

Horseheads Middle School

December, 2023



The Winter Issue

Contact Us!

607-739-6357 • Horseheadsdistrict.com/HHMS.cfm

What's Happening at HMS

12/15/23

Winter Dance & Open Gym
3:15 - 5:15pm

12/20/23

Progress Reports Distributed

12/22 - 1/2/2024

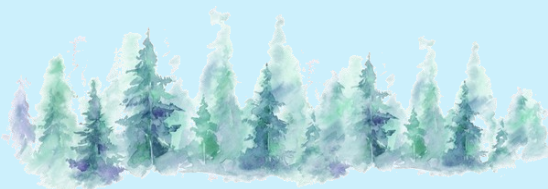
Winter Recess - No School

1/8 - 1/11/2024

Aimsweb Plus Testing

1/15/2024

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
No School



Sister City Applications Available Now

The Horseheads Sister City Association is delighted to announce the 2024 exchange trip with Nakagawa, Japan. Students in 8th grade interested in early summer travel to Japan through the exchange program can pick up an application packet in the main office. Applications are due January 8, 2024. If you have any questions, please contact Tiffany Bratz tbratz@horseheadsdistrict.com.

New Clothing Closet for the MS

The Middle School Site Team is organizing a gently used clothes closet for student use. Students may bring in items beginning January 3 through the 19th. Items should be in good condition (no stains or tears) and may include tops, bottoms and shoes.

There is also a need for dress clothing. The Site Team held a donation drive among staff earlier this year. Students were able to pick out dressy outfits for their mock interviews earlier this year, which helped make them very successful.

Many thanks in advance for supporting our drive to help support our students.



Sign-up Now for Spelling Bee

Our annual Regional Spelling Bee Qualifier will be held on Tuesday, January 9 during 10th period. A meeting for all students interested in competing will be held on Monday, December 11 during 10th period, and spelling lists will be handed out. Good Luck Students!

News from the School Nurse

Dear Parents, Guardians,

Mrs. Cobb



Through the Drug Free Community Coalition of Chemung County, CASA-Trinity, Inc. is conducting the Prevention Needs Assessment (PNA) Survey in all districts in Chemung County. Our 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students will participate the week of December 18,

I NEED TO STAY HOME IF...						
I HAVE A FEVER	I AM VOMITING	I HAVE DIARRHEA	I HAVE A RASH	I HAVE HEAD LICE	I HAVE AN EYE INFECTION	I HAVE BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL
Temperature of 100 or higher	Within the past 24 hours	Within the past 24 hours	Body rash with itching or fever	Itchy head, active head lice	Redness, itching and/or "crusty" drainage from the eye	Hospital stay and/or ER visit
I AM READY TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL WHEN I AM...						
Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication like Tylenol or Motrin, etc.	Free from vomiting for at least 2 solid meals	Free from diarrhea for at least 24 hours	Free from rash, itching, or fever. I have been evaluated by my doctor, if needed	Treated with appropriate lice treatment at home and proof is provided	Evaluated by my doctor and have a note to return to school	Released by my medical provider to return to school

If your child has strep throat or another bacterial infection, he/she should stay home until the antibiotic has been given for at least 24 hours and your health care provider has given permission for your child to return to school. We encourage you to seek medical attention when your child is sick and to follow your health care provider's recommendations about returning to school or other activities.

Please communicate with your school nurse about any health concerns your child might be experiencing. We want to ensure he or she receives appropriate care at school.



IS IT A COLD OR FLU?

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS	COLD	FLU
Symptom onset	Gradual	Abrupt
Fever	Rare	Usual
Aches	Slight	Usual
Chills	Uncommon	Fairly common
Fatigue, weakness	Sometimes	Usual
Sneezing	Common	Sometimes
Chest discomfort, cough	Mild to moderate	Common
Stuffy nose	Common	Sometimes
Sore throat	Common	Sometimes
Headache	Rare	Common

#FIGHT FLU



Middle School News

District Census

NY Menu Day, Winter Dance

Area All-state Festival

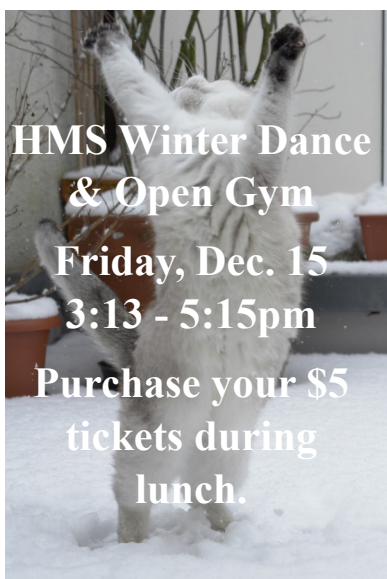


2023-2024 District-wide Census

The district is conducting a census of the entire district to provide important demographic information and to assist in the process of redrawing elementary boundary lines as we prepare to move to three PK-4 schools (Big Flats, Gardner Road, and Ridge Road) in the 2025-26 school year.

Please submit your information if you haven't already done so. The census is for the entire district, so we also ask that you encourage neighbors to do the same, even if they do not have children in the district.

Here is the link and QR code to the census form: www.Horseheads.fyi/Census or:



Congratulations to our Band, Orchestra and Choir members who performed in Hornell over the weekend at our Area All-State Festival. Thank You to Ms. Winderl, General/Vocal Music Teacher.

Band

Owen Farnsworth
Ella Matteson
Avalin Crouse

Choir

Madison Bancroft
Sonya Dordoni
Claire Ruffer
Riley Pusins
Lilianna Mata

Orchestra

Claire Jones
Mia Howard
Jade Hughson
Aleyris Echevarria
Dhruv Shrisudersan
Lilyana Amberg-Matzke
Kellen McDonnell
Ananya Chauhan
Samantha Owusu

Middle School News

8th Grade Field Trip to BOCES

Thank You to Ms. Mashanic, Ms. Oliver and Ms. Lynch



Owen Torgalski connects with an alpaca.



Lauren Strobel and Ms. Farnsworth check out the bunnies.



BOCES Career & Technical Educational Tours

Our 8th Graders checking out the Animal Science program at BOCES.



Christopher Walker and Olivia Sumner check out the boa. Brave young lady!



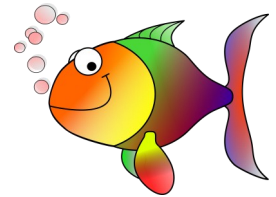
Presley Mattison greets a donkey.



Fish Committee **SHOUTOUT**

Horseheads Middle School follows the four tenets of the Fish Philosophy:

- **Be There**
- **Play**
- **Make Their Day**
- **Choose Your Attitude**

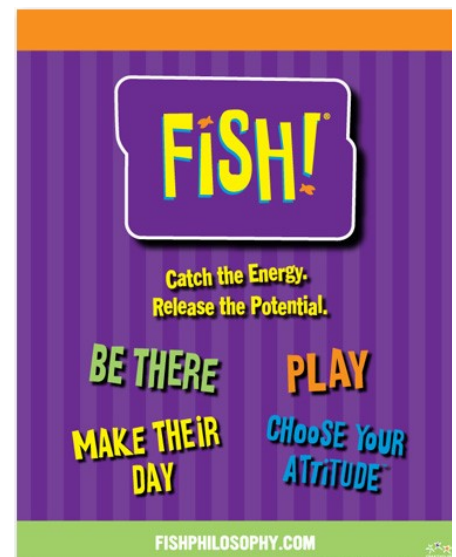


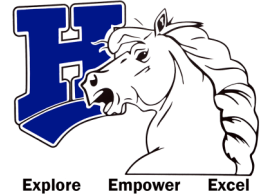
The Fish Committee wishes to recognize the following staff members for September, October and November:

Mr. Seifert (AIS Math Skills teacher), for his delicious cookies he shares with staff.

Mrs. Franklin (TA), Ms. Difasi (TA) and Mrs. Karnas (TA), for spearheading the school mural, an art installation that students are creating by coloring square sheets of paper with a half-moon design.

Mrs. Wales (ASD Consultant) for organizing the Thankful presentation in the cafeteria. Students filled out a paper expressing what they are thankful for, and those were turned into a slide show during lunch.

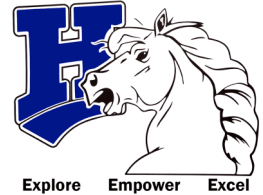




HMS is Proud to Present our 1st Marking Period Distinguished High Honor Roll Students!

7th Grade

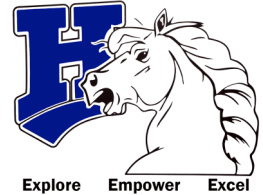
Morgan Adams	Talon Kiley	Hannah Sydlansky
Lilyana Amberg-Matzke	Alexander King	Maggie Tremaine
Matthew Balland	Dyllan Kondikoff	Nathan Vesneske
Heidi Beck	Savannah Lin	McKayla Waters
Jacob Benson	Gabriella Matteson	Jayden Witzel
Ginny Blake	Kellen McDonnell	Joseph Wood
Samantha Bonnell	Shalaney McDonough	Trace Woodward
Mylah Castellano	Samantha McIlwain	
Ananya Chauhan	Connor Miele	
Michael Christmas	Christopher Moshier	
Meghan Cleary	Joshua Nah	
Trent Crouse	Rocco Narsiff	
Ethan Cruz	Reese O'Herron	
Amila Denicola	Jude Pfeiffer	
Caleb Didas	Adelaide Pronti	
Torin Duart	Ethan Raymond	
Tessa Dunn	Chance Redner	
Aleyris Echevarria	Ryan Robbins	
Michael Gavin	Chiara SaPereira	
Samuel Giancoli	Arielle Shopher	
Charles Hafer	Dhruv Shrisudersan	
Aubri Houck	Steven Shutts II	
Charlette Houghton	Brayden Slavin	
Mia Howard	Lauren Smith	
Brady Hughson	Elliott Snedecor	
Claire Jones	Jackson Sonsire	
Natalie Karney	Adelynn Swarthout	



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7th Grade

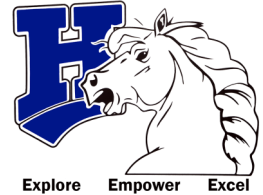
Kadence Adams	Brady Hourihan	Parker Sempler
Ava Andrus	Alexander Howard	Nicholas Seymour Jr
Rylynn Augustine	Avery Howarth	Gavin Shock
Willow Barr	Ryan Huang	Lillian Shope
Jackson Bell	Micheal Hugg	Phoenix Skinner
Face Bell	Emma Jones	Stephen Sloane II
Donovan Bennett	Kaleb Jones	Benjamin Stein
Kellan Berry	Owen Jones	Logan Stoltzfus
William Boughton	Zachary Kaiser	Miles Sweet
John Brand	Travis Keough	Aliyah Teets
Cala Bubacz	Mia Kinsman	Pierce Terwilliger
Cari Bubacz	Dylan Lorenz	Layla Thatcher
Jeffery Cain	Gideon Lutz	Noah Thompson
Mark Carro	Calista Miller	Mason Vanderhoff
Elizaveta Chalk	Gabriella Miller	Vivien Warner
Graycee Colussy	Katelyn Miller	Clara Wilson
Addison Cook	Daniel Mosher	Cooper Witt
Makenzii Creighton	Lucille Mosher	
Isabelle DeSarno	Wyatt Narosky	
Logan Earl	John Oshetski	
Mason Earl	Ramon Osorio	
Charlee Felko	Jackson Palumbo	
Tanner Findley	Benjamin Potter	
Lillian Gee	Zachary Robert	
Michael Graham	Lydia Rockwell	
Kennedy Harer	Charles Ruhmel	
Samuel Hartman	Elissandra Scibek	



HMS is Proud to Present our 1st Marking Period Honor Roll Students!

7th Grade

Adrianna Arnold	Derek Madison
Bradley Baker	Zachary Mattucci
Chase Barnstead	Alexis Miles
Mira Barnum	Audrey Miller
Nathan Blake	Noah Miller
Brayden Carman	Braelyn Minter
Ali Carrier	Aisha Morse
Caleb Clark	Emily Navone
Laken Corsi	Amelia Nelson
Stephanie Curione	Rylee Orbin
Julian Denicola	Ostara Orvek
Matthew Derry	Amelia Osteen
Champ Easton	Teagan Peden
DeWayne Edwards	Benjamin Peffer
Sohila Elmenshawy	Isabella Pomeroy
Lucas Etzl	Wyatt Privetts
Rylee Gardner	Hannah Rohr
Aiden Gridley	Emily Rourke
Lilyinn Gullo	Noah Russell
Xxzavier Hogan	Juliana Shoemaker
Owen Jones	Grace Stonier
Alecxander Kozemko	Connor Walton
Michael Larrison	Landon Wemple
Koltyn Learn	Sophia Wetherbee
Katana Lott	Sienna Williams
Jason Lucht	



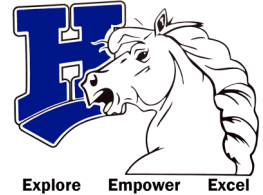
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8th Grade

Amaya Abeyaratne
Madison Bancroft
Connor Barnes
Brielle Berg
Mark Blake
Owen Bronson
David Burczynski
Noah Cady
Kolby Chaffee
Mackenzie Clark
Laura Cummings
Beckett Doane
Sonya Dordoni
Hailey Earl
Alia Elmenshawy
Owen Farnsworth
Isabella Filer
Annabelle Fitzpatrick
Emerson Fowler
Sahana Gajendran
Devon Gambrell
Jameson Grover
Kyleigh Halcomb
Harrison Hirshman
Ellie Jankowski
Cassidy Johnson

Leah Johnson
Trevor King
Isaac Klesh
Alexis Kozemko
Nunzio Limoncelli
Aubrey Maticic
Keenan McCarthy
Katherine McKee
Fionnuala O'Donoghue
Samantha Owusu
Ellie Padgett
Peyton Peterson
Leah Piecuch
Truson Pittman
Sophia Polise
Riley Pusins
Jemma Randall
Ella Satterlee
Abigaile Smith
Dylan Snellgrove
Evan Solesha
Gabriella Stern
Olivia Stratton
Olivia Sumner
John Sydlansky
Suzanne Sydlansky

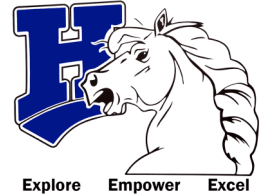
Ryan Tineo Baez
Lacey Titsworth
James Tousley
Gavin Van Gorden
Lillian Vesek
Ryan Weigand
Zackery Wheeler
Ethan Wilson
Lillian Wixson



HMS is Proud to Present our 1st Marking Period High Honor Roll Students!

8th Grade

Eli Amrine	Giana Hughey	Damian Saks Jr
Jillian Beach	Julie Hughson	Noah Santiago
Dexter Bell	Ahmed Ibrahim	Claire Schillo
Lincoln Bennett	Haylee Kelley	Niyati Sharma
Robert Bigelow	Kamryn Keough	Nathan Shores
Makenzie Blauvelt	Boedi Knapp	Ziah Sills
Ellisa Bly	Baylee Lohrke	McKenna Smith
Cayden Bowman	Jacob Long	Layla Storch
Elizabeth Brown	Xantara Mallare	Lauren Strobel
Lillyanna Cranmer	Kellen Mantey	Brogan Sullivan
Avalin Crouse	Liliana Mata	Owen Torgalski
Aiden Culshaw	Connor McAllister	Juliana Uhler
Evelyn Dassance	Julianna McAllister	Lee Updyke
Damien Dick	Zachary McCormick	Arianna Wisneski
Emma Drake	Kendall Morrissey	Meghan Young
Joshua Farrell	Lucas Narosky	
Logan Felker	Madalyn Nugent	
Heather Felko	Chloe Owen	
Emmett Fifield	Khush Patel	
Annika Fuksman	Truson Pittman	
Kenadie Gaylord	Kaitlyn Procopio	
James German	Sophie Puffer	
Annabeth Gleason	Amelia Reed	
Aubrey Griffith	Damien Roupp	
Preston Harmer	Zachary Rowling	
Charles Haugabook	Claire Ruffer	
Elena Hillman	Jacob Russell	



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8th Grade

Saphira Allwood	Emerick Morrow
William Andrews	Morgan Mustico
Jaidyn Arnold	Arianna Newton
Owen Bachert	Paisley Pendleton
Justin Blakemore	Michael Rourke
Alexia Bombarger	Ella Smith
Jack Bradley	Jordan Snyder
Kelsea Burleigh	Jaxon Streeter
Liam Butts	Braden Tenbus
Brooke Conklin	Abigail Tombs
Jordan Cook	Ella Trondsen
Sadey Craft	Brynn Warner
Claireese Dixon	Chloe Webb
Emma Eberlin	Noah Welch
Mya Ector	Emyni Wells
Grant Edwards	
Erin Gross	
Robert Guardi III	
Arianna Hanmore	
Kenneth Kailbourne	
Anna Kozemko	
Sadie Lovell	
Julia Manzer	
Wyatt McCracken	
Micah Merrill	
Nolan Miller	

Follow Us!

On social media



Learn up-to-date information about our schools and district:

- Facebook: The district and each of our seven schools have pages. “Like” them to see our information in your news feed
- Twitter: Follow us on Twitter at @HhdsSchools to read our tweets
- Follow us on Instagram at hhdsschools
- Visit our district website at www.horseheadsdistrict.com.
- Questions about our website or social media? E-mail hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com
- URL for Mobile App is now: gst1.schooltool.com/horseheads

To report child abuse or neglect, call toll free 1-800-342-3720 or ocfs.ny.gov/main/cps

**SAFE
SCHOOLS
LINE**

795-2044 or
1-800-305-4984

We encourage all students to reach out to a trusted adult if they are not feeling well physically, emotionally or socially. Parents are encouraged to call the school if they feel their student needs additional support.



School Notes

What you Need to Know



Progress Reports/Report Cards

Parents are informed of student progress in two ways. Progress reports are sent home with students at the five-week point of each marking period. A report card is sent home with students at the end of the ten-week marking period.

- Distinguished High Honor Roll 95-100**
- High Honor Roll 90-94.99**
- Honor Roll 85-89.99**
- Failing Grade** is 64.0 or lower in any course

A failing grade or an Incomplete in any class eliminates the student from the Honor Roll.

Progress Reports Distributed December 20, 2023

Attendance Auto-call and Email

To keep you updated regarding your child's attendance, the middle school will send you an auto-call and email when your student(s) are absent from school. If a student is absent from first period, a call and email will be generated and delivered in the morning. If the student continues to be absent, another call will be generated and delivered in the evening with all of the periods the student has missed.

Progress Reports Will Reflect Actual Grade

Students will receive their actual grade, even if it is below 50, on their progress reports. Knowing their actual grade, rather than receiving our former "Actual Grade Below 50" comment, will help students and their families better understand the work required prior to the end of the marking period.

Lost your lunchbox?
Misplaced your math book? Check the Lost and Found! There are blue bins under the table in the Main Office.



PARENT PORTAL

If you have not already signed up, please visit the District webpage. Under the "Quicklinks" section, hover over "Parent Portal" and click on "Parent Portal Registration Form". Fill out the form and submit it, and a link will be sent to your email.

Checking your student's grades on Parent Portal? The URL for a computer browser is:

<https://schooltool.horseheadsdistrict.com>

The URL for the mobile app is:

<https://gst1.schooltool.com/horseheads>



School Notes

What you Need to Know



YEARBOOK SALE

Order your 2023-2024 Middle School yearbook now! Click here:

<https://link.entourageyearbooks.com/my/HorseheadsMiddleSchool2023>

and then follow the easy on-screen ordering instructions.

The cost is \$ 18.50 and all major credit cards are accepted. **The Middle School will not be handling any yearbook payments.**

All yearbooks must be ordered online from now until May 1.

School Yearbooks will be distributed in June.



Character Trait of the Month

Caring

Show you care about others through kindness, caring, sharing and compassion. Live by the Golden Rule. Help others. Don't be selfish. Don't be mean, cruel or insensitive to other's feelings.

Career Development Council



The school district has many career related events including career days, career panels, job shadows, classroom speakers, field trips, and mock interviews. **We are always looking for volunteers** for these events. We are looking for parents, grandparents, other adult family members and friends as well as community volunteers in every career field.

If you feel your career is not of interest or you are currently at home, you may still contribute through mock interviews and other fun classroom events. We will be doing many of these events on-line, but they are still important experiences for the career development of our students. Most events are only an hour or two on a given day, yet **your experience and career knowledge** can deeply influence a child's life, career goals, and future educational path.

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about how you can get involved, **please contact Deb Lynch**, the Career Development Representative for the Horseheads School District, at (607)795-5320 or dlynch@gstboces.org or [Jenny Sonsire@gstboces.org](mailto:Jenny.Sonsire@gstboces.org)



Health Unit Notification

During the last marking period of each semester, seventh grade health classes will be studying the Human Physiology Unit. This is an abstinence-based unit which will include the male and female reproductive systems, conception and birth, the risks of teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS and HIV/AIDS prevention.

You have the option of exempting your child from the HIV/AIDS prevention information. However, we strongly encourage your child to participate. HIV information must be presented to every child by State mandate. Therefore, it is the parent's responsibility to provide this information which will be included in the Health final. If a student is exempted, he/she is assigned to a study hall and required to do an independent study unit in health.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss your concerns before making your decision, call your child's health teacher during school hours at 739-6357.

RETURN THE FORM BELOW IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE IN THE UNIT.



Return this portion by January 16, 2024 to the Middle School Health Teacher to exempt your child from instruction in the classroom.

(student name) _____

Does not have my permission to participate in the Human Physiology Unit and/or HIV/AIDS prevention.

Student: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Horseheads Central School District

Information about Emergency School Closings/Delays

Schools are closed when the weather makes it impossible to have reasonable attendance or when the schools or vehicles would not be able to operate safely. The school day is delayed when inclement weather conditions improve by early morning. Inclement weather may include snow, ice, and freezing temperatures. If the school day is delayed, buses will run and schools will open two hours later than the usual time.

The district announces school closings and delays in a variety of ways:

- **Text messaging** – Parents/guardians can receive a text message if schools are closed or delayed by opting in to our text messaging service through SchoolMessenger. To opt in, text Y or Yes to 67587. You will receive a text response confirming that you are registered for texting.
- **District website** at www.horseheadsdistrict.com
- **District Facebook pages** (the district and all seven schools have pages)
- **Twitter** - @HhdsSchools
- **Local television and radio stations:**
 - o TV - WENY, WETM, Spectrum Cable News
 - o Radio – WELM 1410AM, WNKI 106.1FM/WPGI 100.9FM, WENY 1230AM/MagicFM 92.7FM/WGMM 98.7

Note: Television and radio stations also put closing/delay information on their websites.

Please do not call the radio/TV stations or the district's Transportation Office.

Important notes about school closings/delays:

- There may be a time when any of these means of communication do not work due to Internet or other issues, so we ask that you check more than one of our communication methods to determine if school is in regular session or not for that day.
- If schools are closed, they will remain closed all day for scheduled activities, including remedial programs, extra-curricular activities, use of facilities by non-school groups, and evening programs.
- When school is delayed, there is no supervision for students until schools open two hours later than the usual time, so parents should not drop their children off at school until they open. Additionally, on school delays, there is no breakfast served.
- On school delays, prekindergarten begins at 10:30am.
- If a storm develops after school begins, usual procedure is NOT to close school early. This allows time for highway crews to plow and sand the roads and has proved to be less disruptive and confusing than attempting to send students home early.

School/District Communication

Our schools publish newsletters monthly or every other month. The district has an annual budget newsletter and other communications shared as needed. These will be sent by email and are available online.

The online district calendar can be found here: <https://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/fullcalendar.cfm>. It is updated regularly. Calendar information is also shared in school and district newsletters.

Parents/Guardians:

You can take advantage of our Text Messaging Service

The Horseheads School District uses the SchoolMessenger system to deliver **text messages**, straight to your mobile phone with important information about school closings, safety alerts, and more.*

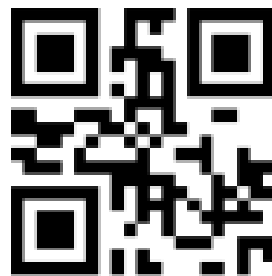
You can participate in this service* by sending **“Y”** or **“Yes”** by text to our school’s short code number, **67587**.

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 [Student Privacy Pledge™](#), 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**

i 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/td for more info.





District Dignity Act Coordinator

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 One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845; 607-739-5601 x 4211 or at cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

Middle School Dignity Act Coordinator

The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for the Horseheads Middle School is Ron Holloway, building principal. If there is a complaint regarding discrimination, harassment or bullying of any student, the complaint should be filed with Mr. Holloway at 950 Sing Sing Rd., Horseheads, NY 14845; 739-6357 x 3640 or at rholloway@horseheadsdistrict.com.

Notice

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, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.

This policy of non-discrimination includes access by students to educational programs, counseling services, course offerings, and activities, as well as recruitment and appointment of employees and employment pay, benefits, advancement and/or termination.

Horseheads Middle School:



Home of the Raider Way!