

Dr. Thomas J. Douglas
Superintendent

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Dear Parents and Guardians:

June 20, 2025

As the school year winds down, the district remains committed to keeping you informed about important updates that impact students, families, and the community. Below, you will find information about graduation, new school start times, and the upcoming weather.

Revised 2025-2026 Budget Passes

On behalf of the Board of Education and my entire team, I want to express our gratitude to everyone who came out to vote. The revised 2025-2026 school budget passed overwhelmingly with a near 67% approval. Among many things, this budget will continue to help the district maintain our academic programs and extracurricular activities, and does not impact staff livelihoods. Your patience throughout this process has been very much appreciated. Thank you again for your commitment to supporting the students in our community.

High Temperatures Expected

The forecast for the upcoming week shows consistently high temperatures. As of now, there are no plans to shorten any school days because of the weather. The building administration will continue to monitor the weather and adjust the daily schedules, as appropriate. Please make sure your child is dressed in clothes that allow them to stay cool, while still following the Code of Conduct. In addition, please make sure your student has a water bottle with them so they can stay hydrated throughout the day and during their end of the year activities.

Graduation

Our hardworking high school seniors are almost at the finish line! The Class of 2025 Graduation is tentatively scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 25 at the Horseheads High School Stadium. All graduating seniors must report to the South Wing of the High School by 5:15 p.m. on the day of graduation. The ceremony is weather dependent and rain dates are June 26, June 27, and June 28.

The high school and the district will keep all informed of any potential changes to the schedule, as soon as feasible, depending on the weather forecast for each day. The actual ceremony will last around 1.5 hours. A flyer with a link to view and purchase photos will be available in the graduation program.

Graduation rehearsal is mandatory to participate in the ceremony, with no exceptions. All graduating seniors must be at the High School Stadium on Tuesday, June 24 at 1:00 p.m. for the graduation rehearsal.

New School Arrival/Dismissal Times

The district is finalizing the new arrival and dismissal times for the 2025-2026 school year. This includes building opening and closing times, as well as a process to assist families who may have challenges with work requirements for the start of next year. This information will be shared with families next week, so everyone can fully prepare for the start of school in September.

Sincerely,

Dr. Thomas J. Douglas Superintendent of Schools

Horseheads Central School District