

The School Connection



Horseheads Intermediate School

Principal's Post

It seems hard to believe that we are already into the month of December. November always flies by so quickly from an educational perspective. It is a busy, yet short month.

Thank you to all who supported the PTO Believe fundraiser and to those who spent their time organizing the event. Any money we make goes directly back to the school toward field trips, PTO activities, technology, classroom supplies, and much more.

Fifth and sixth grade students are participating in their Adventure Based Learning (ABL) experiences. ABL is a building-wide initiative which focuses on teamwork, collaboration, and problem-solving. Students learn how to strategically think through problems in an effort to find logical solutions with the intent of developing these skills for real-world scenarios.

Please continue to value your child's attendance at school. Arriving on time to school and scheduling vacations/appointments outside of school hours, makes a tremendous difference in the academic progress of students. I also ask you to keep your child's mind and body active during winter break. Exercise, reading, journaling, and problem-solving/brain teasers have been shown to be great methods in staying fresh during school breaks.

Please encourage your child to participate in community service with our Presidential Community Service program. If you need more information or the service logs, [click here](#).

Check out the article to the right about 6 ways to help your child become a **quality reader**. Thank you for your support, and I wish you a very Happy Holiday season!

Yours in education,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Bostwick".

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>

December 2021
Volume 10 Issue 4

Inside this issue:

Principal's Post	1
Calendar Dates	2
Informational Items	2
Visions and Voices	3
Variety Show Info	4
Classifieds	5

Parent Article

ATTENTION!
[Parent Resources](#)
on IS website.

"At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents."
- Jane D. Hull

"Please continue to value your child's attendance at school."

Mark Your Calendars!

Tuesday, December 7th:	Capital Project Vote, 7:00 AM-9:00 PM, HS South Gym
Thursday, December 16th:	Board of Education Meeting, HS Auditorium, 6:00 PM
Monday, December 20th:	6 th Grade Concert, HS Auditorium, 6:30 and 7:15 PM (see below)
Tuesday, December 21st:	5 th Grade Concert, HS Auditorium, 6:30 and 7:15 PM (see below)
Fri., 12/24th – Fri., 12/31st:	No School – Winter Recess
Tuesday, January 11th:	Parent/Principal Chat, 9:00 AM, Cafeteria, 6:00 PM, IS Library
Tuesday, January 11th:	PTO Meeting, 6:30 PM, IS Library

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

1. Our **Winter Music Concerts** are back on for this year! With the need to space out more for a layer of extra precaution, we will be performing in two waves. Orchestra and Band will start at 6:30 PM. Performers should arrive by 6 PM. The chorus performances will begin at 7:15 PM so students who are only in chorus should arrive by 6:45 PM. More information will be coming out in a separate email.
2. The Intermediate School staff gratefully declines Christmas gifts this Holiday Season. Instead, we encourage you to help those in need or less fortunate by donating to your favorite charity. Applications for assistance from the Arctic League are available in the Office and were sent home with all students.
3. Students should NOT be dropped off in the morning along the road or while the car is in line to drop off. Drop off is at the curb in front of the Intermediate School Main Entrance door. Be sure to pull up as far as you can so that many students can be dropped off at a time. Thank you for adhering to this important safety procedure. Drop off time cannot be earlier than 7:40 AM.
4. A study has found that **irregular bedtimes** can lead to behavioral problems. [Click here.](#)
5. We will have a **Canned Food Drive** for our local Horseheads Food Pantry sometime in late winter or early spring when their supplies often run low.
6. Reminder that recess is outside when weather permits. Please be sure that your child wears an appropriate jacket.
7. We thank all the parents who participated in **Parent Teacher Conferences** in November. Communication with home is essential. Please contact your child's homeroom teacher to monitor your child's progress throughout the year or if you have any other questions. Parent Portal is always available as well.
8. Please encourage your child to **read at home**. Our Goal is for all students to read three books each month in order to reach the 4K Book Challenge for the year.
9. **Report Cards:** Grades for Art, Music, and PE are not weighted in the overall average. Our Honor Roll recognizes students on 3 tiers. Students who had a grade point average of 85.0 – 89.99 made Honor Roll, High Honors is 90.0 – 94.99, and Distinguished Honors is 95.0 or higher. Students cannot fail a class and still make the honor roll. Congratulations to all honor roll students!
10. **Digital Equity Survey**
The state is requiring districts to survey families regarding access to internet and digital devices at home. One of the reasons the state is seeking this information is for possible assistance to municipalities on internet and broadband access. We ask that you go to your Parent Portal account (at this link: <https://schooltool.horseheadsdistrict.com/sthhWeb/default.aspx>) and complete the survey for each child in your household. [Click here](#) for more information and instructions.



Visions and Voices, Horseheads' district-wide publication of student work, is now accepting submissions. Students and parents/guardians can submit student work including drawings, paintings, photography, sculpture photos, poetry, short stories, comics, etc. Send to cbell@horseheadsdistrict.com by March 5th. Please include student's full name, school, and grade. If you have questions, contact Mr. Bell at the address above.

View a video about Visions and Voices at this link: <https://youtu.be/7hlqpNOsIPs>

CREATIVE GIFTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Need some gift ideas for your Intermediate School student? How about some new art supplies to help keep them creative and productive over the break. Here is a short list of quality well priced art supplies and tools you can pick up. If you have questions or want more suggestions, contact Mr. Bell at cbell@horseheadsdistrict.com.

 <p>8.5x11 Hardbound Sketchbook \$8 - \$12 (Hobby Lobby)</p>	 <p>Watercolor Paint Set \$1 - \$5 (Hobby Lobby)</p>	 <p>Colored Pencils \$3 - \$10 (Hobby Lobby)</p>	 <p>Darice 80-Piece Deluxe Art Set \$15.99 (amazon.com)</p>
 <p>How to Draw Comics the Marvel Way \$13 (amazon.com)</p>	 <p>Drawing for the Absolute Beginner \$15 (amazon.com)</p>	 <p>Ed Emberley's Drawing Book of Animals \$7 (amazon.com)</p>	 <p>How to Draw Nearly Everything \$10 (amazon.com)</p>

Intermediate School PTO Officers (2021-2022)

I'd like to introduce you to our PTO Officers for the 2021-2022 school year. Please attend our meetings held in the Library at 6:30 PM most often on the second Tuesday of the month.

President:	Gretchen Ferraro	gfferraro2010@gmail.com	425-2603
VP:	Angela Sullivan	Aksullivan624@gmail.com	518-708-4288
Treasurer:	Denise Trondsen	dtrondsen@outlook.com	742-9051
Secretary:	Beth Manwaring	bmanwaring@elmiracityschools.com	329-8713



Thank you to our Veterans!

We'd like to thank our Veterans for your sacrifice and dedication to our country. We are sad that we couldn't invite you in for something more personal, but we look forward to continuing our tradition next year. Most importantly, we'd like to thank all Veterans for protecting our freedoms and country!

Thank You, Veterans



Horseheads Schools



GOT TALENT? SHOW OFF YOUR STUFF!

HORSEHEADS INTERMEDIATE VARIETY SHOW

FEBRUARY 10TH, 6:00 PM, HS AUDITORIUM

Sing, dance, flip, magic, jokes, etc. Students may enter the show with one individual or group act. More information will be given in January when sheets will be sent home to sign up!

More information to come! Start thinking about how you can show-off your talent!



CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

Substitute Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Substitute RNs and Bus Drivers needed for per diem work during the school year.

Teaching Substitutes must meet the following criteria: 1) An Associates' Degree or higher; OR 2) completion of at least 2 years of College; OR 3) Graduated from High School for at least 4 years and completed at least 12 college credits; OR 4) an Honorable Discharge from the military.

Sub RNs should bring in evidence of their license.

Sub Bus Drivers – Training will be included

Apply in person at Human Resources

or email: hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com for more information.

Apply in person at the address below:

Human Resources Office
Horseheads Central School District
143 Hibbard Rd. Big Flats, NY

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.

CHARACTER TRAIT AND 'HABIT OF MIND' OF THE MONTH

Character Trait: Caring is being kind • being compassionate and showing you care • expressing gratitude • forgiving others • helping people in need.

- Have your child perform 1 selfless deed per day
- Help care for pets
- Perform Community Service

The Habit of Mind: Thinking Flexibly. Flexible thinking means finding more than one way to do something. It means stretching what you know enough to make an educated guess that could be right. It is about finding out what you need to know and problem solving. Being a flexible thinker will give your child the tools they need to thrive in school now and in the future.

Attention!

PRINCIPAL CHATS

September 21st, **January 11th**, and April 19th
9:00 AM in the Cafeteria 6:00 – 6:30PM in the Library

SAFE SCHOOLS LINE

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 gender, race, color, national origin or disability. 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 Road, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.

Michael Bostwick is the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Coordinator at the Intermediate School. Caitlin DeFilippo is the DASA Coordinator for the District. All concerns regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying should be directed accordingly.

Capital Project Vote

**Tuesday, December 7
7 a.m. - 9 p.m.**

Horseheads High School South Gym

Safety protocols will be followed • Masks required

Who is eligible to vote?

All district residents are eligible to vote (both renters and homeowners), as long as 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 on December 7
- Are not restricted from voting in general elections based on election law

Please note: You do not have to be registered in general elections or own property in order to vote.

Questions? Call 739-5601, x4260.



NYS Digital Equity Survey

SchoolTool Parent Portal Instructions

Dear Horseheads Central School District Parents and Guardians:

The New York State Education Department is asking parents/guardians to complete a Digital Equity Survey for each student in the family in grades Kindergarten-12. The survey asks about internet and device access at home. Collecting accurate data about digital resource access will help educators to better serve students and families. We ask that you complete a survey for each child in your household by going to your Parent Portal account (at this link: <https://schooltool.horseheadsdistrict.com/sthhWeb/default.aspx>) and following the directions below. If you have questions, please contact your school office or email hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com. Thank you.

- Leave Start Date set to current date.
- Leave End Date blank.
- 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 household.



2021-22 Census Update

Note: If you've already completed this form for another building, please disregard.

Have you had a new addition to your family? For future planning purposes, the Horseheads Central School District would like to know of all children in your home **under the age of 6 that are not currently enrolled** in a Horseheads district school building. If more than 3 children, please complete a second form. Please complete this information as soon as possible and email it to hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com or print it and send it to school with your child. Thank you!

Parent Names: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Child's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Limited English Proficiency? Yes _____ No _____

Special Needs (if applicable) _____

Child's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Limited English Proficiency? Yes _____ No _____

Special Needs (if applicable) _____

Child's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Limited English Proficiency? Yes _____ No _____

Special Needs (if applicable) _____

Please complete this form as soon as possible and email it to hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com or send it to school with your child. Thank you!