



Ridge Road Reporter

May 2020

Happy May Everyone!

A huge thank you to all of our Ridge Road Families that have partnered with our teachers to get the on-line learning successfully up and running for our students. Thank you for all of your support during this transition to distance learning and for working quickly to learn the Microsoft Teams platform. Although we all wish that we were back into the normal routine of a structured school day at Ridge Road, we know the learning needs to continue remotely for the remainder of the school year. Our staff members are truly appreciative of your commitment to making this extended dismissal and on-line system for instruction happen successfully for your children.

To bring a little extra sunshine to our students during our time apart, the PTO officers and Ridge Road staff members have been working together to create and pack care packages to be delivered to all of the Ridge Road students. I know most of the classroom teachers have already shared this information with you, but please be on the lookout on Friday or Saturday for a surprise goodie bag being delivered to your porch for your student. Please know that all classroom teachers have partnered with a staff member or spouse to deliver the care packages for their own students. Therefore, if you have two or more children that attend Ridge Road, they each could be getting their package at a different day or time. So please assure them that it is ok if a sibling's package arrives before they get their individual package.

The teachers all want a chance to wave to the kids as they are dropping off the care packages. (Of course, they will be following all social distancing rules in the process.)

Each grade level has a different color bag for their care package.

Pre-K- Red

Kindergarten- Yellow

1st - Green

2nd -Orange

3rd - Purple

4th - Blue

Sincerely,

Mrs. Bailey

Anne-Marie Manikowski-Bailey
Principal

2020-2021 HCSD Budget Development

In efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19, New York State has postponed state-wide school budget votes until at least June 1. The Horseheads district continues its development of the 2020-21 Budget as the state updates its information. We will share updated information on the vote and budget as soon as it is available. You may view preliminary budget information on the district website at <https://horseheadsdistrict.com/Budget2020-21.cfm?school=District>. Questions? Email hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com or call (607) 739-5601, x4295.
(Subject to change due to the New York on PAUSE order)

Horseheads Central School District

Technology Help

During the 2020 Extended Student Dismissal Tech Office Hours

We will hold office hours for technology help for students, parents, and staff beginning April 28. Details are as follows:

- Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays
- 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Intermediate School Entrance, 952 Sing Sing Road

These office hours are for in-person tech issues including defective district equipment, general troubleshooting, and return/exchange/pick up of loaner laptops. We will have two technicians there each session.

Please wear a mask or face covering and keep social distancing requirements in mind when using this service.

Note: While we cannot assist with personally-owned devices, we can answer questions about school accounts on personal equipment. If you simply have a question, please use the Tech Support Center below rather than visiting.

Tech Support Center

In addition to in-person office hours outlined above, technicians and librarians will assist students and families through our Tech Support Help Center.

Technicians will assist with hardware, connectivity, and network account issues. Librarians will assist students, families, and staff in their individual schools with software issues, online applications, and the basics of Microsoft teams.

In order to request assistance, please use this form:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=KtLKlY3tDEGU4Az1zjSEePHH3UhzI7IDs958K7D4_QIUQOFMWepMWjhYVEY5UIZZSUQ4TUpESIBIRi4u

Families without internet can call the following number for assistance: 607-481-2850. Please leave a detailed message outlining the technology problem or issue and a phone number we can use to reach you.

A note for district staff: Please contact the GST BOCES Help Desk if you have technology issues.

For general questions, or if you need assistance in finding someone to help, please email hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

Horseheads Central School District

Emergency Meals Information

State and federal regulations allow districts to provide meals to lower income children during school closures. During our closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we provide meals to families in need of assistance. Here is information on our meal distribution program:

Where are the locations and times for the meal sites?

Meals are provided weekdays during the school closure at the following locations and times:

10:30-11:30am Center Street School 812 Center St, Horseheads

10:30-10:50am Collingwood Mobile Home Park 358 Chambers Rd, Horseheads

10:30-10:50am Pine Valley Mobile Home Park 3600 Watkins Rd, Pine Valley

10:30-11:00am Ridge Road School 112 Ridge Rd, Horseheads

11:00-11:30am Millport Fire Department 2016 Crescent St, Millport

11:00-11:20am Thunderbird Greens Mobile Home Park 391 Sing Sing Rd, Horseheads

11:15-11:35am Erin Town Hall 1138 Breesport Rd, Breesport

Please note: We will evaluate the program and make adjustments if necessary.

Who is eligible?

This program is for any district family who needs assistance. Meals are available for those 18 years old or younger at no charge.

What is served?

We provide one breakfast and lunch per student. The menu items follow the typical meal pattern with grain, protein, fruit and/or vegetable, and milk. For those familiar with the Summer Food Service Program, the meals are very similar. Examples include peanut butter and jelly sandwiches or yogurt and string cheese, assorted fruit, and other items. We also provide alternative food items for students who have food allergies or intolerances.

How are meals served?

Meals are provided via drive up or walk up service for recipients to take home. There is not a dining area.

What should I do if I cannot get to a meal site?

We can deliver the meals to you if you are unable to get to a site. If you are unable to get to a site, please call (607) 739-5601, x4260 or x4295 to order meals for the following day. Please note: For Monday delivery, please contact us on the Friday before. We will need parents to contact us each day they need delivery.

Questions? Please call (607) 739-5601, x4260 or x4295, or email hcsdinfo@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, 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.

The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for Ridge Road is Anne-Marie Bailey. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any Ridge Road student should be referred to Mrs. Bailey at 607-739-6351.

A WHOLE PILE OF CHANGE

"Change is the only constant in life."

- Heraclitus, *Greek Philosopher*

"Change is not something that we should fear.

Rather, it is something that we should welcome."

- B.K.S. Iyengar, *Yoga Master*

**"Sometimes good things fall apart so better things
can fall together."**

- Marilyn Monroe, *Movie Actress*

**"If everyone is moving forward together, then
success takes care of itself."**

- Henry Ford, *American Industrialist*

We all have experienced a lot of change in the past two months. We have new terms in our vocabulary like **SOCIAL DISTANCING**, **SELF-QUARANTINING**, and **CONTACTLESS DELIVERIES**.

We have all seen our homes turn into schools, and workplaces, and have experienced staying home in times we formerly would have jumped in a car to go visit friends and family, to watch sport games and school musicals. We all have sacrificed our normal schedules to protect ourselves and others.

We all know that we will come through this crisis, we just don't know exactly when, and that makes us nervous and fearful. I have, however, noticed that many people have embraced change and have tried to let their lives go at a slower pace. I have noticed my neighbors waving to each other and calling across the street to check in and care for each other. I have seen families using technology to keep in touch, to share, and to laugh with each other. Let's move forward together, apart.

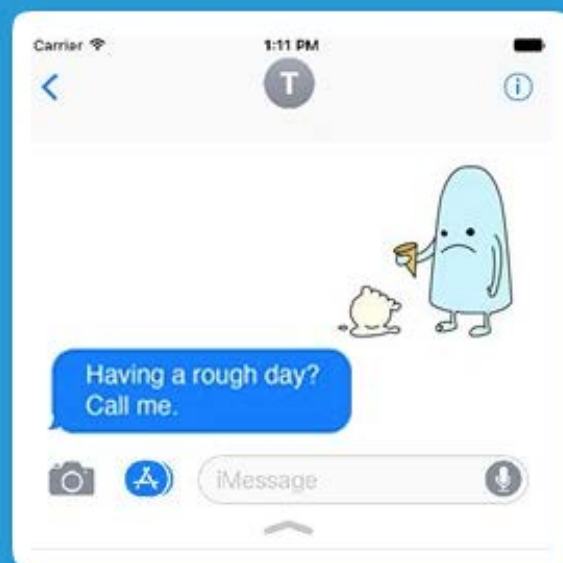
Stay Safe. Stay Smart. Stay at Home. Protect Others.

BE #DIGITALCITIZENSTRONG



May is
**National Mental Health
Awareness Month**

Why Care?



We are fortunate as Digital Citizens to have access to technology that we can use to reach out to others. We encourage you to use your technology wisely to connect to the people that you need in your lives. Use it to let your friends, family, teachers, and community members know that you care about them and their well-being.

Express how you are feeling while we are forced to be apart.

<http://go.gstric.org/309-mentalhealth>

<http://go.gstric.org/309-whycare>



What is Clickbait? Clickbait is manipulative online content, posts, or ads designed to capture your attention and get you to click on a link or webpage, often to grow viewers or site traffic in order to make money. It can also put a virus on your computer. Don't fall for online fake, shiny ads.

ONLINE CODE OF CONDUCT

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

RULES OF ETIQUETTE FOR ONLINE LEARNING

Be kind: Make sure you speak to others using good manners and appropriate language. Never assume what you enter in an email or other school-based application is private.

Be respectful: If we are chatting over a video conference connection, make sure to wait your turn and mute your microphone so noises aren't distracting to others.

Be responsible: If you are able to attend our virtual meetings, please connect five minutes before our meeting time so we can help with any issues. Only use the apps that your caregivers have given permission for you to use.

Be patient: We are all learning how to learn online. We can help each other by being patient as we move forward. This format is our classroom, and if we work together, we can make learning fun while we are meeting online!

- SOCIAL MEDIA - PLEASE KEEP DIGITAL MEETING CODES PRIVATE IN ORDER TO PREVENT UNWANTED GUESTS FROM ACCESSING THESE MEETINGS.
- ONLY USE ONLINE APPS AND PROGRAMS THAT HAVE BEEN APPROVED AND SET UP BY YOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT.
- THERE ARE MANY PHISHING SCAMS RIGHT NOW. ANY CHILD UNDER THE AGE OF 13 MUST HAVE PARENT PERMISSION TO JOIN ANYTHING ONLINE.

Parent Disclaimer:

Be aware of what you and your children are signing up for.

FREE ACCOUNTS ARE FREE FOR A REASON.

School district have more control over data security and safety settings.



NEW YORK STATE CYBERSECURITY FORUM REPORT

A Cyber Security & Data Privacy Forum was held January 30, 2020 at the Double Tree Hotel in Binghamton. Statewide Regional Information Centers (RICs) and BOCES collaborated to create the event and provide relevant breakout sessions.

The Forum opened with an overview of Part 121 regulation changes in NYS Education Law 2D, enacted January 29, 2020. <http://www.nysed.gov/data-privacy-security/regulations-strengthen-data-privacy-and-security>

Panelists for the discussion included **Tope Akinyemi**, Chief Privacy Officer with the New York State Education Department; **Philip Sage** with South Central RIC; **Jennifer Kenneson** with New York State Comptroller's Office; **Eric Lurie** with FBI Cyber Task Force and **Bhargav Vyas** the Assistant Superintendent for Compliance and Information Systems with Monroe Woodbury Central School District.

Sessions for Breakout 1

- Uh-Oh! The auditors are here...
- The role of Digital Citizenship in protecting your privacy
- How to inventory my district data and software
- Cyber Exposures, Trends and Insurance

Sessions for Breakout 2

- We've been hacked! Now what?
- Is our RIC protecting us?
- Third Party vendor contracts and IT policies
- NIST 101

The conference was very well attended and overall feedback from participants was positive. The topic of cyber security and data privacy is extremely relevant, especially considering the school closings due to Governor Cuomo's Covid 19 social distancing orders.

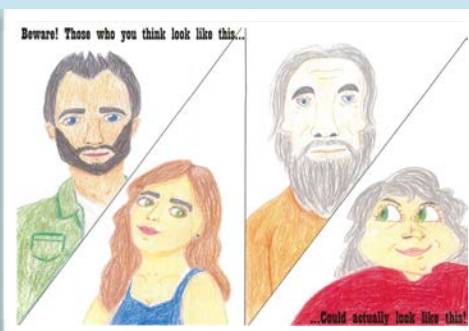


2020-21 Calendar Art Contest Winners

We are so pleased to announce the student winners of our Calendar Art Contest. Each student will have their art featured on one of the month pages for the 2020-21 school year. We had over 100 entries this year from 7 Component School Districts. The printed calendars will be available in June.



Think Before You Send
created by **Pierce**, grade 12
Watkins Glen HS



Beware
created by **Hailey**, grade 11
Spencer - Van Etten HS



You Never Know Who Is Watching
created by **Carlie**, grade 10
Watkins Glen HS



Technology Will Consume You
created by **Katherine**, grade 9
Edison HS



Not What It Seems
created by **Kamden**, grade 9
Edison HS



Keep Your Info Private & Locked
created by **Faye**, grade 9
Watkins Glen HS



Be Kind
created by **Olivia**, grade 8
Horseheads MS



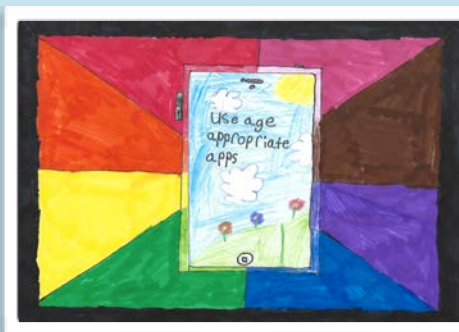
Safe On Your Phone
created by **Sage**, grade 7
Campbell - Savona HS



Online Safety
created by **Jackie**, grade 6
Horseheads IS



Online Safety Tip
created by **Anya**, grade 5
Hugh Gregg Elementary



Use Age Appropriate Apps
created by **Gabby**, grade 4
Winfield Street Elementary



Don't Talk to Strangers Online
created by **Ciara**, grade 3
Winfield Street Elementary



Mrs. Mobile's Tips for Distance Learning

- 1 Take several short screen-breaks throughout the day (about every hour).**
Make sure these breaks include movement (and not another screen).
- 2 Keep food and drink away from your screen.**
This will require you to move to get that much needed snack or drink
- 3 Make a point to connect with someone every day.**
Especially those you typically don't reach out to. A quick phone call, text or video call will brighten both of your days.
- 4 Distance learning is self-paced.**
This means aside from assignment and exam dates, there is no set schedule. So, it is up to you to set your timetable.
- 5 There's no right or wrong place to study.**
If it works for you, that's great. What's important is that you choose somewhere that's reasonably private and free from interruptions.
- 6 Take the time to explore your online learning environment as soon as you can.**
Then if you have any questions you can find out the answer before your course work begins.
- 7 Students who set goals and stick to them are more likely to stay motivated and achieve success in their studies.**
So, if you haven't already done so, set some study goals.
- 8 Academic success is a combination of skill and will.**
That is, what you know and how you apply yourself. The more motivated you are, the better you'll apply yourself.
- 9 Don't beat yourself up if you don't understand new information.**
Sometimes you'll feel bad and may think it is your fault. This can be a barrier to your understanding. When you feel like this stop and take a break. This will help your emotions take a step back and give you the chance to clear your head.
- 10 What do you say to yourself or to others about yourself?**
Give yourself positive messages. For example: 'I can succeed', 'I'm good at ...', 'I passed my previous assignment so I can pass this one too'. Make a list of things you've done successfully in the past. Think about how you achieved those things and use those techniques again.

Source:

<https://www.openpolytechnic.ac.nz/current-students/study-tips-and-techniques/study-tips/top-10-study-tips/>
or <http://go.gstric.org/309-DLTips>

