



Dr. Thomas J. Douglas
Superintendent

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December 17, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we move through a busy December, we'd like to share a few important reminders and upcoming opportunities with our families.

Winter Holiday Break

There will be no school for students starting Monday, December 22. Students will return to school on Monday, January 5. We hope this time provides students, staff, and families with an opportunity to rest, recharge, and enjoy quality time together throughout the holiday recess.

Reminder: Special Ad Hoc Committee on School Start Time Evaluation

The Board of Education is creating the Special Ad Hoc Committee on School Start Time Evaluation to consider any potential modifications and/or switching of school start times for all levels.

The committee will examine the feasibility and impacts of any changes, taking into account:

- Community feedback
- Staffing considerations
- Transportation implications
- Budget implications

Parents and guardians interested in serving on the committee should complete [this form](#). Submission does not guarantee selection. Additional information about the committee is available within the form. **The form will close at 3 p.m. on Dec. 19.**

Save the Date: Annual St. Baldrick's Green Out Game

We are excited to support the upcoming Green Out Game between the Horseheads Blue Raiders and the Corning Hawks, benefiting the St. Baldrick's Foundation and helping fund lifesaving childhood cancer research.

When: Friday, January 9, 2026

Where: Corning-Painted Post High School

- JV Tip-Off: 5:30 PM
- Varsity Tip-Off: 7:15 PM
- Free entry (donations will be collected to support the St. Baldrick's Foundation)
- Fans are encouraged to wear green

Anyone interested in purchasing an official Green Out shirt may do so [here](#). We hope to see our school community come together for a fun night of basketball while supporting an important cause.

Supporting Early Literacy: Imagination Library

Horseheads Central School District has partnered with United Way of the Southern Tier to help more families enroll in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, a free monthly book program for children from birth to age five. Any child under age 5 living in Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, or Yates counties is eligible, regardless of family income. Enrolled children receive an age-appropriate book mailed to their home each month, supporting early literacy from the very beginning.

Families can register [here](#). More information on this partnership is also available on [our website](#).

Early Drop-Off Program (K-4)

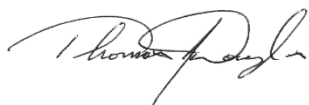
The K-4 Early Drop-Off Program has been extended for the current school year. Originally scheduled to end this month, the program will continue for the time being and is tentatively planned to conclude by Spring Break 2026. Families currently participating should plan to adjust their drop-off schedules by Spring Break, when the program will be reviewed and evaluated.

Please note that this program will not be offered for the 2026-2027 school year. Thank you to all families who have already adjusted their schedules.

As the calendar year comes to a close, we are grateful for the continued support of our families and community. Your partnership plays an important role in our students' success. The district wishes you a safe, restful, and joyful holiday season and looks forward to welcoming students back in the new year.

Questions? Please contact the Main Office of your child's school or email the district at hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com

Sincerely,



Dr. Thomas J. Douglas
Superintendent of Schools
Horseheads Central School District