

The School Connection



Principal's Post

Horseheads Intermediate School

May 2025
Volume 13 Issue 9

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The spring temperatures we have been craving are finally here! It's hard to believe that the month of May is already upon us. We are hoping for a strong finish to what has proven to be an eventful and exciting school year. With your support, we're confident that we can end the school year on a positive note.

We administered the ELA computer-based state tests, and the two sessions of the math test will be next week. As you may know, NYS has moved away from the Common Core Learning Standards toward a new framework called *Next Generation Learning Standards*. The new standards have been the result of several years of collaboration with over 130 educators and parents who worked together to make recommendations and revisions, resulting in a new set of English Language Arts and Mathematics Learning Standards.

Students are no longer expected to just memorize information and concepts; they must now take their knowledge and apply, synthesize, or evaluate the correct approach to solving a problem. Your support at home all year long will help as students are challenged with higher level learning. Please see the many resources for parents found on [EngageNY](#) or check out our parent resources page on our website (link to the right).

Once again, I'd like to thank you for all you do to assist us in educating your child. It truly is a team effort! Now that the sun and warmth are here to stay, students are spending their time in sporting and other outdoor activities. Please help by keeping a regular routine and an emphasis on completing homework as well as studying for quizzes and tests. When you get a chance, check out the article to the right about the importance of Dads in their child's education. We appreciate your support!

Yours in education,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Bostwick".

Michael Bostwick
Principal

Follow 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>

Parent Article

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

"Treat a child as though he already is the person he is capable of becoming." - Haim Ginott

"I'd like to thank you for all you do to assist us in educating your child. It truly is a team effort!"

Mark Your Calendars!

Tues., Wed, May 6th-7th: NYS Gr 5-Math Assessments
Thursday, May 8th: Public Hearing on Proposed 2025-2026 Budget, 6:00 PM, HS Auditorium
Wednesday, May 14th: NYS Gr 5-Science Assessments
Wednesday, May 14th: Board of Education Candidate Forum, 6:00 PM, High School Auditorium
Tuesday, May 20th: Budget Vote/BOE Elections, High School North Gym, 7:00 AM – 9:00 PM
Tuesday, May 20th: PTO Meeting, 6:00 PM, Library
Thursday, May 22nd: Board of Education Meeting, HS Auditorium, 6:00 PM
Fri, 5/23 - Tues., 5/27: No School – Memorial Day and Extra Give Back Day

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

- 1. Presidential Service Awards:** As the end of the school year is approaching, students who meet the criteria for the 50, 75 or 100 hours should have logs turned in by May 2nd if you wish to receive the award before the end of the school year. All 5th and 6th grade students who wish to continue working toward the award may do so through June 30, 2025. These logged hours need to be dropped off in the IS Office by July 1, 2025. Awards will be available for students in September of 2025. Please contact the IS Main Office should you have any questions. [Click here for more information](#) and service logs.
- 2. Sixth Grade End-of-the-Year Activities**
Wednesday, June 12th – **Sixth Grade Awards Ceremony** (Intermediate School Cafeteria) – 7:00 PM. Invite letters will be sent home to qualifying students.
Tuesday, June 25th – **Sixth Grade Celebration** will be held during the school day from 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM.
- 3.** For many years fifth and sixth grade teachers have integrated **Adventure Based Learning and Community Building** activities into their curriculum. Teachers have focused on skill building that promotes the students' abilities to: solve problems, think critically, and work together in a collaborative learning community. These are all important life-long skills in line with the District's/Intermediate School's vision for its students. As a culminating activity, all 6th grade classes will go the GST BOCES Adventure course to show off their skills in June!
- 4.** Middle School offers some support with transitions to 7th grade. Look for emails over the summer about self-guided tours and schedule pick-up. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to the Middle School Main Office at 739-6357.
- 5.** Please note an important message from the Transportation Department. If you should have any questions, please feel free to call us at 739-6366.

In an effort to cut costs and increase efficiency, we have consolidated some of our bus runs. As a result, your child may be on the bus a little longer. In addition, 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.

ATTENTION PARENTS!!!

Intermediate School PTO Officers (2024-2025)

We are struggling to get support for PTO this school year. Please consider volunteering for activities when needed and also to help more next year. Our meetings are held in the IS Library at 6:00 PM most often on the third Tuesday of the month. Reach out via email if you have any questions or would like to help with upcoming events.

Email: mbostwick@horseheadsdistrict.com

IS Facebook: @HorseheadsIntermediateSchoolPT



Vote

Tuesday, May 20 | 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Horseheads High School North Gym

2025-26 BUDGET INFORMATION

The Public Hearing for the 2025-2026 Board-approved Budget will be held on Thursday, May 8th, at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. The meeting will be live streamed and recorded. To learn more about past Budget Presentations and the 2025-2026 Budget, [click here](#).

The 2025-2026 Budget Vote and Board of Education Election will take place on Tuesday, May 20th, from 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. in the High School North Gym. Voters should park and enter near the pool entrance (off Center Street). [Click here](#) to learn more.

CANDIDATE FORUM

The District will host a Board of Education Candidate Forum on Wednesday, May 14th, at the High School Auditorium. Candidates running for the Board of Education will introduce themselves and answer questions presented in a forum format. All are welcome. The forum will be [live streamed](#) and recorded. More information can be found on the [District's Website](#).

BUS FORM

The [2025-2026 Bus Form](#) is now open. Please be sure to complete this for all students, even if they will not need transportation.” Please see the attached Flyer.

STUDENTS OF THE MARKING PERIOD

Marking Period 2

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

5th Grade



BELIEVERS & ACHIEVERS:

Annalise Watts

GO GETTERS:

Grayson Earl, Scarlett Lin, Riyana Shah, Isha Umar

INVESTIGATORS:

Ryan Bauman, Harper Ivansheck, Emma Nicolae, Blake Shiposh

MASTERMINDS:

Zara Carlson, Piper Daugherty, Olivia Miller, Katelyn Richardson, Katy Sonsire, Gannon Sutter

THINKERS:

Landon Brill, Seamus McDonough, Annie McKenzie, Chloe Solesha

TRENDSETTERS:

Lilah McEvoy, Emma Saunders, Jaylah Schooley, Piper Wade

6th Grade

BELIEVERS & ACHIEVERS:

Mollie Byron, Skyy DePrimo

CREATORS:

Carson Bullers, Lexi Sheehan

COLLABORATORS:

Cassidy Dziennik, Chloe Jones

GROUND BREAKERS:

Arianna Cruz, Lilianna Letchford

PATHFINDERS:

Bryson Keenan, Andrew Snedecor, Hadley Sullivan, Chloe Tenny

PROBLEM SOLVERS:

Peyton Hopson, Landon Smith, Alana Wheeler

TRAIL BLAZERS:

Claire Barron, Austin Hart



INFORMATION REGARDING VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS!



PLEASE READ THIS VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

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 6th grade. All 6th 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 11 years old when entering 6th grade	Proof of immunization must be received within 14 calendar days of the start of school (by September 17, 2025) , or your child will be unable to attend school until proof of immunization is received.
Students who are 10 years old when entering 6th grade	Proof of immunization must be received within 14 calendar days of turning 11 years old 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 tsenatore@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.

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

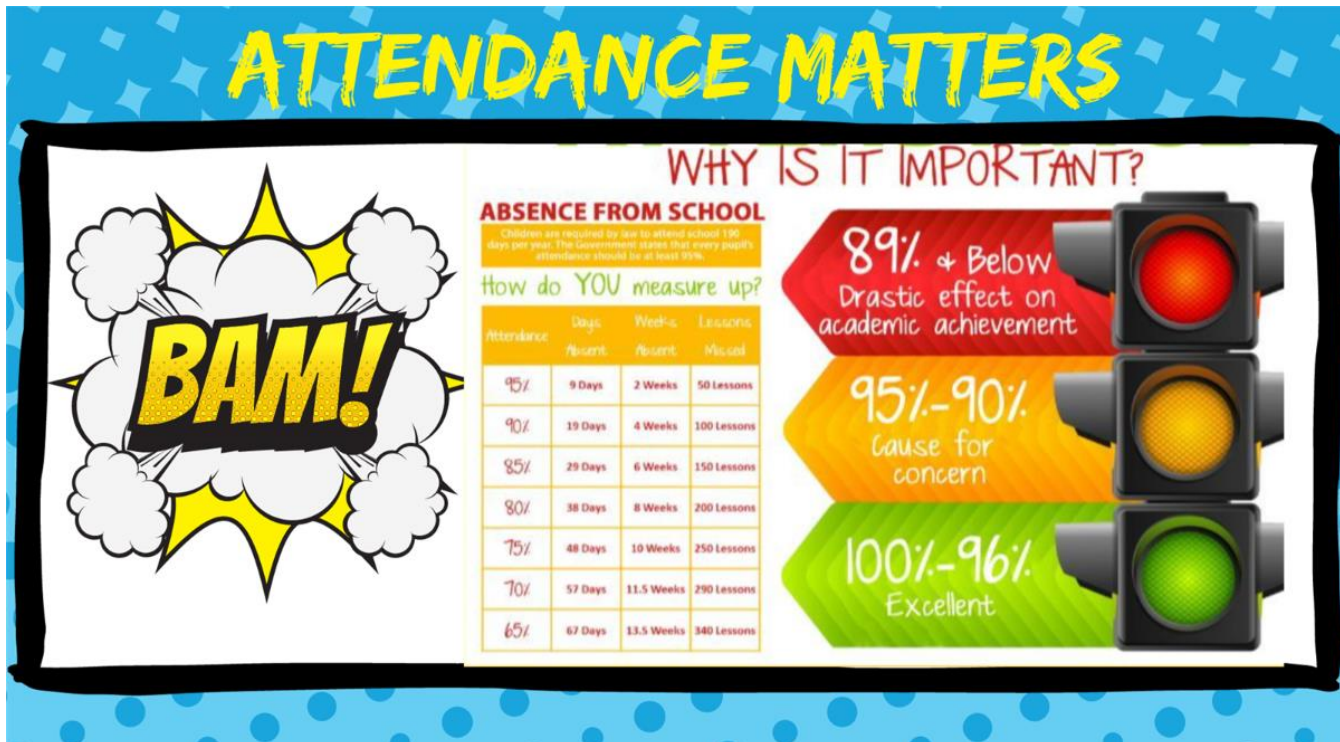
NEW PROCEDURE AUTOMATED ATTENDANCE EMAILS

Dear Intermediate School Parents/Guardians,

The Intermediate School wishes to keep parents/guardians informed of students' attendance at school and assist students in meeting attendance requirements. To this end, we have been mailing letters to parents/guardians when their student is absent from school for eight days or more. At the end of last school year, this process changed to automated emails. Emails are sent to parents/guardians of students who are absent from school 8, 16, 24, or more times. This change will allow for quicker and more efficient delivery of important information regarding your student's attendance.

As a reminder, regular school attendance is crucial for your students' academic success and overall well-being. Consistent attendance ensures that students do not miss out on valuable instruction, opportunities, and important classroom activities. Our Attendance Policy is designed to promote a positive and engaging learning environment for all students. It is essential that your student attends school regularly and arrives on time. In the event of an absence, please notify the school as soon as possible, please remember that an excused absence still counts towards the student's absence count. Please [click here](#) to see the District's Attendance Policy.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact your student's counselor or my office.



Varsity H Summer Camps

Varsity H Summer Camps are here! From lacrosse to football, tennis and more, there is something for every athlete looking to sharpen their skills, stay active, and have fun this summer! These camps are run by Horseheads coaches and athletes. Check out the full schedule and register today: <https://ow.ly/8vtP50VCtfJ>



STOPit allows kids who are being cyberbullied to quickly and easily tell trusted adults and authorities that they are being cyberbullied and to seek help. The app comes with four features to support kids. More information [here!](#)

Our **SAFE SCHOOLS HOTLINE** is always available to report a concern, rumor, bullying incident, or any safety issue anonymously and confidentially, **24 hours a day. 795-2044**

Follow us on Facebook and X

Learn about up-to-date information about our District on Facebook and Twitter: On Facebook, the District and each of our seven schools have pages. Please “like” them to get the information on your news feed. Follow us on X at @HhdsSchools to read our tweets. Follow our school hashtag to stay updated on school happenings! **#ISinnovators**

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

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: *Citizenship*

• **Involvement in the community:** Citizenship also means your relationship with the community in which you are a member. In other words, your behavior and actions. It's not just following the rights and behaviors laid down by the law; it also means adhering to the social and moral behavior expected of a citizen.

A good citizen is someone who:

- cares about the feelings and rights of others
- shows concern for the safety and well-being of others
- stays informed about issues and voices their opinion
- votes
- conserves resources and follows the 3 Rs-- reduce, reuse and recycle
- uses their skills to make a better community

The Habit of Mind:

Metacognition: Thinking About Thinking
Metacognition is the understanding and awareness of one's own mental or cognitive processes.

There are many possible examples of metacognition. These examples may help to gain a better understanding of the concept. Below are some examples of metacognition:

1. A person learns about his or her own style of learning.
2. A person learns about what things help him or her to remember facts, names and events.
3. A person becomes aware of his or her own biases in judging others.
4. A person learns about what strategies are the most effective in solving certain problems.

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.



2025-26 BUSING FORM



COMPLETE BY
MAY
31

Please complete the 2025-26 School Year Busing Form to help Transportation determine the schedule and routes.

- ✓ Complete a form for each student.
- ✓ You will need your student's ID number.
- ✓ Complete the form, even if your student does not need busing.

