

# The School Connection



## Horseheads Intermediate School

### Principal's Post

Here we are again wrapping up another school year! I'd like to thank all our parents, grandparents, and friends who provided necessary, at-home support throughout the school year in partnership with our staff.

Please be sure to check out some important dates and reminders in the coming pages. These things include report cards, next year placements, health office news, and more. We are planning a celebration for our 6<sup>th</sup> grade students on June 25<sup>th</sup>. We would like to send them off with some fun activities that will take place here at the school throughout the morning.

Summer is a great time to relax and get refreshed, but it's also a time in which most students regress (or slide back) on their academic skills. Although students need a mental break from school, they should never stop learning over the summer. Please see page 4 for suggested ways to keep their brains active throughout the months of July and August. Research shows that students who do not engage in activities lose up to three months of learning over the summer. That means that they are three months behind when they return in September compared to those who have stayed academically active. At the very least, encourage your child to read something they enjoy daily. Any reading during the summer can count toward the 4K page goal for the following year. Check out the article to the right for the importance of summer learning. Scroll to the bottom of the article for the summer learning tips.

Thank you for being a strong support system over the course of the school year. Lastly, **attention 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents**, there is a very important notice from our school nurse on page 5. **All sixth-grade students who have not received the Tdap vaccination by September 17<sup>th</sup>, will not be able to attend school.**

Enjoy the warm summer months, and the time with your family! If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Main Office.

Yours in education,

Michael Bostwick  
Principal

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

*"There is only one thing more painful than learning from experience and that is not learning from experience."*

*-Archibald MacLeish*

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### Inside this issue:

Principal's Post	1
Calendar Dates	2
Informational Items	2, 3
PTO	3
Summer Learning	4
Health Office	5
Student of the Marking Period	6
Notes from the Library	7
SORA	8
Classifieds	9

### Parent Article

**ATTENTION!**  
Parent Resources  
on IS website.

*"Research shows that students who do not engage in activities lose up to three months of learning over the summer."*

## Mark Your Calendars!

<b>Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>:</b>	Gr. 6 Concert, 7:00 PM, IS Cafeteria
<b>Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Gr. 5 Concert, 7:00 PM, IS Cafeteria
<b>Mon., June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>:</b>	SPRING BOOK FAIR, "BUY ONE GET ONE FREE"
<b>Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Strings Awards (Gr. 4-6), 7:00 PM, IS Cafeteria
<b>Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>:</b>	PTO Meeting, 6:00 PM, Library
<b>Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Gr. 6 Awards, 7:00 PM, HS Auditorium (invite only)
<b>Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Gr. 5 Field Day
<b>Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Gr. 6 Field Day
<b>Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>:</b>	NO SCHOOL – JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY
<b>Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Reading Celebration for 4K Book Goal
<b>Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Board of Education Meeting, 6:00 PM, Ridge Road
<b>Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>:</b>	Half Day of School-Dismissal at 10:45 AM. Report cards will be sent home with students on the 26 <sup>th</sup> (last day of school)
<b>Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>:</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> grade celebration, 8:30 – 10:30 AM

## Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

1. **On Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, dismissal will be at 10:45 AM (pick-up begins at 10:35 AM).** Students will only be in school for the morning. Breakfast will be served. Also, on Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, there is no school in observance of the Juneteenth Holiday.
2. **Report Cards:** Report Cards will be distributed to students at school on **Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>**. Report Cards will not be mailed home. This half-day will be a time to reflect on achievements of the school year.
3. **Field Day** is scheduled for the following dates: Grade 5: Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, and Grade 6: Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. Our Physical Education Teachers have worked hard to plan exciting activities for the classes. Students need to be prepared for Field Day by remembering the following: tied sneakers, sunscreen, a hat, a water bottle, a towel, and clothes that can become wet and stay appropriate. Students should bring an extra set of clothes to change into after finishing the water games. **These events are for staff and students only.**
4. Current fifth grade students will receive a letter by the second week of August with your **teacher assignment** and the team specific school supply list for your team. With those in place, we invite you to join us for one of two **self-guided tours**. You may come walk around the school, find your child's classrooms, and ask questions on **August 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10 – 11:30 AM or August 27<sup>th</sup> from 6 – 7 PM.**
5. We are proud to recognize the students who met the 4K Page Goal this year. These students will have a recognition day for reaching this goal. They will be attending a movie at Elmira College and a picnic at the Holding Point on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. 5<sup>th</sup> graders: Summer reading counts toward next year's 4K Page Goal! Keep a log of book title, author, and number of pages.
6. This is a reminder to submit a form for each of your children notifying us of your plans for transportation next school year - even if you do not require bus service. [Click here](#) to go to our website for the form.
7. Invitations will be sent to the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students who will be recognized at our Sixth Grade Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM, at the Intermediate School. Students should sit with their family members and be called up to the stage to receive their award. Extended family members are welcome, too!
8. **End of Year Medication Pick-Up Information:** All student medications will need to be picked up from the Health Office before the end of the year. Any medications that are not picked up by **June 26<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 PM**, will be disposed of per New York State Law.

9. We are using Family ID for sports registration. Family ID uses a secure platform that provides you with an easy, user-friendly way to register for our programs and helps us to be more efficient and environmentally responsible. Everything will be completed online. In addition, once you register, the system keeps track of your information, so you only need to enter it once for multiple programs and student-athletes.
10. New York State Law requires a health examination for all students entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade and all new entrants to the District. The examination must be completed by a New York State licensed physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner. A physical dated on or after September 5, 2023 is acceptable. The physical can be faxed to the Health Office at 795-2495, emailed to [edarmstadt@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:edarmstadt@horseheadsdistrict.com), or brought into the Health Office.
11. Reminder to parents...If you move within the District, we require two proofs of residency when you submit the address change for your child(ren). Accepted forms of proof are:
  - Bank contract or mortgage agreement showing purchase of home with name and address
  - Signed rent or lease agreement with landlord's name, address, and telephone number, or DSS processed landlord statement
  - Most recent utility bill (phone, gas, electric)
  - Deposit receipt for gas, electric, phone service start-up
  - Driver's license or State ID card with picture showing current district address.
  - Currently active bank account/checkbook statement with name and address imprinted (bank may be contacted to verify existence of account)
  - Payroll stub with address
12. **Have a happy, relaxing, and safe summer.** The Office will be open from 7:30 AM to 3:00 PM starting June 27<sup>th</sup>. If you plan to stop in the Office during the summer, you might want to call first (739-6366). Those of us in the Office will be taking vacation time and there will be times the Office is closed.

### THANK YOU!

A tremendous thank you to all of our PTO Volunteers. Your continual support over the years has made field trips, assemblies, our Buy One Get One Free Book Fair, the 4K Page Goal Celebration, Staff Appreciation, the Sixth Grade Celebration and more possible. Thank you again to all who have volunteered and supported the many activities for our school this year.



## ATTENTION PARENTS!!!

### Intermediate School PTO Officers (2023-2024)

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!

**Beth Manwaring**      **Alicia McWilliams**

**Tara Spirawk**      **Alicia Wahl-Knowlden**

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

**IS Facebook:** @HorseheadsIntermediateSchoolPT



# Stay Active in Mind and Body

We believe that the 2023-2024 school year was a great success due to the students' hard work as well as your commitment and support. In order to stop student regression (loss of academic skills) over the long summer vacation, there are other things you could do to help keep the momentum of your child's learning throughout the months of July and August. The following are great locations for learning and enrichment:

- Local libraries (Horseheads, Big Flats, Elmira)
- Tanglewood Nature Center (Elmira)
- Wings of Eagles Discovery Center (Big Flats)
- Arnot Art Museum (Elmira)
- Rockwell Museum (Corning)
- Corning Museum of Glass (Corning)
- Chemung County Youth Bureau (offers some programs for kids)
- Science Center (Ithaca)



**“I am still learning.”**

-Michelangelo, age 87

Also, there are an overwhelming amount of interactive educational websites that provide practice in the core subject areas of school. Here are some to try:

<http://www.funbrain.com/>

<http://www.billnye.com/>

<http://www.coolmath.com/>

<http://www.squiglyplayhouse.com/BrainTeasers/>

<http://www.playkidsgames.com/>

<http://www.factmonster.com/>

Reading to/with your child each day will improve their skills and foster a love of literature. If you are interested, I included a website below of a fantastic article that explains 10 simple ways to improve reading skills. Although we will miss working with the students each day, the new school year will be upon us before we know it. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Article: ***Top Ten Ways to Improve Reading Skills***

<http://school.familyeducation.com/top-10-ways/improve-reading-skills/38329.html>

Keep your body active as well! Some suggestions are walking, running, biking, exercises, sports games, or any other physical activity. Get your heart rate up for at least 60 minutes per day.



***“None of us is as smart as all of us.” ~Ken Blanchard “Do a little more each day than you think you possibly can.”***

*~ Lowell Thomas*

## 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 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will need to receive 2 doses 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, all next year's 6<sup>th</sup> grade students cannot attend school after September 17<sup>th</sup>.**

Your child may get the required immunization through your health care provider, Five Star Urgent or Walk-In Clinics through the Chemung County Health Department. You can reach the Health Department by calling (607)737-2028.

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 3). Thank you for your cooperation.

If you have further questions, please contact the Health Office at 739-6366 (Prompt 3).

Thank you for your cooperation

# STUDENTS OF THE MARKING PERIOD

## Marking Period 3

The following students were teacher selected as the Students of the Marking Period based on the February, March, and April character traits as well as the Habits of Mind.

Month	Character Trait	Habit of Mind
February	Trustworthiness	Questioning and Posing Problems
March	Respect	Applying Past Knowledge to New Situations
April	Responsibility	Striving For Accuracy

### 5th Grade

- BELIEVERS & ACHIEVERS:** Skyy DePrimo
- EXPLORERS:** Emily Blake, Yuxin Fan, Bella Mattoon, Maddox Monks
- GO GETTERS:** Neola Castellano, Elijah Leone, Nebby Okafor, Quinley Terry
- INVESTIGATORS:** Jillian Cantineri, Dominic Harvey, Olivia Paulman, Jaxon Stage
- MASTERMINDS:** Kat Derry, Ashton Quick, Ellie Rayle, Averie Zuchowski
- THINKERS:** Emilie King, Austin Hart, Cooper Lynch, Nolan Ruhmel, Hudson Sena
- TRENDSETTERS:** Natalee Bates, Bryson Keenan, Hadley Sullivan, Thora Yarrington
- TRANSFORMERS:** Kian Mullen

### 6th Grade

- BELIEVERS & ACHIEVERS:** Isabella Pellor
- COLLABORATORS:** Laken Bola, Stella Hillman, Quinn Kent, Sophia Wood
- CREATORS:** Grace Friedah, Alana Hawk,
- GROUND BREAKERS:** Julia Headley, Cooper Lambert, Nathan Malandra, Cali Morse
- PATHFINDERS:** Owen Brooks, Vincent Foote, Layla Hoeffner, Mike Saunders
- PROBLEM SOLVERS:** Landon Andrews, Michaela Richardson, Lillian Shutts
- TRAIL BLAZERS:** Ellie Jaynes, Manahil Hasan





## Notes from the IS Library

### SUMMER READING

Has your student read all the books in your house? Have you not been able to get to the public library to check out more books? If so (or just FYI!) have no fear **SORA** is here! Your student may check out books electronically from the Greater Southern Tier BOCES electronic library from any device from anywhere, just download the **SORA** app or open **SORA** through your browser. Your student now has free access to any title (both text and audio) for 2 weeks and the book returns automatically!

Your child has already used **SORA** at school but as a reminder they log in using their district network user name and password. Happy summer reading!

### MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING PAGE

Below is a link to the Middle School Library Summer page. Click the pictures to find various booklists, challenges and information about summer reading for 2024!

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ktrscLy91JddkqQ71B5vpKKRny5gnl5E-E\\_rTWvVfGE/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ktrscLy91JddkqQ71B5vpKKRny5gnl5E-E_rTWvVfGE/edit?usp=sharing)



#### [Summer Reading MS](#)

DESTINATIONS Horseheads MS READING SUMMER 2024 Click any picture to open summer reading link! Click links. Turn in completed book challenges to Mrs. Heidrich in September.

[docs.google.com](https://docs.google.com)

# Getting started with Sora



With Sora, you can get free e-books and audiobooks from our schools. You can also connect to our public libraries!

Install the Sora app on your own device from the Apple App Store or Google Play



Store or



or go to [soraapp.com](http://soraapp.com) on a computer.

Or click the Sora Icon on the Destiny Library Page.

Once in Sora, find the **Greater Southern Tier BOCES Shared Digital Collection** (any school with this will work)  
OR

Try using the setup code **gstbocesny** or searching by your zip code.

Choose from the “Sign in to your school” dropdown: **Horseheads CSD**

**Everyone uses their regular school district computer login.**

Username: lastname-firstname

Password: HH studentID# First3lettersoflastnameBirthDay# ! (no spaces)

**PLEASE NOTE:** Sora (through Overdrive) opens up a selection of audio and ebooks ranging in reading and interest levels. Juvenile Fiction spans birth through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, young adult grades 6-8, and adult 9<sup>th</sup> grade and up. All of these resources are available to your child through SORA, as is access to the public library. We cannot restrict titles available to students. No system is perfect and sometimes books fall outside the pre-set viewing levels. Please let us know right away if you notice this. We encourage you to monitor your student’s selections, but be open to chapter book and audiobook read aloud selections to enjoy together as a family.



# 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.

[Click here](#) for the application or stop into Human Resources. Questions?

Email us at [hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com)

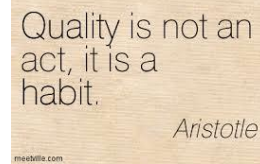
## CHARACTER TRAIT AND HABIT OF MIND' OF THE MONTH

### Character Trait: *Caring*

- Helping a neighbor
- Model random acts of kindness
- Discuss with kids who they care about and why
- Donate some items or time for charity
- Discuss how characters in movie or book show character trait

### The Habit of Mind: *Thinking and Communicating with Clarity and Precision*

- Be Clear! Striving for accurate communication in both written and oral form; avoiding overgeneralizations, distortions, and deletions.
- Students who are skilled at thinking and communicating with clarity and precision have developed a habit of using correct names for objects, ideas and processes. They avoid fuzzy language such as: "...that thingy over there." "...it was really good."



## 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 \$125 per day. To apply, contact the Human Resources Office at 739-5601 x 4211.



Pull for the House.



Many Hearts. One Home.

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



Chapter 434 of the New York State Education Law requires school districts to notify parents or persons in parental relation of their rights regarding the referral and evaluation of their child for the purposes of special education services or programs. This information can be found on our district website ([www.horseheadsdistrict.com](http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com)) or on the New York State Education Department website ([www.nysed.gov](http://www.nysed.gov)) in "A Parent's Guide to Special Education." If you have further questions, please contact Kelly Squires, Director of Student Services, at 607-739-5601, x4300.

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.