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May 3, 2022

### Dear Parents and Guardians:

It is hard to believe we are in May already. Thank you for your support and assistance as we continue to weather the global pandemic together. As you may know, positive COVID cases are on the rise in our part of the state and in our district. Please continue to do what you are doing: Keep your students home and test them when they are feeling ill, and let us know about it. Continue all the other precautions you are taking during this time. Together we can keep our schools safe.

#### A few more items of information to share:

- Because of this latest increase in COVID cases, we will be sending test kits home once again with all students this Friday. Home testing is not required, but please feel free to test your children regularly. If you need additional tests, please contact or visit your school office.
- On May 1, Schooltool updated the Parent Portal. The hope is that the new format will make navigating the information easier. As we all know, with anything new, it takes time to get used to the changes. More information on the new format follows this letter.
- This Thursday (May 5), we will hold the Public Hearing on the 2022-23 Budget at 6pm in the Horseheads High School Auditorium. Following the hearing, there will be a Candidates Forum for the candidates to the Board of Education. All are welcome at both events. For more information on the budget and board candidates, please visit our website here: <a href="https://horseheadsdistrict.com/Budget2022-23.cfm">https://horseheadsdistrict.com/Budget2022-23.cfm</a>.
- The 2022-23 Budget Vote/Board of Education Election is **Tuesday**, **May 17**, **from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the Horseheads High School South Gym**. All district residents are eligible to vote, as long as they are U.S. citizens, are 18 years of age or older on the day of the vote, have lived in the district for at least 30 days prior to the vote on May 17, and are not restricted from voting in general elections based on election law. Note that a resident does not need to own property in order to vote. For more information on the budget and board candidates, please visit our website at this link: <a href="https://horseheadsdistrict.com/Budget2022-23.cfm">https://horseheadsdistrict.com/Budget2022-23.cfm</a>. The budget newsletter will be mailed to residents in the coming week.

Again, thank you for your assistance and for your support of our children and school community. If you have questions, please contact your school office.

Sincerely,

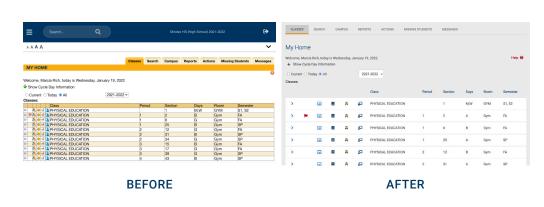
Dr. Thomas J. Douglas Superintendent of Schools



New York State's market-leading Student Management System (SMS), SchoolTool™, is getting a major facelift in 2022. See below for details on our largest UI update ever!

# Why update the look of SchoolTool?

- Visual updates rooted in real user feedback
- Modernized user interface following current best practices and standards
- Improved accessibility for all users per Web Content Accessibility Guidelines
- Greater consistency in elements and colors throughout SchoolTool



# What changes will you see?

#### **FONT & TAB UPDATES**

- Increased text spacing and sizing throughout SchoolTool to improve readability
- Menu tabs have been moved to the left side of the screen for better visibility

# **TABLE & FORM UPDATES**

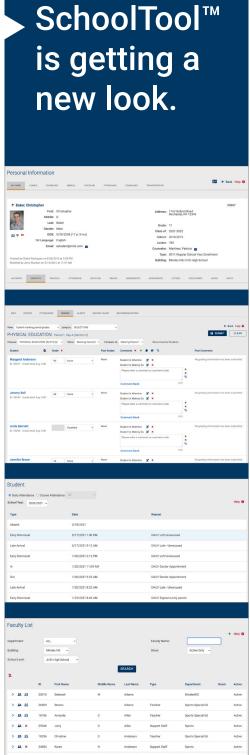
- Increased spacing and sizing for easier use and legibility on all tables and input fields
- Updated button styles and added more visual feedback to users when hovering or clicking on elements

### **COLOR UPDATES**

- Gold-colored backgrounds removed from tabs and tables to reduce visual distraction
- Light gray background added throughout to reduce eye fatigue

## **ICON UPDATES**

- Image-based icons replaced with an icon font that allows responsive resizing
- Increased size and color change on hover to show which icons are clickable
- Where needed, icons replaced with more appropriate representations



Tell us what you think at Mindex.com/User-Feedback

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