

May 20, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Please see the following important items of information:

Masks

On Monday, Governor Cuomo updated mask requirements in the state to meet the Centers for Disease Control's new guidelines. These guidelines went into effect yesterday, allowing fully vaccinated individuals to go unmasked in certain situations. Please note this change does not apply to schools, public transportation, nursing homes, health care facilities, or other locations noted in the guidelines. **The district will continue to require mask use in buildings, on school grounds, and on school transportation.**

Budget Vote/Board of Education Election

We thank everyone who voted at our Budget Vote/Board of Education Election Tuesday. Here are the results:

Proposition 1 - 2021-22 Budget:

Yes - 999

No - 287

Proposition 2 - Purchase of Buses:

Yes - 1014

No - 274

Board of Education Election - top 3 vote-getters earned seats (3-year terms beginning July 2021):

Kevin Adams – 779

Najeeb Rehman – 725

Doug Johnson – 726

Kristine Dale – 1042

Voluntary Vaccine Clinic for Ages 12 and Older

We are assisting the Chemung County Health Department by providing locations for COVID vaccine clinics. Last week, the district hosted a clinic at the High School. We are currently working with the Health Department on a second clinic, now that the state has expanded the eligible age group to age 12. The district is not requiring the vaccine for students or staff.

We will be sending an online survey to families with eligible students to determine if there is enough interest to hold a clinic May 27 at our Middle/Intermediate School complex with the second dose on June 18. Please note: If your child has already received the vaccine or if you do not want your child to receive the vaccine, you may disregard the survey. And again, the district does not require the vaccine for students or staff. If you are unable to access our survey and would like your child 12 and older to receive the vaccine at the clinic next week, please call (607) 739-5601, x4295.

Memorial Day Recess: May 28-June 1

As the Memorial Day Recess nears, we wish to remind everyone that there is no school May 28 to June 1. The district recently added Tuesday, June 1 to the recess. Wednesday, May 26 and Wednesday, June 2 will be in-person instruction days.

continued

2021-22 School Calendar

[Click here for the 2021-22 School Calendar](#), approved by the Board of Education May 19. Note that next year, the district is able to meet state requirements for days/hours of instruction and fit a week-long break in February. This is because of how the days fall next year. This will likely be for just one year until the days fall that way again. This was the same in 2014-15.

Discounted Broadband for Eligible Households

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) recently announced the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program, which provides a temporary discount on monthly broadband bills for eligible consumers. The application process is open now. Eligible households can receive a discount of up to \$50 per month on monthly broadband bills for eligible consumers and/or a one-time discount of up to \$100 on a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer. To learn more, to find out if you are eligible, and to apply, see this link: <https://getemergencybroadband.org/> . Questions? Email ebbhelp@usac.org or call 833-511-0311.

If you have questions, please contact your school office or email hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com. 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