



Dr. Thomas J. Douglas
Superintendent

143 Hibbard Road • Horseheads, NY 14845
(607) 739-5601 • Fax (607) 795-2405
www.horseheadsdistrict.com

August 21, 2026

Dear Parents & Guardians,

A new school year brings a measure of uncertainty, but also near limitless possibility. In true Horseheads fashion, we embrace the many challenges that await us **TOGETHER** and celebrate the victories that result **TOGETHER**, as a single **SCHOOL COMMUNITY**. In that spirit, I would like to share some important announcements to help your family prepare for a successful 2026-27 school session.

Pending Retirement – At Tuesday’s Board of Education meeting I formally submitted a letter of intent to retire effective November 15, 2027. With great appreciation and pride for the work we’ve done to strengthen our school community over the last +12 years, I look forward to my next chapter as a member of the Horseheads community – whatever that may bring.

Ridge Road Construction Showcase – We will welcome members of the community, families, staff, students and members of the media to Ridge Road Elementary School on Monday, Aug. 31, for tours with district administration celebrating the completion of renovations at the school. Two sessions will be offered, from 1–3 p.m. and 6–8 p.m.

Transportation Information – Did you register your child for busing this school year? If not, there is still time to get in touch with the Transportation Department to request ridership. Parents and guardians are also encouraged to download the [My Ride K-12 app](#) for real-time information on where your student is enroute to and from school.

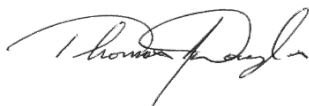
Cell Phone Policy Reminder – I would like to remind parents and guardians that cell phones may not be used during the instructional school day per New York State law. Please ensure that your student’s cell phones are stored in their locker or other secure place throughout the day as policy will be strictly enforced. In Addition, please look for new cell phone regulations for High school students that will be shared in the coming weeks.

We’re Hiring - Join the team at Horseheads School District! We are currently hiring for 11 open position categories, including teaching roles and a variety of support staff opportunities that contribute to the way we serve student needs. [View all current openings and apply online:](#)

ParentSquare Is Here - ParentSquare is our new primary school-to-home communication platform, bringing school, district, and classroom communication into one place, making it easier for staff to connect with families and for families to stay informed. [Download the app](#) and easily sign up for conferences, complete classroom forms, sign up to volunteer, and stay in the know about what’s happening in your student’s classroom.

I look forward to welcoming back all of **Raider Nation** in just a few short weeks!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas J. Douglas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" and last name "Douglas" clearly distinguishable.

Dr. Thomas J. Douglas
Superintendent of Schools