



March 2, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We wish to update you on some important items. If you have questions, please contact your school office or email us at [hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com).

### **Canvas Learning Management System**

Throughout the fall semester, our district has been transitioning to a new Learning Management System (LMS) called Canvas. Canvas allows teachers to provide a personalized learning experience through instructional support, class calendars, messages, notifications, assignments, collaborative activities, and course resources in one platform. Parent/guardian Canvas accounts will allow you to view assignments, due dates, and calendars. These accounts will become active on Thursday, March 2. To access your Canvas parent/guardian account, you will need to use the same email you use for your Schoology/Parent Portal login, and then set up a password for Canvas. For more information and help using Canvas, as well as the login link, click here: <https://horseheadsdistrict.com/HCSDCanvasHelpforParentsGuardians.cfm>.

### **Remote Learning Plan**

The district is developing a remote learning plan as required by the state to be used in an emergency. This would be a plan we could call upon in emergency conditions such as adverse weather conditions, utility issues, or a communicable disease outbreak. This remote plan would allow the district to keep the calendar intact during years when winter weather is particularly challenging, or we face other reasons for school day closures. The state requires districts to post their remote plans and provide a means for parents/guardians to comment on the plan. You may read the plan [here](#) (or <https://horseheadsdistrict.com/HCSDRemoteLearningPlan.cfm>), and comment using the links found within the plan.

As you know, we have used three of the four snow days built into our 2022-23 calendar. If the district must use more than one more snow day this year, this plan could be used to remain in session and therefore meet the state requirements for days of instruction.

### **2023-24 Calendar**

At their February 16 meeting, the Board of Education approved the school calendar for 2023-24. You may find the calendar [here](#) (or [horseheadsdistrict.com/releases/2023-24%20Calendar.pdf](http://horseheadsdistrict.com/releases/2023-24%20Calendar.pdf)).

### **Board of Education Budget Workshops and Regular Meeting**

District administration has begun presenting information on the 2023-24 budget to the Board of Education. During this time of the year, the board meets for both budget workshops and regular meetings. All begin at 6pm and are held in the Horseheads High School Multimedia Center. Here are the upcoming meeting dates:

March 2: BOE Budget Workshop  
March 16 BOE Regular Meeting  
March 30 BOE Budget Workshop

Meetings are open to the public, and they are live streamed at <https://ideas.gstboces.org/hhds/index.cfm>. For more information on budget development, please go to the budget page of our website at this link: <https://horseheadsdistrict.com/HCSDBudget2023-24.cfm>

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### **February 7 Safety Presentation**

On Tuesday, February 7, the district held a safety presentation and discussion for parents and guardians. We recorded the presentation for those who were unable to attend. To view the recording, click here: <https://youtu.be/jQC2L7ndI9U>.

### **PreK Packets**

The district has mailed information on the Prekindergarten registration process to those parents/guardians in our database with a child who will be four years old on or before December 1, 2023. If you have a child that age and did not receive a packet, please contact us as soon as possible at [hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com). Registration dates are later this month.

### ***The Little Mermaid***

The Horseheads High School Greenroom Players proudly present *The Little Mermaid* March 16-17 at 7pm and March 18 at 2pm and 7pm. Tickets went on sale earlier this week at <https://hhsgrp.booktix.com/>. For more information, click here: <https://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/uploadedimages/Little%20Mermaid%20Poster.pdf>.

### **Horseheads St. Patrick's Day Parade**

The Horseheads St. Patrick's Day Parade is Saturday, March 11, at 2pm (inclement weather date is March 12). We are very happy to have our schools and many student groups participating once again this year. For more information, click here: <https://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/uploadedimages/StPatricksParadeMarch11.pdf>.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas J. Douglas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "D".

Dr. Thomas J. Douglas  
Superintendent of Schools