



Dr. Thomas J. Douglas
Superintendent

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Friday, August 7, 2026

Dear Parents & Guardians:

It is with much anticipation that we look forward to the 2026-2027 school year. During this time, we advise parents to begin to adjust their student's schedule according to their personal needs and begin to build morning routines around anticipated school schedules.

School Start Times: School start and end times remain unchanged for the coming school year. Each specific school's building doors open time and official school start and end time can be found at the bottom of their respective school's page of the district website.

Welcoming New Assistant Principals: Please join us in welcoming three new elementary assistant principals to the Horseheads Central School District for the 2026-2027 school year!

- Todd Bieloski Big Flats Elementary School
- Katie Boyle Gardner Road Elementary School
- John Paul Passmore Ridge Road Elementary School

Each brings valuable experience, a passion for student success, and a commitment to supporting our school communities. We are excited to have them join our leadership team and look forward to the positive impact they will have on our students, staff, and families. Welcome to Horseheads!

ParentSquare Activation: On Monday, August 3, parents received an email alerting them to activate their ParentSquare account. If you haven't done so already, check your email, activate your account, and stay up to date with what's happening in your child's class and the school district at large. Download the mobile app for ease of access or use the desktop version at <https://www.parentsquare.com/signin>.

Orientation and Welcome Events: To ensure a great start to the year, many of our schools are holding orientation and welcome events for new students to include:

Intermediate School

New Student Orientation

- Friday, August 7, from 9 to 11 a.m. and 12 to 2 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 11 from 9 to 11 a.m. and 12 to 2 p.m.

Self-Guided Tours

- Thursday, August 20 at 10 a.m.
- Tuesday, August 25 at 6 p.m.

Middle School:

New Student Orientation:

- Thursday, August 27, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. & 6 – 7 p.m.

Students may pick up their schedules, tour the building and practice opening their lockers. School counselors and administrators will be available to answer questions.

High School:

New Student Freshman Orientation - Wednesday, September 2

- Two sessions: 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. at the High School Auditorium.

Elementary Sneak Peek Events for Pre-K, Kindergarten, and new grade 1-4 students:

Big Flats Elementary

Wednesday, September 2

- 1:15 p.m. (A-L)
- 2:15 p.m. (M-Z)

Gardner Road Elementary

Wednesday, September 2

- 1:15 p.m. (A-L)
- 2:15 p.m. (M-Z)

Ridge Road Elementary

Wednesday, September 2

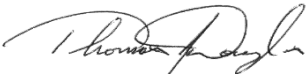
- 1:15 p.m. (A-L)
- 2:15 p.m. (M-Z)

Fall Sports Sign Ups and Physicals: Fall sports registration is happening now! We've posted updated information about the registration process on [our Athletics webpage](#). Check it out and make sure your student is registered by the deadline date, so they are ready to participate. **Go Blue Raiders!**

Capital Project Progress: Construction is substantially complete at Ridge Road Elementary School and teachers have been moved into their new classrooms. The High School Gym project is roughly 65% complete and due to be finished before the end of 2026 2027 school year. Now the district will turn its attention to transitioning the Center Street building, at the High school complex, as the new educational support center and administrative hub.

Annual Notifications: New York State requires school districts to provide parents and guardians with important information on a variety of policies, procedures, and legal notices throughout the year. Horseheads Central School District is committed to making this information readily available through written communications, our website, and other methods as required by law. We encourage all families to visit our Annual Notifications webpage for current information and updates throughout the year for more information: [Annual Notifications](#).

Sincerely,



Dr. Thomas J. Douglas
Superintendent of Schools