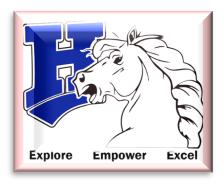
Horseheads Middle School February, 2023



The Winter Issue

Contact Us! 607-739-6357

Horseheadsdistrict.com/HHMS.cfm

What's Happening at HMS

2/2/2023

PTO Meeting
5:30pm in Library
Semester Two Open House
6:00 - 7:30pm

2/3/2023 - 2/4/2023

Middle School Musical Friday - 7:00pm in MS Café Saturday - 2:00pm in MS Café

2/7/2023

School Safety Presentation & Discussion HS Aud., 6:00pm.

2/7/2023

Yearbook Group Picture Day

2/16/2023

Regular Meeting and Budget Overview 6:00pm, High School Multi-Media Center

2/20/23 - 2/24/2023

February Break - No School

3/1/2023

Variety Show MS Café, 7:00pm

Spelling Bee Results

Congratulations to the **Thang Tran**, winner of the 2023 Middle School Spelling Bee! **Niyati Sharma** finished in second place. Both will compete in the Regional Spelling Bee in Corning next

Budget Information

month. Good luck!

Meetings are underway for developing the 2023-24 district budget. The public is invited to attend. Please see page 2 for dates and times.

Another successful food drive!

The Middle School blue, gray and white teams collectively gathered more than 8,000 food items for their winter food drive.

"Thank You for the very successful Food Drive. The total weight was 1,232# of food! That is outstanding. Please share with everyone at Horseheads Middle School how grateful we are at the Food Bank of the Southern Tier and give yourselves a round of applause for a job well done."

Caroline Tolbert
Food Sourcing Manager
Food Bank of the Southern Tier



School Safety

Presentation and Discussion

Tuesday, February 7, 2023 6:00 p.m. Horseheads High School Auditorium

All parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

The presentation by district administrators will include safety programs and explanations of protocols such as Hold in Place, Lock Out, and Lockdown. We will discuss scenarios both within schools and in the community and share procedures for responding including how and when we communicate information. A panel of administrators, school resource officers, and police and fire professionals will provide information and answer questions.



Questions? Contact your school office or email hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

District News

Budget Development Meetings New Image Designs



Budget Development Underway for 2023-24 School Year

The Board of Education and district are developing the proposed 2023-24 School Budget. The first budget presentation is Thursday, February 16. The board will continue budget development and discussion at their next several meetings until the final adoption of the budget to be offered to voters at the budget vote May 16. All meetings are open to the public and will be live streamed (at http://ideas.gstboces.org/hhds/). Here is the schedule:

- Thursday, February 16 Regular Meeting and Budget Overview, 6pm, High School Multi-Media Center
- Thursday, March 2 Budget Workshop, 6pm, High School Multi-Media Center
- Thursday, March 16 Regular Meeting and Budget Update, High School Multi-Media Center
- Thursday, March 30 Budget Workshop, 6pm, High School Multi-Media Center
- Thursday, April 13 (if needed) Budget Workshop, 6pm, High School Multi-Media Center
- Wednesday, April 19 Regular Meeting and Board Adoption of Budget, 6pm, High School Multi-Media Center
- Thursday, May 4 Public Hearing on 2023-24 Budget, 6pm, High School Multi-Media Center

The Budget Vote/Board of Education Election is Tuesday, May 16, 7am-9pm, in the High School South Gym.

For more information on the budget process, schedule, and vote click here: <u>Horseheads CSD Budget 2023-24</u> (horseheadsdistrict.com).



District Seeks New Image Designs

The Horseheads School District announced last month that they are seeking a new image to represent the Horseheads Blue Raiders. Students, alumni, staff, and community members were welcome to submit a design. The deadline has passed, and the district is now going through the entries.

The district image committee will review and discuss all submissions and forward them to the Board of Education. The Board will conduct a district-wide vote of selected images to determine a final choice. This vote will be open to all community members, all currently enrolled students, and confirmed alumni. The vote will be under the direction of the Horseheads Central School District Clerk and reported to the Board of Education. The Board will act on the vote at its June 2023 meeting. The image would be officially recognized as the new district image for the 2023-24 school year.

If you have any questions or need clarification, please reach out to the image committee chair members, High School Principal Kris Earl or Athletic Director Charles DeTaeye.



EALTH CAREERS

in the

Horseheads Central School District

Join the Blue Raider team!

Registered Nurses Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) Substitute Nurses and LPNs

Health care providers are vital members of our schools. Become a member of our staff and help keep our children healthy and ready to learn.

- Full time, ten-month positions (no weekends or summers)
- Excellent benefits including health, vision, and dental insurance, as well as New York State retirement
- All appropriate certifications and licenses required



To apply, or for more information, visit https://horseheadsdistrict.com/employment.cfm, contact the Human Resources Office at 607-739-5601, x4212, email hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.



The Horseheads Central School District is an equal opportunity employer.

Join the Horseheads Central School District as a School Bus Driver

UPDATE: Pay rate for 2022-23 is \$21.65/hour (\$15/hr for drivers in training)



- Paid training
- Benefits package including health insurance
- No weekends, holidays, summers

To apply, call (607) 739-6338 or pick up an application at our Transportation Department, 601 Sayre Street Extension, weekdays from 7:30am to 3:30pm. Our application may also be found at www.horseheadsdistrict.com/employment. (Both the district application and the supplemental transportation application are required.)

Applicants must be at least 21 years old. Fingerprint/background check and drug testing are required.

Questions?

Call (607) 739-6338 or email hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

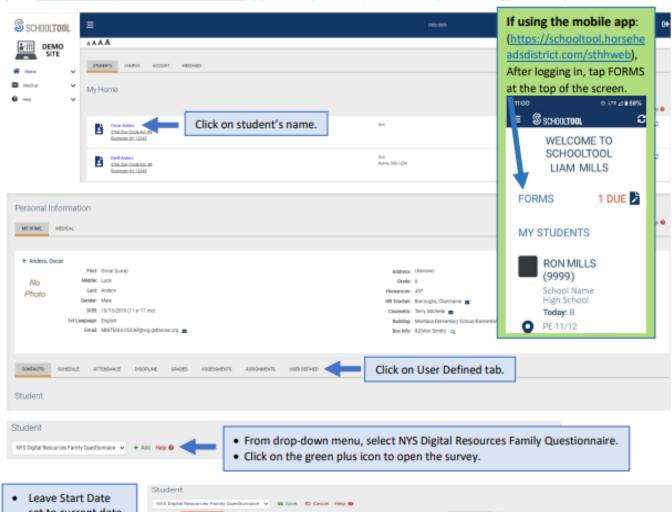


NYS Digital Resources Family Questionnaire

SchoolTool Parent Portal Instructions

Dear Horseheads Central School District Parents and Guardians:

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) now requires that districts send a digital resources questionnaire to parents and quardians. This information is meant to assist the state and districts in providing resources to students and families. NYSED asks that you complete a questionnaire for each student in grades K-12 in your family. You can access the questionnaire by logging in to the Parent Portal and following the instructions below. If you do not yet have a Parent Portal account, you can request one using this form: https://forms.office.com/r/zmB1NAWB8u. If you have questions, please contact your school office. Thank you.



- set to current date.
- Select appropriate response from drop-down menu next to each auestion.
- Click on the green save disk to save and submit your responses.
- · Return to Home Screen, complete Survey for all students in the household.

Student
ANYS Digital Personnes Family Questionnaire 🕶 🔡 Save 😊 Cascel 1969 😉
Graf Date: 4/27/2022 IIII
Collecting accounts white repending signal resource account for our New York stakes trained well peeding help education to better series their shadests and families in order to accompanie this, the New York stake statuted began trained as account in a companie to a Copy and a statute of the statute of the Service of the statute of the statute of the Service of the statute of the
Thank you for your time and cooperation.
NOTE: You must answer at least one question for this survey to be valid.
Did the selved district issue your child a dedicated school or district execute device for their was during the school prac?
Note: •
What is the device your child uses most often to complete learning activities awar from school? (This can be a school-provided device or another device, whichever the student is most often using to complete their schoolwork.)
Note: w
Who is the provider of the primary reaming device identified in Question 27 (This can be a school provided device or another device, whichever the student is most offen using to complete their school-work.):
None v
In the primary learning device (blendified in Question 2) shared with anyone else in the household?:
Note: V
In the primary learning device (Mentified in Question 2) sofficient for your child to fully participate in all learning artifician away from school?
None or
Is your cried able to access the littlement in their primary place of residencer.
None o
What is the primary type of intervel service stend in your shifts primary place of emistence?
Note U
In their primary residence, nan year child complete the full range of learning activities, including rideo streaming and assignment upload, without interruptions caused by slow or poor internet performance?
Note w
What, if any, is the primary barrier to baving sufficient and reliable interest access in your chiefs primary place of residence?:
None Y

School Notes

Sports News



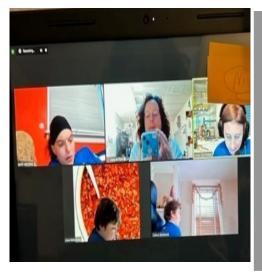
E-sports Team Finishes Second in National Meet

Horseheads Unified Raiders Esports Spring Season has started! Unified Sports® is a registered program of Special Olympics that combines equal numbers of athletes with and without intellectual disabilities on sports teams for training and competition. It is an educational and sports-based strategy that increases athletic and leadership opportunities and creates communities of acceptance for all students.

There are three Mario Kart teams and one Rocket League team. Mario Kart is a racing game where teams of 4 students race to collect points for the team. Rocket League has teams of 3 using cars to play a soccer-like game and score goals against the opponent.

Horseheads teams compete with teams across the US. Last Fall, the Mario Kart team of Callum Bednarek, Michael Burt, Liam McInerney and Dylan Snellgrove competed in the Championship game and came in second out of over 80 teams across the US!

This Spring there are 21 students from the Middle School, High School and Phoenix Academy. For the first time, Mario Kart teams practice and compete from the school. Rocket League team members compete from home. The season runs from February to April.



and Place
Mario Cart
Blue Team:
Clockwise Michael Burt,
Dylan
Snellgrove,
Callum
Bednarek,
Liam
McInerney

Rocket League: Clockwise-Brady Lowman, Chris Blake, Robert Lewis





Mario Cart White Team:
Clockwise—Vincent Wolfe, Alex
Cranmer, Tyler Johnson, Wyatt
Campbell

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 tenweek marking period.

Distinguished High Honor Roll95-100High Honor Roll90-94.99Honor Roll85-89.99Failing Grade64.0 or lower in any course

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

Report Cards Distributed February 1, 2023

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



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.



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://schooltool.horseheadsdistrict.com/sthhweb



School Notes

What you Need to Know



Horseheads Middle School PTO's

Alternative Fundraiser

As parents of Middle Schoolers, we are all familiar with the joys of fundraisers - selling door-to-door, hounding the same family and friends year after year, collecting (and keeping track of) money, and delivering the goodies weeks later. The HMS PTO Alternative Fundraiser eliminates all of the headache but still lets you support all of the things we do for our students and faculty!

Thank you in advance for your participation!

- ☐ I really live for PTO and want to help. Add my name to the volunteer list.
- □ \$10 I do not want to bake, so here is the money I would have spent on those cupcakes.
- □ \$15 I do not want to walk, swim or run in any activity that has the word "thon" in it. Here is the money I would have spent on my child's "free" t-shirt.
- □ \$25 I do not want to hit up friends, family and co-workers, so here is the money I would have spent buying coupon books.
- □ \$50 I really wouldn't have helped anyway, so here's \$50 to forget my name[©]
- \$____I am making this donation to express my appreciation for having nothing to buy (and eat!), sell or do, except fill out this envelope.
 - ♦ The HMS Rewards Program
 - Art Show Refreshments
 - National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony
 - ♦ Teacher Appreciation Breakfast
 - ♦ 8th Grade Awards Ceremony



♦ 8th Grade Farewell Cel-

Please make checks payable to HMS HSC



Support our Schools

Through our Alternative Fundraiser!

Lets face it - another fundraiser at this time of year is not what most people look forward to. This year, we've made it easy for you! Our "Alternative Fundraiser" lets you show your support for our middle school while relieving you of the hassle of fundraisers.

See the form (left) and choose the level you're comfortable with. Then get on with your holiday celebrations!

Thank you in advance for supporting our PTO and all the wonderful things they do for our middle school.

YEARBOOK SALE



To order your 2022-2023 Middle School yearbook, go to the following website: <u>ybpay.lifetouch.com.</u>

Enter the Yearbook ID code 11056523 and then follow the easy on - screen ordering instructions.

The cost is \$ 20.00 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 15.

School Yearbooks will be distributed in June.

If you need further information or details, please call 1-800-453-9764.





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



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

Parents' Bill of Rights for Data Privacy and Security

- 1. The parent/guardian or eligible student has a right to:
- 2. inspect and review the student's education records;
- 3. request that records be amended to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights;
- 4. consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) authorizes disclosure without consent; and
- 5. file a complaint with the United States Department of Education alleging failure of the district to comply with FERPA and its regulations. Complaints may be sent to Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202-4605.

health.ny.gov/flu



Fight Flu at Home and School

Flu, or influenza, spreads easily and can make people very sick, especially kids. You can help stop flu!

Flu symptoms include:

Fever or chills, body aches, cough, sore throat, headache, runny or stuffy nose, feeling very tired. Some people, especially children, may have stomach problems and diarrhea. Unlike a cold, the flu comes on very suddenly.

Prevent flu!

- Flu vaccine is the best protection against the flu. It is recommended every year for everyone 6 months and older.
- Get the flu vaccine for you and your children every year! It helps make flu sickness milder or prevents it all together.
- Getting the vaccine early in the fall means you and your children will be protected when flu season starts.
- Ask people close to your children, like babysitters and relatives, to get the vaccine, too.
- The vaccine is especially important for people with certain health. conditions, like asthma, diabetes, heart or lung conditions because the flucan make them even sicker.

If your child gets the flu:

- Your child will need plenty of rest and lots of fluids.
- Keep your child home from school for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone without using fever-control medicine. This helps avoid giving the fluto others.
- · Talk with your child's health care provider before giving a child any overthe-counter medicine.
- Never give your child or teenager aspirin or any medicine that has aspirin in it. Aspirin can cause serious problems.
- If your child gets flu symptoms and is younger than 5 or has a medical condition like asthma, diabetes, or heart or lung disease, call their health care provider. Young children and those with certain medical conditions are at greater risk for getting seriously ill from the flu. Ask their health care provider if they recommend an antiviral drug.
- If you are worried about your child, call their health care provider.

Don't spread flu!

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water aren't handy, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow, not your hands. Put used tissues in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. That's how germs spread.
- Stay away from people who are sick.

2178 6/19

News from the School Nurse *Mrs. Cobb*



	INE	D 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
(1)	S	00	60	(60)	•	2
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 REA	ADY TO GO	BACK TO SC	HOOL WHE	N 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.



District News



Reminder to parents...

If you move within the district, we require two proofs of residency when you submit the address change. We accept the following:

- Bank contract or mortgage agreement with name and address showing home purchase
- Signed rent or lease agreement with landlord's name, address, and telephone number, or DSS processed landlord statement
- Most recent utility bill (electric, phone, etc)
- Receipt for gas/electric/phone service
- Driver's license or state ID card with picture showing current district address
- Currently active bank account/checkbook statement with name and address imprinted
- Payroll stub with address

Questions? Call 739-5601, x4251.





Online district calendar

To see district and school events in 2022-23, please go to https://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/fullcalendar.cfm or go to the Calendar link in the main menu on the district website. The district will not be printing a multipage calendar this year. Our online calendar allows us to update events throughout the year and may be printed at home.

Employment opportunities

The district is accepting applications for cleaners, food service helpers, bus drivers, substitutes, and other positions at any time. Other positions are publicized when they become open.

For more information on employment opportunities and to apply for a position, please visit our website at https://horscheadsdistrict.com/employment.cfm.

Questions? Call 607-739-5601, x4211 or x4212, or email hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.



News from the Middle School Café

Rob Cole, Manager Jennifer Basch, Manager





It's New York Menu Day! Wednesday, February 15

Mac & Cheese Bar!

NY Mac & Cheese + Choose 1 Topping

Dinner Roll

NY Steamed Green Beans

NY Apple Slices

NY Juice!

Chilled NY Milk





Contact the Food Service Department with any questions:
Rob Cole, Manager 607-739-5601 x 3671
rocole@gstboces.org

Jennifer Basch, Manager 607-739-5601 x 3674 jbasch@gstboces.org



Scholastic Art Competition Winners Announced

Three 8th graders selected for awards!



Three of our eighth-grade students were selected for awards at this year's Scholastic Art Competition!

Brylee Hoppee was awarded a Gold Key for her drawing titled *The Sound of Silence*.

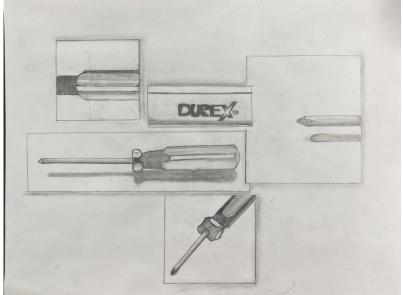
Kalyani Wiehe was awarded a Silver Key for her drawing titled Snowfall.

Payton Ryan was awarded an honorable mention for her drawing titled I'm Screwed.

The students will be honored at the Clemons Center Awards presentation on February 5th and their artwork will be on exhibit at the Arnot Art Museum throughout the month of February.

Way to go Raiders!





*I'm Screwed*By Payton Ryan



Snowfall

By Kalyani Wiehe

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 <u>www.horseheadsdistrict.com</u>
- 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
 - 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.

The Horseheads Central School District partners with



The Trusted Platform for School Community Engagement

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 <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

west

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.

*<u>Terms and Conditions</u> – 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.

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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