

The School Connection



Principal's Post

Horseheads Intermediate School

Spring has officially arrived! Although the temperatures are still inconsistent, it has been decent enough to get outside once in a while. It has been so refreshing especially after the challenges of the past year.

As we head into spring break, I wanted to share a few important pieces of information. We hope you find some time to relax and enjoy the time together over the next week. Spring Break is an important time to slow down and recharge your batteries. We encourage students to continue reading and staying active throughout the break. Please encourage your child to read at least 30 minutes and get an hour or more of physical activity. This will keep them in good shape for their return to us on April 12th.

As of right now, the NYS tests are still going to be given in ELA and Math. The state has reduced the tests down to one day for ELA and one day for Math. There is more information on page 2 and in the separate attachment sent with this newsletter.

After spring break, the school year tends to fly throughout the 4th marking period. Please continue to encourage your child to attend classes live, complete all assignments, and check in on how they're doing using itslearning and Parent Portal. This year, while full of challenges, has been an incredible time for everyone to show the incredible strength, determination, and perseverance. I am extremely proud of our staff for their commitment to providing an amazing education under the circumstance, of our students for their efforts in navigating the struggles with great persistence at their young age, and our parents for the unwavering support and flexibility you have provided.

Thank you for all you do to support your child in his/her education. The time you devote to reading with them, helping with homework/projects, or even just ensuring their best quality work, is an investment that will pay off in the future. **Check out the article to the right for 87 things you can do at home together as a family.** If you have any questions, feel free to reach out.

Yours in education,

Michael Bostwick
Principal

Follow me on Twitter: Michael Bostwick@[M_Bostwick](#)
School Hashtag: [#ISinnovators](#)
Like us on Facebook: Search Horseheads Intermediate School
Website: <http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/HHIS.cfm>

"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."
- Benjamin Franklin

April 2021
Volume 9 Issue 8

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[Parent Article](#)

ATTENTION!

Parent Resources
on IS website.

"Thank you for all you do to support your child in his/her education"

Mark Your Calendars!

- Friday 4/2 – 4/11:** NO SCHOOL – SPRING BREAK
- Tuesday, April 13th:** PTO Meeting, 6:30 PM, via Zoom
- Thursday, April 15th:** Board of Education Budget Workshop, 6:00 PM, via Zoom
- Wed, April 21st:** Board of Education Meeting, 6:00 PM, via Zoom
- April ?:** NYS Gr 5-6 ELA Assessments (see page 2 and separate attachment)
- Friday, April 23rd:** Report Cards Go Home

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

1. **State Testing Information:** The New York State ELA Test has been reduced to one day only and is scheduled for April 19 (Cohort A) and April 22 (Cohort B) or April 22 only if we are in a 4/5 day model. The NYS Math Test is scheduled for May 3 (Cohort A) and May 6 (Cohort B) or May 6 only if we are in a 4/5 day model.
2. **25 BOOK GOAL** - We are quickly approaching that time of year for the completion of reading 25 books. We will have a special recognition for those students who achieve this goal. Each teacher has a system in place for students to report that they have met the 25 Book requirement. Please encourage your child to report to his or her teacher any books read so far this year.
3. **Dress Code Reminders:** With warmer weather, hopefully on its way, it is time to review our dress code. Brief garments such as halter tops, spaghetti straps, net tops, tube tops, midriff bearing, or see-through garments are not appropriate. Undergarments should be completely covered with outer clothing. Footwear that is a safety hazard will not be allowed—this includes flip flops. Sandals and slip on shoes on the playground equipment also pose a safety concern. Shorts should be a comfortable length and fit appropriately. On cool days, students should dress appropriately for the temperature. Thank you for your cooperation in adhering to this code. Additionally, for health reasons, sprays, perfumes, etc. should not be brought to school.
4. We encourage students to **bring healthy drinks** rather than soda for snack or lunch. High caffeine energy drinks such as Monster, Red Bull, etc. are not permitted. **Healthy snacks that are low in sugar** allow students to focus better and maintain their attention span. No glass bottles please!
5. **Presidential Service Awards:** As the end of the school year is approaching, 6th grade students who meet the criteria for the 50, 75 or 100 hours awards and wish to receive their award at the Grade 6 Awards Ceremony will need to have their final log for the school year turned into the IS Office by Friday, May 7, 2021 in order to ensure the arrival of awards. Grade 5 students who meet the criteria will have their awards presented to them here at school. All 5th and 6th grade students who wish to continue working toward the award may do so through June 30, 2021. These log hours need to be dropped off in the IS Office by July 2, 2021. Awards will be available for students in September of 2021. Please contact the IS Office should you have any questions. [Click here](#) for more information and service logs.
6. **5th Grade & New Entrant Required NYS Physical Exam:** New York State requires that physical/health examinations be performed for all new students to the District AND for all students that are entering grades **Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, Grades 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, and 11th**. If you have a child entering any of these grades this fall, please contact your physician to schedule an appointment and make sure you send a copy to the school. Effective January 21, 2021, all physical health examinations must be documented on the [Required New York State School Health Examination Form \(nysed.gov\)](#). You may print a copy and bring it with you to your providers office.
7. **6th grade Required Tdap Vaccine:** NYS requires 6th graders who are 11 years old to have a Tdap vaccine. This vaccine must be given no earlier than 10 years of age and no later than 11 years of age. For 6th grade students who are 11 years old, proof of this vaccine must be received within 14 calendar days of the start of the 2021-2022 school year. You may receive this vaccine at your primary provider's office or the Chemung County Public Health Department by calling 607-737-2028. For questions, please call Robyn Torgalski, your Intermediate School Nurse at 607-739-6366(3) or email rtorgalski@horseheadsdistrict.com.
8. **SUMMER SPORTS PHYSICALS 2021:** Summer Sports Physicals will be Tuesday, June 29th, 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM and Wednesday, July 7th, 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Registration for physicals will be open Saturday, May 1st on Family ID. Due to construction, location is to be determined.

Check out some online learning resources using our library website! There are databases, electronic book sign-out, and many learning resources for home. [Linked here](#). If you have questions, please contact our librarian, Stephanie Lewis SLewis@horseheadsdistrict.com

2021-2022 Budget Development

The Board of Education and District are currently developing the Proposed 2021-2022 School Budget. The global pandemic, now nearing a year, has led to a challenging time for budgets in our district, nation, state and homes. The Board will continue Budget Development at their next several meetings until the final adoption of the Budget to be offered to voters on May 18th. All meetings begin at 6:00 PM and are held via zoom with live streaming. Here is the schedule:

- Thursday, February 25th – Regular Meeting
- Thursday, March 4th – Budget Workshop
- Thursday, March 18th – Regular Meeting
- Thursday, April 15th – Budget Workshop
- Wednesday, May 5th – Tentative Board Candidates' Forum
- Thursday, May 6th – Public Hearing on 2021-2022 Budget

The **Budget Vote/Board of Education Election** is **Tuesday, May 18th, 7:00 AM-9:00 PM, in the High School South Gym.**

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

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

ATTENTION PARENTS!!!

We are always looking for interested parents who would like to help out with school events. That could be as simple as chaperoning an event or working at the Book Fair.

Everyone is also welcome to join our PTO meetings listed on the district calendar.

Please contact the school or one of the officers if interested. We appreciate your support and value the partnership!

Intermediate School PTO Officers (2020-2021)

President:	Gretchen Ferraro	gferraro2010@gmail.com	425-2603
VP:	Angela Sullivan	Aksullivan624@gmail.com	518-708-4288
Treasurer:	Danielle Richardson	dani0227@aol.com	425-6896
Secretary:	Denise Trondsen	dtrondsen@outlook.com	742-9051



REMINDER FOR 6TH GRADE PARENTS

It is time for us to begin our scheduling process for the 2021-2022 school year. Most of your student's schedule is mandated by New York State regulations. However, some students will be recommended for acceleration in art, choir, math and/or band.

Our school counselors schedule all accelerated courses based on teacher recommendations.

In preparation for scheduling, we need your student's course preferences in foreign language and music. Students participating in Resource Room will not take a language until 8th grade. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey at the link below. It is only a few questions and it will help us develop your student's schedule for next year. The survey will ask the following questions:

- 1. Student Name*
- 2. Choose Spanish IA or French IA*
- 3. Choose Choir, General Music or Continue with *Band or *Orchestra*

**Students currently enrolled in orchestra or band will be recommended to continue next year. However, if you no longer wish to continue with band or orchestra, please choose either choir or general music.*

Link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpOLScsREUjcoedHjDRT0ullBu7WKgzMKSv5jd8iEX7cZK7CnyPEQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Student schedules will be available the last week of August. If you have any questions, please call our guidance office at 739-6357.

Sincerely,



Ron Holloway – Horseheads Middle School Principal

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 in children are vomiting, diarrhea, nausea, stomachache, fever or chills, cough, nasal congestion, runny nose, loss of taste or smell, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, headache, muscle/body aches, fatigue, sore throat. Any of these symptoms must be reported to the school health office as soon as they develop.

The District must follow NYS requirements in regard to safety protocols. Please review the attached district [Safety Protocols3.pdf](#).

Daily Staywell Surveys should be answered for your student for each day they are scheduled for an in-person school day.

CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

The Horseheads Central School District is looking for interested individuals for several job positions: Cleaner, Bus Driver, Food Service Worker, as well as Substitute Clerical, Nurse, Cleaner and Food Service Worker. We seek candidates who are 18 or older, including retired community members. To apply, complete our District Application and submit it to Human Resources, South Wing of the High School. The District Application may be found here:

<http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/uploadeddocs/application.pdf> or picked up at our Human Resources Office. Questions? Email us at hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

RATES FOR SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

The District needs certified teachers for day-to-day substituting opportunities in all of our schools. Certified substitutes receive a rate of \$105 per day. To apply, contact the Human Resources Office at 739-5601 x 4211.

PRINCIPAL CHATS

Mr. Bostwick normally holds Principal Chats several times a year as a way to ask questions and get to know the procedures of the school. These have been cancelled due to the pandemic and rules about school visitors. If you have any questions or concerns, reach out to him directly.



Keep hoarding pull tabs and thank you for your donations! **Get others involved** – ask your friends, neighbors, and family members to collect! Pull tabs can be brought to the office.

CHARACTER TRAIT AND

HABIT OF MIND OF THE MONTH

Character Trait: **Responsibility**

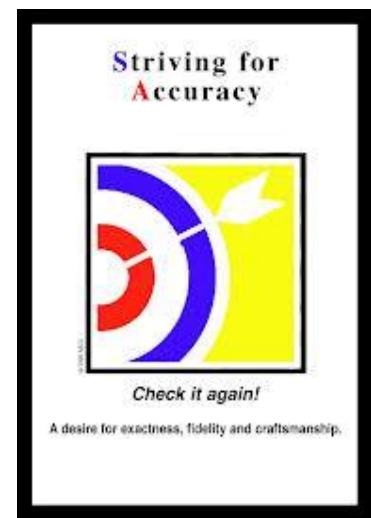
- Do what you are supposed to do
- Plan ahead
- Persevere: Keep on trying!
- Always do your best
- Use self-control
- Be self-disciplined
- Think before you act — consider the consequences
- Be accountable for your words, actions, and attitudes
- Set a good example for others

The Habit of Mind:

Striving for Accuracy: An important part of being able to Strive for Accuracy is understanding what your goals are - what quality looks like. The person who strives for accuracy has a goal in mind and checks their progress against that goal.

Successful people who strive for accuracy take time to **check** their product. They desire and value **craftsmanship**! They take **pride** in their work.

Keep **trying** and **checking...trying** and **checking...trying** and **checking...until** you make it the best you can.



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 143 Hibbard Rd, Horseheads, NY 14845; 607-739-5601, x4211.

The Horseheads Central School District has a Safe Schools Line for students, parents, and community to use to report rumors, tips, or other items of concern regarding District schools. The service is available twenty-four hours, seven days a week. All calls are anonymous, unless the caller wishes to leave his/her name. The tip line numbers are 795-2044 and 1-800-305-4984 (toll free).

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, 143 Hibbard Rd., Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.

Join the Horseheads Central School District as a School Bus Driver

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



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

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

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

Questions?

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

