PK-8. At the time, the High School did not qualify. Since then, the USDA has issued an updated ruling, and we are now providing free breakfast and lunch to students at the High School. Students are eligible to receive one complete lunch and one complete breakfast free of charge. Students must still pay for any a la carte items, a second entrée, or a second meal. Selection of three side items (including milk) constitutes a meal so students who bring their lunch to school can receive free items by selecting three sides. For more information on what constitutes a complete meal or if you have questions, contact our Food Services Office at 607-739-6360.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS/DELAYS INFORMATION

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 freezing temperatures. If the school day is delayed, buses will run and schools will open two hours later than the usual time.

The district announces school closings and delays in a variety of ways:

- Text messaging – Parents/guardians can receive a text message if schools are closed or delayed by opting in to our text messaging service through SchoolMessenger. To opt in, text Y or Yes to 67587. You will receive a text response confirming that you are registered for texting.
- District website at www.horseheadsdistrict.com
- District Facebook pages -the district and all seven schools have pages
- Twitter - @HhdsSchools
- Local television and radio stations:
 - o TV - WENY, WETM, Spectrum Cable News
 - o Radio – WELM 1410AM, WNKI 106.1FM/WPGI 100.9FM, WENY 1230AM/MagicFM 92.7FM/WGMM 98.7

Television and radio stations also put closing/delay information on their websites. Please do not call the radio/TV stations or the District Transportation Office.

Important notes about school closings and delays:

- There may be a time when any of these means of communication do not work due to Internet issues, etc., so we ask that you check more than one of

our communication methods to determine if school is in regular session or not for that day.

- If schools are closed, they will remain closed all day for scheduled activities, including remedial programs, extra-curricular activities, use of facilities by non-school groups, and evening programs.
- When school is delayed, there is no supervision for students until schools open two hours later than the usual time so parents should not drop their children off at school until they open. Additionally, there is no breakfast served on delay days.
- Prekindergarten begins at 10:30am on delay days.
- If a storm develops after school begins, usual procedure is NOT to close school early. This allows time for highway crews to plow and sand and has proved to be less disruptive and confusing than attempting to send students home early.

UNIFIED RAIDERS NEWS

Unified Bowling registration will open in December at Horseheads Athletics link [HCSD Athletics Registration \(horseheadsdistrict.com\) https://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/athleticsregistration.cfm](https://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/athleticsregistration.cfm).

Practices start January 8, 2024, and the season runs through the beginning of March 2024. For more information about Unified Sports: [Unified Raiders \(horseheadsdistrict.com\) https://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/unifiedraiders.cfm](https://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/unifiedraiders.cfm).

Horseheads Esports regular season ends November 16. Playoffs begin the week after Thanksgiving break. Here are the current standings: Mario Kart Team Boo – 2nd, Mario Kart Silver Drifters – 3rd, Mario Kart Squidudes – 5th, Rocket League Rocket Raiders 7th, Rocket League Fire Ants 17th. There are 54 total teams in the Mario Kart Eastern League. There are 27 total teams in the Rocket League Central League.

Unified Raiders participated in a Unified Soccer Culminating Event at Union Endicott on October 18, 2023. Unified Raiders won 2 games and tied 2 games. The teams that participated were: Horseheads, Ithaca, Corning, Elmira, Binghamton, Norwich, and Union Endicott. We had a great time.

On November 9, 2023, we held a Unified Bowling YACTivity in the High School North Gym. Please keep an eye out for future YACTivities. We are planning one in December with Student Council.

Keep an eye out for our upcoming coffee fundraiser. We participated in the Flapjack Fundraiser and Carryout for a Cause fundraisers at Applebee's the first weekend of November.

If you are interested in joining the Youth Activation Committee, please join us at 7:25 AM on Tuesday mornings in the Library Classroom A.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Below are the students chosen for the High School Raiders of the Month for **September** character trait Respect:

Grade 9: **Logan Zurcher, Brayden Walton, Logan Heath, Tommy Klee**

Grade 10: **Kate Rought, Aubrey Howe, Carson Bell**

Grade 11: **Lucas Landowski, Aidyn Bahantka, Megan Wolf, Max Dombrosky, Elijah Friend**

Grade 12: **Christian Hoskins, Calden French, Miles Barnes, Abigail Bennett**

Below are the High School's **October** Raiders of the Month for the character trait Responsibility:

Grade 9: **Cody Bubacz, Marco Cipolla, Bryce Thomas, Emma Berkovich**

Grade 10: **Shalianys Puello Dalmau, Karina Lapierre, Paige Stevens, Megan Hawley**

Grade 11: **Casey Golden, Kaylyn Cook, Lauren Tournour, Amelia Ellison**

Grade 12: **Samir Gulati, Malorie McCarthy, Matt Skroszchnik, Matt Young**

YEARBOOK NEWS

Yearbook 2024 is looking ahhhazing! Online sales have begun. Seniors have submitted their quotes and parents/guardians have received emails regarding senior parent ads (messages and photos). We can't wait to see it in completion!

If there are any questions, please contact Mrs. Lenhardt via email.

HORSEHEADS SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION NEWS

The Horseheads Sister City Association is delighted to announce the 2024 exchange trip with Nakagawa, Japan. Students in 8th-11th grade interested in early summer travel to Japan through the exchange program can pick up an application packet in the school counseling office. Applications are due January 8, 2024.

If you have any questions, please contact Tiffany Bratz (tbratz@horseheadsdistrict.com).

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:

- A student's personally identifiable information will not be sold or released for any commercial purpose;
- 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;
- 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.
- 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.
- Parents have the right to have complaints about possible breaches of student data addressed. Complaints should be directed to the Superintendent of Schools, Hibbard Road, Horseheads, NY 14845.

THE BIG FIVE

In 2008 CSS Workforce NY and the Chemung County Chamber of Commerce's Business Education Roundtable successfully launched The Big Five campaign. Thousands of posters and bookmarks were distributed across Chemung, Schuyler, and Steuben Counties championing five foundational concepts of workforce readiness:

- Be honest
- Show up on time every day
- Be ready for work
- Be willing to learn
- Maintain a good attitude



Though many things have changed since 2008, these basic values are still relevant today. CSS Workforce NY, GST BOCES, and the Chamber's Business Education Roundtable have teamed up to bring Education and Business together to revitalize this initiative and introduce it to a new generation of students and employees.

UPCOMING EVENTS

16-Nov-23	Thursday	Blood Drive	Auditorium	8:00-3:00
17-Nov-23	Friday	Bus Drills	Outside	PE classes
		NYSSMA Sr. High All State	Elmira	2:00
18-Nov-23	Saturday	School on Saturday	Library	8:00-12:00
		NYSSMA Sr. High All State	Elmira	2:00
20-Nov-23	Monday	Senior Picture Make Ups	MMC	8:00-3:00
21-Nov-23	Tuesday	Senior Picture Make Ups	MMC	8:00-3:00
22-Nov-23	Wednesday	No School		
23-Nov-23	Thursday	Thanksgiving (Holiday)		
24-Nov-23	Friday	Thanksgiving (Holiday)		
27-Nov-23	Monday	NHS Induction Ceremony	Auditorium	7:00
2-Dec-23	Saturday	School on Saturday	Library	8:00-12:00
		SAT's	HHS	8:00
4-Dec-23	Monday	Club Photos	Auditorium	7:30-3:00
8-Dec-23	Friday	End of MP3		
9-Dec-23	Saturday	ACT's	HHS	8:00
11-Dec-23	Monday	Beginning of MP4		
12-Dec-23	Tuesday	Orchestra Concert	Auditorium	7:30
15-Dec-23	Friday	Distribution of Report Cards		
16-Dec-23	Saturday	School on Saturday	Library	8:00-12:00
20-Dec-23	Wednesday	Choir Concert	Auditorium	7:30
22-Dec-23	Friday	Christmas (Holiday)		
25-Dec-23	Monday	Christmas (Holiday)		
26-Dec-23	Tuesday	No School		
27-Dec-23	Wednesday	No School		
28-Dec-23	Thursday	No School		
29-Dec-23	Friday	New Year's (Holiday)		
1-Jan-24	Monday	New Year's (Holiday)		
2-Jan-24	Tuesday	No School		

4-Jan-24	Thursday	Sophomore Kick Off Assembly	Auditorium	7:50-8:30
6-Jan-24	Saturday	School on Saturday	Library	8:00-12:00
9-Jan-24	Tuesday	Band Concert	Auditorium	7:30
15-Jan-24	Monday	MLK Day (Holiday)		
16-Jan-24	Tuesday	Boys Swim/Dive Senior Night	Pool	5:00
20-Jan-24	Saturday	School on Saturday	Library	8:00-12:00
22-Jan-24	Monday	End of MP4		
23-Jan-24	Tuesday	Regents Exams		
24-Jan-24	Wednesday	Regents Exams		
25-Jan-24	Thursday	Regents Exams		
26-Jan-24	Friday	Regents Exams		
		Girls Basketball Senior Night	MS	7:15
30-Jan-24	Tuesday	First Day of Second Semester/MP5		
		Distribution of Report Cards		
31-Jan-24	Wednesday	Bowling Senior Night		5:00

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: Learn about up-to-date information about our district on Facebook and Twitter: On Facebook, the district and each of our seven schools have pages. Please "like" them to get the information on your news feed. Follow us on Twitter at @HhdsSchools to read our tweets.

NOTICE: The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for Horseheads High School is Mike McCawley. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student should be referred to Mr. McCawley 739-5601, ext. 1603. The Dignity Act Coordinator for the Horseheads Central School District is Caitlin DeFilippo. Mrs. DeFilippo may be reached at Hibbard Road, Horseheads, NY 14845, 607-739-5601, x4211.

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, Hibbard Road, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607)739-5601. This policy of non-discrimination includes access by students to educational programs, counseling services, course offerings, and activities, as well as recruitment and appointment of employees and employment pay, benefits, advancement and/or termination. The following person(s) has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Caitlin DeFilippo, Director of Human Resources, cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com, Hibbard Road, Horseheads Central School District, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601 and US Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, LBJ Department of Education Building, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington DC 20202-1100, (800) 421-3481.



**Office of
Children and
Family Services**

**To report child
abuse or neglect:**

Call toll free

1-800-342-3720

or

ocfs.ny.gov/main/cps



Horseheads Central School District
143 Hibbard Road • Horseheads, NY 14845
607-739-5601, x4295

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We need your input.

Please respond to the Horseheads Central School District Census at the link or QR code below — even if you do not have children in our schools.

We need your response as we prepare to shift to three elementary schools in the 2025-2026 school year.

To respond, visit:

[Horseheads.fyi/Census](https://horseheads.fyi/Census)



What is the census?

The Horseheads Central School District regularly conducts a district-wide census. This year's census is especially important because the information we receive will assist us in developing elementary school boundary lines as we shift to three elementary schools - Big Flats, Gardner Road, and Ridge Road - at the start of the 2025-26 school year.

Why is Center Street Elementary closing?

After careful consideration of the educational experience of our students and the state of our buildings, the district made the decision to move to three elementary schools. The community supported this plan with the passing of the referendum on December 7, 2021. As one of the oldest buildings in the district, Center Street would require significant construction to upgrade the building to current state standards for an educational space for students. The building is safe for students as it is now, but any additional construction would require asbestos and lead abatement, incurring significant costs that would not be completely covered through state aid. The plan approved by voters includes phasing out Center Street for student use, but keeping the building for district offices and community use.

Which school will my child attend?

The district is working with a demographer to redraw the elementary school attendance boundary lines from four buildings to three. Your response on this census assists the demographer team with redrawing more balanced boundary lines that send students to the school closest to home when possible. A decision regarding the new boundary lines is expected by Summer 2024.

To submit your information, visit:

[Horseheads.fyi/Census](https://horseheads.fyi/Census)



If you would like a printed version of the census form or have a question, please email hts@horseheadsdistrict.com.





NYS Digital Resources Family Questionnaire

SchoolTool Parent Portal Instructions

Dear Horseheads Central School District Parents and Guardians:

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) requires that districts send a digital resources questionnaire to parents and guardians. This information is meant to assist the state and districts in providing resources to students and families. NYSED asks that you complete a questionnaire for each student in grades K-12 in your family. You can access the questionnaire by logging in to the Parent Portal at <http://gst1.schooltool.com/horseheads> and following the instructions below. If you do not yet have a Parent Portal account, you can request one using this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/zmB1NAWB8u>. If you have questions, please contact your school office. Thank you.

If using the mobile app
 (<http://gst1.schooltool.com/horseheads>): After logging in, tap FORMS at the top of the screen.

Student

NYS Digital Resources Family Questionnaire + Add Help

- From drop-down menu, select NYS Digital Resources Family Questionnaire.
- Click on the green plus icon to open the survey.

- Leave Start Date set to current date.
- Select appropriate response from drop-down menu next to each question.
- Click on the green save disk to save and submit your responses.
- Return to Home Screen, complete Survey for all students in the household.

Student

NYS Digital Resources Family Questionnaire Save Cancel Help

Start Date: 9/27/2022 End Date: 9/27/2022

Collecting accurate data regarding digital resource access for our New York students will greatly help educators to better serve their students and families. In order to accomplish this, the New York State Education Department is asking parents or guardians to complete a Digital Equity survey (for each student in the family) in grades Kindergarten – Grade 12. This survey will provide information on student access to devices and internet access in their places of residence. To assist us in this process, please answer each question below to the best of your ability and follow any additional instructions provided for submitting or returning the survey.

Thank you for your time and cooperation.

NOTE: You must answer at least one question for this survey to be valid.

Did the school district issue your child a dedicated school or district-owned device for their use during the school year?:
 None

What is the device your child uses most often to complete learning activities away from school? (This can be a school-provided device or another device, whichever the student is most often using to complete their schoolwork.)
 None

Who is the provider of the primary learning device identified in Question 2? (This can be a school-provided device or another device, whichever the student is most often using to complete their schoolwork.)
 None

Is the primary learning device (identified in Question 2) shared with anyone else in the household?:
 None

Is the primary learning device (identified in Question 2) sufficient for your child to fully participate in all learning activities away from school?:
 None

Is your child able to access the internet in their primary place of residence?:
 None

What is the primary type of internet service used in your child's primary place of residence?:
 None

In their primary residence, can your child complete the full range of learning activities, including video streaming and assignment upload, without interruptions caused by slow or poor internet performance?:
 None

What, if any, is the primary barrier to having sufficient and reliable internet access in your child's primary place of residence?:
 None