

# The School Connection



## Horseheads Intermediate School

### Principal's Post

I hope the new year has been treating you well so far. It has been so nice to have consistency throughout the month of January for students and their learning, despite some frigid cold days.

I'd like to first thank you all for working together and being supportive as we continue to progress through the school year. As educators, we realize the importance of solid instruction so that students can learn to the best of their abilities. Yet, nothing is more important to us than the social, emotional, and mental well-being of every single student. While no one can deny, each year poses its challenges, we strive to explore ways to look after our students' overall wellbeing and engage them in learning. However, we cannot do it without your help! Please continue to encourage your child with positive messages of how much you believe in them. Check on their assignments, work completion, and reach out to their teachers if they are struggling in any way.

Email is a very efficient, effective, and cost-savings way of staying informed. If you do not have your email address registered to receive school information, please contact the Main Office to be added to the list or email ([cmaine@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:cmaine@horseheadsdistrict.com)). Many school reminders and information are sent home via email unless you specifically request a paper copy. Other great ways of staying informed are by following our school on Facebook. Join the digital connection!

Check out the parent article below called *Nine Steps to More Effective Parenting*. Let's face it fellow parents, we could all use a little parenting advice from time to time, but especially now amidst pre-teen struggles. If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me via email or phone.

Yours in education,

Michael Bostwick  
Principal

**Connect with me on X:** Michael Bostwick@[M\\_Bostwick](https://twitter.com/M_Bostwick)  
**School Hashtag:** [#Sinnovators](https://twitter.com/#Sinnovators)  
**Like us on facebook:** Search Horseheads Intermediate School  
**Website:** <http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/HHIS.cfm>

February 2025  
Volume 13 Issue 6

#### Inside this issue:

Principal's Post	1
Calendar Dates	2
Informational Items	2
Black History Month	3
News from the Health Office	4
Artsonia	5
Website Information	6
Classifieds	7

#### [Parent Article](#)

#### **ATTENTION!**

[Parent Resources](#)  
on IS website.

*"While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is all about." - Author Unknown.*

**Explore · Empower · Excel**

*"Nothing is more important to us than the social, emotional, and mental well-being of every single student."*

## Mark Your Calendars!

<b>Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Spirit Day - Looke Alike Day
<b>Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup>:</b>	IS Variety Show 1 <sup>st</sup> Audition (Practice), 2:30 PM-4:00 PM, IS Cafetorium
<b>Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>:</b>	PTO Meeting, 6:00 PM, Library
<b>Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Strings Showcase, 7:00 PM, IS Cafetorium
<b>Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>:</b>	IS Variety Show 2 <sup>nd</sup> Audition (Practice), 2:30 PM-4:00 PM, IS Cafetorium
<b>Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Board of Education Meeting, 6:00 PM, HHS Multi-Media Center
<b>Mon., Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>:</b>	No School – Presidents' Day Recess
<b>Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>:</b>	IS Variety Show Dress Rehearsal, 2:30 PM until finished, IS Cafetorium
<b>Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>:</b>	IS Variety Show, 6:00 PM, IS Cafetorium
<b>Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Board of Education Budget Meeting, 6:00 PM, HHS Multi-Media Center

## Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

1. Please be aware that when you are attending any after school events, you cannot park in the fire lanes, block hydrants or block exits at any of our school buildings. This includes the lanes in the front of the IS/MS complex. This is a State Education Department law in which our local enforcement officers may ticket vehicles who are in violation of it. Please adhere to the stop sign when you are exiting the rear parking lot.
2. **Ferocious Readers:** Please encourage your child to read daily. This will certainly build their reading skills, increase ability, and help them reach the 4K page goal. Each Intermediate School child is challenged to read three grade level books each month for a total of approximately 4-thousand pages for the year. Help your child reach the 4K page challenge by going to the library, reading together, and discovering books your child will enjoy.
3. Please continue to save aluminum can pull tabs to benefit the Ronald McDonald House.
4. Intermediate School Parent Information Night and Self-Guided Tour, *for incoming 4<sup>th</sup> grade families*, is scheduled for April 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM, IS Cafetorium.
5. 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).

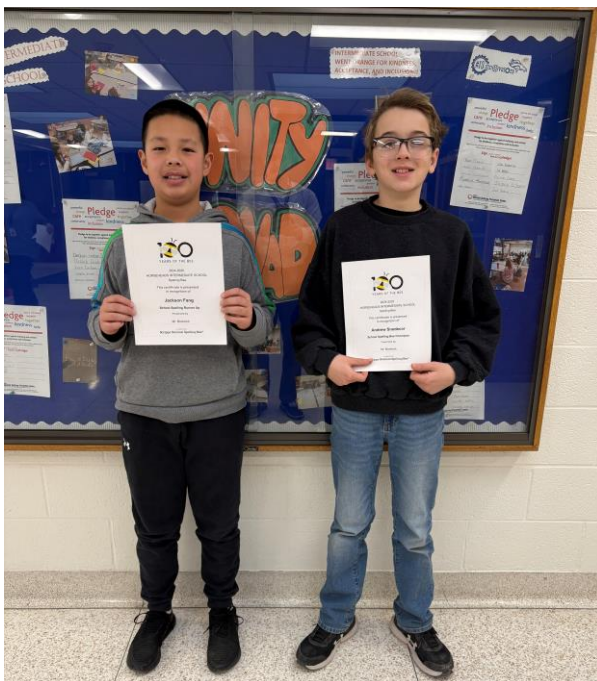


**Office of Children and Family Services**



Black History Month first began as Negro History Week in 1926, when Carter G. Woodson desired to ring the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass together as a cohesive celebration. It morphed into a wider observance as popularity grew, notably by young Black college students in the 1960s. Now, Black History Month is marked by special curriculums, performances, art and events to remember the history of Black people in America.

Now more than ever, we need to celebrate diversity as a step toward reunifying our nation and our people. Join me in honoring the past heroes in the black community such as Dr. Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks, as well as everyone currently fighting for global equity.



Congratulations to our school Spelling Bee champion, Andrew Snedecor! He was our winner after a grueling back and forth battle with runner up, Jackson Fang. Both students will represent the Intermediate School at the Regional Spelling Bee on March 8<sup>th</sup>! The winner of the regional bee will go to Washington D.C. for the national Scripps Spelling Bee. Good luck students!

**Spelling Bee Champs!**

## INFORMATION REGARDING VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS!



Dear Sixth Grade Parent/Guardian,

All children must receive the immunizations required by New York State Law Section 2164 to attend school. You are receiving this letter because your child will require additional immunizations to enter 6<sup>th</sup> grade. All 6<sup>th</sup> grade students must receive a booster dose of the **Tdap immunization**.

The Tdap immunization is for tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis (whooping cough). This requirement has been in place since 2016.

**You must provide proof of immunization. The required immunizations can be obtained from your primary care provider (PCP)/pediatrician.**

In limited circumstances immunizations may also be obtained from the Chemung County Health Department. For more information on requirements contact the health department at: (607) 737-2488.

**The immunization must be given no earlier than 10 years of age and no later than 11 years of age.**

Student Age	When is proof of immunization required?
Students who are <b>11 years old when entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade</b>	Proof of immunization must be received <b>within 14 calendar days of the start of school (by September 22, 2025), or your child will be unable to attend school until proof of immunization is received.</b>
Students who are <b>10 years old when entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade</b>	Proof of immunization must be received within 14 calendar days of <b>turning 11 years old</b> and will be tracked accordingly.

Acceptable forms of proof of immunization (documentation) include:

An electronic health record from your provider's office, an immunization certificate signed or stamped by your health care provider, a record issued by NYSIIS or CIR, an official immunization registry from another state or foreign country if applicable.

**You may email this information to [tсенаторе@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:tсенаторе@horseheadsdistrict.com), fax to the office at (607) 795-2495, or drop it off at the Intermediate School.**

To learn more about this and other immunization requirements in New York State visit, [www.health.ny.gov/immunize](http://www.health.ny.gov/immunize).

If you have further questions, please contact the Intermediate School Main Office at (607) 739-6366. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Michael Bostwick  
Principal

Tracy Senatore  
RN

## ***Reminders From the Art Rooms***

Dear Horseheads Intermediate Family and Friends,

The school year has been flying by and we're already knee deep in the winter season. The students have been creating some really incredible projects in class and we are so impressed with their skills and creativity. We hope you're following along with them throughout the school year on [Artsonia](#). Artsonia is a great resource for seeing what is going on in the Art Rooms, watching your student's growth over the course of the year, and it's also an opportunity to get some great mementos with your child's work on it. If you have any questions about accessing Artsonia or your child's account, please don't hesitate to contact Angela Niforatos or Victoria Hamilton here at the Intermediate School. All the proceeds from the website directly benefit us here and help us get supplies to keep doing great work!

We also wanted to send out a reminder that Visions & Voices, the Horseheads School District's annual magazine of student art and literature, is coming out again this year. We would love to showcase your students' work. It can be drawing, painting, sculpture, poetry, or written prose. Work doesn't just have to be something that they've done in class. Submit artwork digitally to:

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

As always, we thank you for your support and are looking forward to showing off all the great work from the students in the upcoming Art Show in the spring!

Thank you!

Angela Niforatos

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

Victoria Hamilton

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

Art Teachers



## District Website

Check out the school district's website. It's interactive, appealing, and provides an easier way to access a variety of information. There are many resources including:

- Individual school information
- Calendar of events
- Upcoming events
- Closing advisories
- Newsletters
- Data Center
- School links
- District information
- BOE Education resources
- ...and much more!

**HORSEHEADS**  
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

EXPLORE  
EMPOWER  
EXCEL

Big Flats Center Street Gardner Road Ridge Road Intermediate School Middle School High School

Home About Us Calendar Academics Board of Education Departments Community Employees

**Two hour delay Monday, January 23, 2023**  
*There is a two hour delay today (Monday, January 23, 2023) due to weather. PREK begins at 10:30 a.m. Be safe!*

**2022-23 School Calendar**

Selecting a new image to represent the **Horseheads Blue Raiders**  
Submissions due 1/31/23

**Update from the Superintendent**  
COVID 19 Weekly Update

**Quicklinks**  
Canvas  
Office 365  
American Rescue Plan Information  
Annual Notifications  
APPR Notice  
Athletics  
Budget Information 2022-23  
Calendar 2022-23  
Capital Project Vote 12-7-21  
Code of Conduct  
Community Use of Facilities  
Contact Us  
District Comprehensive Improvement Plan  
District Guidance Plan  
District Newsletters  
Employment  
Financial Information  
Forms  
Library  
Medicaid Compliance

**News**  
Two hour delay Monday, January 23, 2023  
Selecting a new image for the Blue Raiders  
Update from the Superintendent  
Health positions available  
Digital Resources Family Questionnaire  
Parents can opt in to text messaging for school closings/delays  
Fight Flu  
Live stream home sports contests  
Free/Reduced Meals Application  
2022-23 School Calendar  
Guthrie provides health resource to students

**JANUARY 2023**

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

All dates are tentative and are subject to change.  
Mouse over bold dates to see events.  
Full Online Calendar  
Single Page 2022-23 Calendar  
This calendar includes district-wide events, school holidays and conference days, and evening events in our schools. For more specific dates and events in schools, including picture days and fundraising information, please go to the specific school's site for that school's calendar.

January 23, 2023  
Spring Showcase, 7pm, HS Aud  
HS Marking Period ends  
January 24, 2023  
HS Regents Exams  
January 25, 2023  
HS Regents Exams  
January 26, 2023  
HS Regents Exams  
IS Scripps Spelling Bee, Caf, 2:45pm  
January 27, 2023

## ATTENTION PARENTS!!!

### Intermediate School PTO Officers (2024-2025)

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 welcomed 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!

**Tara Spirawk**

**Alicia Wahl-Knowlden**

Email: [intermediateschoolpto@gmail.com](mailto:intermediateschoolpto@gmail.com)

IS Facebook: @HorseheadsIntermediateSchoolPT



# 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](mailto:hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com) for more information.

Apply in person at the address below:

Human Resources Office  
Horseheads Central School District  
143 Hibbard Rd. Horseheads, NY 14845

## 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 \$135 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:** **Trustworthiness** comes from personal character.

**Trustworthiness** involves four major qualities: integrity, honesty, promise-keeping, and loyalty.



**The Habit of Mind:** **Questioning and Posing Problems.**

**It means:**

- Ask myself, "How do I know?"
- Develop a questioning Attitude
- Consider what information is needed
- Choose strategies to get that information and
- Consider the obstacles needed to resolve.



Pull for the House.



Many Hearts. One Home.

Keep hoarding pull tabs! So far we have collected far less tabs than usual. **Get others involved** – ask your friends, neighbors, and family members to collect! Pull tabs can be brought to the office.

## 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 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, or [cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com).

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.

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