The School Connection



Principal's Post

Horseheads Intermediate School

I hope everyone is having a relaxing and peaceful holiday season despite the continued challenges we face. The new year brings a fresh start in our lives, and my wish is that 2022 is the best year yet for all of you!

December seemed to have flown by as we had some exciting events at the Intermediate School. There were two wonderful musical performances this past month. Band, orchestra, and chorus students had the opportunity to display their abilities in front of an audience for the first time in 2 years. Both shows were entertaining and once again showed the strength of our very talented music department.

We always challenge our students to 'read their heart out.' Please encourage your child to read at least 20 minutes daily as this will positively impact their reading abilities. We also like to extend the challenge to include exercise each day as well. Thanks for your help in supporting reading and exercise at home throughout the year!

I'd like to end by wishing you all a very happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year. Please continue to be active in your child's education. The investment of your time inquiring about their day, reading, or studying important skills, will pay enormous dividends for them in the future.

If you get a minute, check out the parent article to the right called, *How to Teach Your Kids It's Okay to Have Less Than Their Friends*. Most parents want their kids to fit in and feel socially accepted. Unfortunately, today's world is full of 'the next best thing' and kids are feeling the pressure of 'needing' (not 'wanting') what they think everyone else has.

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

"Loving a child doesn't mean giving in to all his whims; to love him is to bring out the best in him, to teach him to love what is difficult."

-- Nadia Boulanger

January 2022 Volume 10 Issue 5

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ATTENTION!

Parent Resources on IS website.

"Thanks for your help in supporting reading and exercise at home!"

Mark Your Calendars!

Tuesday, January 11th: Parent/Principal Chat, 9AM(Café), 6PM(Lib)

Tuesday, January 11th: PTO Meeting, 6:30 PM, Library

Wednesday, January 13th: String Showcase(Gr. 4-6), 7:00 PM, HS Auditorium

Monday, January 17th: No School – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Thursday, January 20th: Scripps Spelling Bee, 2:45 PM, Cafeteria

Thursday, January 20th: Board of Education Meeting, 6:00 PM, HS Auditorium

Friday, January 28th: Report Cards Go Home

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

- 1. Winter has arrived! Please be sure that your child wears an appropriate coat, hat, gloves, and clothes. Recess will be outside when weather permits.
- 2. Please be sure to pick up your child promptly from school dismissal. We cannot guarantee supervision of students much later than 2:30 PM.
- 3. It is important that Intermediate School students not arrive until 7:40 AM. Our supervision begins at that time. **Students who are dropped off prior to 7:40 AM will not be permitted in the building.**
- 4. The folks at the Bus Garage would like to remind students that **NO GLASS CONTAINERS OR OBJECTS** of any kind should be on the bus.
- 5. **Reminder:** In an effort to cut costs and increase efficiency, the District consolidated some of our bus runs. As a result, due to limited space on the buses, we are no longer able to allow friends of students to ride their bus to and from school with them.
- 6. **Reminder:** On days when there is a Two-Hour Delay, breakfast **will not** be served.
- 7. The District Food Services Office would like to remind all families in need that by way of special funding from the USDA, all school meals (breakfast and lunch) will be served at no charge. Every child under 18 is entitled to receive one breakfast and one lunch per day. Additional food items beyond the breakfast and lunch meals in the Cafeteria will continue to be available for sale. Questions? Call (607) 739-5601, x3671 or email rocole@gstboces.org.
- 8. **Presidential Service Awards:** A reminder that Presidential Service Award volunteer forms for the second marking period are due on Friday, February 4, 2022. Students may give the forms to their teacher or drop them off in the Office. As a reminder, this is an optional activity.

Dear Parents,

Winter weather brings the possibility of school closings. Schools are closed when the weather makes it impossible to have reasonable attendance or when the schools or buses would not be able to operate safely. The school day is delayed only when inclement weather conditions are expected to improve by early morning. Inclement weather may include snow, ice, and freezing temperatures.

If schools are closed in the morning, they will remain closed all day for scheduled activities, including remedial programs, use of facilities by non-school groups, and special evening programs.

If schools are on a two-hour delay, they will begin two hours later than usual. For example, students who arrive after 10:25 AM will be marked tardy. **There will be no breakfast served on those days.**

The Horseheads Central School District partners with



The Trusted Platform for School Community Engagement

Parents and Guardians

You can now take advantage of our Text Messaging Service

Horseheads schools will soon use the SchoolMessenger system to deliver **text messages**, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more.*

You can participate in this free service* just by sending "Y" or "Yes" by text to our school's short code number, 67587.

You can also opt out of these messages at any time by simply replying to one of our messages with "Stop".



SchoolMessenger is compliant with the <u>Student Privacy Pledge™</u>, so you can rest assured that your information is safe and will never be given or sold to anyone.

Opt-In from your mobile phone now!



Just send "Y" or "Yes" to 67587

1 Information on SMS text messaging and Short Codes:

SMS stands for Short Message Service and is commonly referred to as a "text message". Most cell phones support this type of text messaging. Our notification provider, SchoolMessenger, uses a true SMS protocol developed by the telecommunications industry specifically for mass text messaging, referred to as "short code" texting. This method is fast, secure and highly reliable because it is strictly regulated by the wireless carriers and only allows access to approved providers. If you've ever sent a text vote for a TV show to a number like 46999, you have used short code texting.

*Terms and Conditions – Message frequency varies. Standard message and data rates may apply. Reply HELP for help. Text STOP to cancel. Mobile carriers are not liable for delayed or undelivered messages. See schoolmessenger.com/txt for more info.



west

STUDENTS OF THE MARKING PERIOD

Marking Period 1

The following students were teacher-selected based on the September and October character traits as well as the habits of mind.

5th Grade

BELIEVERS & ACHIEVERS: Zachary Robert

EXPLORERS: Rylynn Augustine, MaKenna Castillo, Trent Crouse, Ian Ferraro

GO GETTERS: Sammie Bonnell, Brayden Carmen, Delanie Castillo, Charlie Hafer

INVESTIGATORS: Heidi Beck, Alex Howard, Samantha McIlwain, Dhruv Shrisudersan

MASTER MINDS: Brad Baker, Ginny Blake, Kennedy Harer, Nate Vesneske

THINKERS: Ananya Chauhan, Mike Christmas, Rocco Narsiff, Hannah Sydlansky

TRENDSETTERS: Michael Graham, Christopher Moshier

6th Grade

BELIEVERS & ACHIEVERS: Damien Roupp

COLLABORATORS: Avalin Crouse, Emerick Morrow, Lillian Wixson

CREATORS: Ellisa Bly, Trevor King, Riley Pusins, Suzie Sydlansky

GROUND BREAKERS: Leah Johnson, Owen Torgalski

PATHFINDERS: Justin Blakemore, Lillyanna Cranmer, Fionnuala O'Donoghue,

Brogan Sullivan

PROBLEM SOLVERS: David Burczynski, Sophia Polise, Jemma Randall

TRAIL BLAZERS: Gavin Van Gorden, Ethan Wilson

TRANSFORMERS: A'livia McFall

INFORMATION REGARDING VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS!



NEWS FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

PLEASE READ THIS VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Dear Fifth Grade Parents/Guardians:

All 6th grade students will need to receive <u>2 doses</u> of the Varicella (Chicken Pox) vaccination along with the Tdap vaccine. The laws are very strict, and we cannot allow students to come to school after the first 10 days of school without these immunizations.

Your child may get the required immunization through your health care provider, Five Star Urgent or Walk-In Clinics or through the Chemung County Health Department, at (607)737-2028, appointment, only if qualified.

You must provide proof that your child has received the Tdap immunization in order for your child to attend school in the fall. Your health care provider or health department will provide you with this written proof once your child receives the immunization. Please bring this proof to our Health Office or fax it to us at 795-2495. **No appointment cards accepted.**

Please note: 10-year-old students who are entering 6th grade will not be required to receive the Tdap vaccine at this time and will not be excluded from school but will be tracked and must be immunized upon turning 11 years old.

If you have further questions, please contact the health office at 739-6366 (Option 2). Thank you for your cooperation.



It is that time of the year again to remember good health practices. Please keep your child home if he/she has had a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, vomiting or diarrhea in the past 24 hours. Because there is no known cure for the common cold, prevention is the key to keeping colds away. Most of the time you acquire a cold virus by touching your eyes, nose or mouth with an object that has the cold virus on it. Therefore, to help avoid catching a cold:

- Wash hands thoroughly and frequently with warm soapy water.
- Sneeze into a tissue, rather than your hands, then discard the tissue(*Remember to please send in tissue boxes)
- Don't touch your face—your hands may have come in contact with a cold virus!
- Drink 8 glasses of water daily.
- Get plenty of rest—up to 12 hours a night!!!Please be considerate of others—you are contagious for the first three days that cold symptoms appear.

Intermediate School PTO Officers (2021-2022)

Thank 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: gferraro2010@gmail.com Gretchen Ferraro 425-2603 Aksullivan624@gmail.com VP: Angela Sullivan 518-708-4288 Treasurer: Denise Trondsen dtrondsen@outlook.com 742-9051 bmanwaring@elmiracityschools.com **Secretary:** Beth Manwaring 329-8713



READING CORNER

Reading is an integral part of learning. The more you read, the better you read. You have heard the saying, 'Practice makes perfect,' and studies support the idea that the best way to improve your reading skills is to read.

Reading is also a form of entertainment. Many genres or categories of books lend themselves to reading for fun: mysteries, historical fiction, science fiction, folklore, etc.

As parents, it is important to be a reading role model. Let your child see you reading and encourage them to read on a daily basis.

Each Intermediate School child is challenged to read three grade level books each month for a total of twenty-five books 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.



"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you'll go." --Dr. Seuss, "I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!"



reading. Here are some tips to make you a better reader!

- 1. Ask yourself questions such as: How does this relate to what I already know? Why would the character do that? What connections can I make to my own life?
- 2. While reading, make a light checkmark with a pencil after each paragraph. If you start to get lost reading, you can start from the last checkmark. Don't forget to jot down words and concepts. If you read, write and recite, you have a better chance of remembering important information.
- 3. Every night, read something meaningful that you enjoy for at least 15-20 minutes.

CLASSIFIEDS



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.

 ${\bf Sub}\;{\bf RNs}\;$ 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. Horseheads, 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: Fairness is defined as just and reasonable treatment in accordance with accepted rules or principles. Parents, please encourage your child to play by the rules, take turns and share, be open-minded while listening to others, treat all people equally, and consider all opinions.

The Habit of Mind: Taking Responsible Risks. It means to be adventuresome. Stretch your thinking....I think I can!

Ex. Students who step outside their comfort zone and try new strategies to solve problems, stand up for a friend, or attempt to answer a question in class when they're not exactly sure, are all examples of taking responsible risks.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Now that we are back from winter recess and are approaching the mid-year point here at school, we kindly ask that parents and students check the supply lists given out over the summer and replenish any pencils, pens, paper, etc. that you may be running low on!





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

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.