



Big Flats News

April 2026

At Big Flats Elementary, we will SOAR together as we explore our "wonders" in a fun and engaging community, where we will inspire each other to achieve anything!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Happy Spring! On behalf of our PTO, I would like to thank everyone who participated or donated towards our Annual Spring Candy Fundraiser; we had another successful year! We appreciate your efforts and continued support.

Please note that our May PTO Meeting will be on Monday, May 11th at 6:00pm in our school library. We will also be completing our PTO Officer Election at this meeting. The PTO Officer Ballot is as follows:

- **Co-Presidents, Lydia Buck & Theresa Colvin**
Write-In Candidate(s) _____
- **Co-Vice Presidents, Lynette Palma and Kaylee Johnson**
Write-In Candidate(s) _____
- **Secretary, Samantha Snellgrove**
Write-In Candidate(s) _____
- **Co-Treasurers, Tara Miller, Ashley Alteri-Cowen, & Suzanna Dodge**
Write-In Candidate(s) _____



Next week and the beginning of May, our 3rd and 4th grade students will be taking their NYS computer-based assessments in both English Language Arts and Math. The ELA exams will be on April 28th and 29th and Math will take place on May 5th and 6th. It won't be long now as we get closer to bringing this school year to a close.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Scaptura
Big Flats Elementary Principal

School Food Services for 2025-2026:

Breakfast: Free

Lunch: Free

School Office Hours During Regular

School Days:

7:45AM to 3:45PM

School Hours:

8:35AM to 3:20PM

Office Phone Numbers:

607-739-6373

607-795-2550

Drill Notifications:



As you are aware, throughout the school year, Big Flats Elementary will practice important emergency response procedures for our school including fire, evacuation, lockdown, and emergency dismissal drills. Families will receive notice within one week prior to drills. Please be advised we will continue practicing our mandated drills.

Parent/Guardian Pick Up Reminders

On behalf of our BFE Parent Pick Up Team, we would like to thank you **ALL** for your support and patience with our end of the day pick up procedures! We have a few reminders to further expedite and ensure the safety of all our students, staff, and families:

The **earliest** you may arrive on campus to line up is **3:00pm**. We begin dismissal at approximately **3:20pm**. Please do not arrive any earlier than 3:00pm as we are dismissing our PK students until approximately 2:45pm.

Please keep your family name tent visible to **ALL** staff to ensure that we are getting each child to the correct parent/vehicle. You must have your provided family name tent; **no homemade tents will be accepted**. If you do not have your provided family name tent, please park and walk to the main office. If new name tents are needed, please call to request a set of two.

Throughout the school year, we will have different BFE staff members assist with student pick up duty. Please continue to be patient and appreciative of our staff who do their best to ensure everyone gets home safely. Please let our staff know how much you appreciate them. A simple thank you goes a long way!

Please pull up as close as you can to the car in front of you. Please do not pull forward to exit until released by either the School Resource Officer or a staff member.

Please REMAIN in your vehicle. Please be sure that every child is properly restrained before being directed to pull forward. Please note, if your child needs assistance being secured in their child seat, please park in the main parking lot, and pick your child up in the parent walkup line in front of the library.

Please **DO NOT** pass any vehicles and please stay in your lane!

Please **DO NOT BLOCK** the entrance/exit of our school campus to get in line. Obstructing the view on Maple Street is very dangerous for parents trying to pull out. Please be patient and wait your turn. If your vehicle cannot fit straight at the end of the line when entering our school campus, please wait!

Please be courteous and take turns alternating east and west bound traffic when entering our campus.

Please **DO NOT** block the entrance of our neighbors' driveways. Please leave each driveway accessible so that our neighbors may enter and exit their homes safely. We appreciate our neighbors and want to always be respectful!

ATTENTION PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF 3RD AND 4TH GRADERS

To provide schools and parents with an assessment of student achievement, New York State has developed the New York State Testing Program. These standardized tests challenge all students in grades 3 through 8 to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. Please visit the site at <https://www.engageny.org/parent-and-family-resources>. If you are interested in viewing this site but do not have access to the Internet, please call the school office so that we can make arrangements for you to see this guide.

3rd and 4th grade Computer Based ELA—April 28th, 2026 and April 29th, 2026. 3rd and 4th grade Computer Based Math—May 5th, 2026 and May 6th, 2026

Friendly Reminders

PLACE INFORMATION FOR 5th GRADE

The Intermediate School will soon be completing 2026-2027 classroom placements for students. We create class sections with the intent to achieve a mix of students by ability, gender, personality, and individual needs. While we are unable to honor specific requests for teachers, we value your input from a parent's perspective.

If you have specific information about your child's needs which should be taken into consideration, or a specific previous personal experience, please email interim principal, Kim Malone at kmalone@horseheadsdistrict.com and interim assistant principal, Meghan Gunderson at mgunderson@horseheadsdistrict.com no later than Monday, April 13th.

4th GRADE INTERMEDIATE PRESENTATION AND TOUR

The Intermediate School will be hosting a presentation and self-guided tour for all current 4th graders. The presentation will be held on Wednesday, April 15th in the cafeteria beginning at 6PM. Immediately following, students and families will have the opportunity to take a self-guided tour around the school. Should you have any questions, please contact the Intermediate School office at 607-739-6366

Budget Vote/Board of Education Election

- Thursday, April 16th: Budget Meeting; HS Auditorium, 6:00PM
- Wednesday, April 22nd: Regular & Budget Meeting, HS Auditorium, 5:15PM

Attention Kindergarten Parents/Guardians:

All Kindergarten students will be photographed for their cap and gown photo on Monday, May 4th starting at 9 AM.

Parents' Bill of Rights Relating to Student Data

The Horseheads Central School District, in compliance with Education Law 2-d, hereby establishes the following Parents' Bill of Rights in regard to student data:

1. A student's personally identifiable information will not be sold or released for any commercial purpose;
2. Parents have the right to inspect and review the complete contents of their child's educational record. Procedures for reviewing student records can be found in the Board Policy entitled 'Student Records,' Policy 5500,
3. Regulation 5500-R; Security protocols regarding confidentiality of personally identifiable information are currently in place and the safeguards necessary to protect the confidentiality of student data are maintained at industry standards and best practices. The safeguards include but are not limited to: encryptions, firewalls, and password protection.
4. New York State maintains a complete list of all student data collected by the State and the data is available for public review at www.nysed.gov, or by writing to: 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12234.
5. Parents have the right to have complaints about possible breaches of student data addressed. Complaints should be directed to the Superintendent of Schools, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845.

Mark Your Calendars

April 2nd:

End of Marking Period

April 3rd to April 10th:

Spring Break - No School

April 13th:

CIM Meetings; Bridge

April 14th:

Principal Chat; Library 5:30PM

PTO Meeting; Library 6-7PM

April 15th:

4th Grade Presentation and

Tour; IS Cafeteria 6PM

April 17th:

Raider Pride Day - wear your
Raider gear!

April 20th:

CSE Meetings; Bridge

April 22nd:

Report Cards Go Home

April 24th:

Freaky Friday! Dress up as staff

April 28th and 29th:

3rd and 4th Grade NYS ELA

Assessments

April 30th:

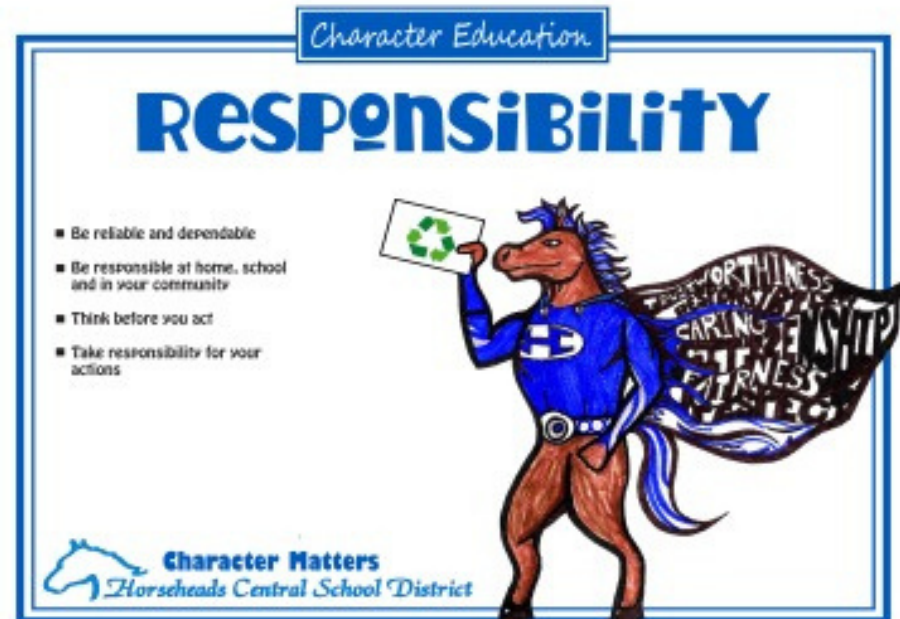
NYS Assessment Makeups

Teacher Placements for the Upcoming 2026-2027 School year:

It's that time again when we begin to prepare for the next academic year! If you have any concerns regarding your child(ren's) future teacher placement, please put your concerns in writing to Mrs. Scaptura, no later than Friday, April 13th, 2026.

Per BOE policy, parents can NOT request a specific teacher.

April is the Month of: Responsibility!



Think before you act

**Take responsibility for
your actions**

Be reliable and dependable

**Be responsible at home,
school, and in your community**



April 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 End Of Marking Period 504 Meetings; Bridge	3 Good Friday NO SCHOOL	4
5	6 	7	8	9	10 	11
12	13 CIM Meetings; Bridge	14 Principal Chat - 5:30P PTO Meeting; BFE Library 6-7PM	15 4th Grade Tour and Presentation; IS Cafeteria 6PM	16	17 Raider Pride Day!	18
19	20 CSE Meetings; Bridge	21	22 Report Cards Go Home	23	24  Dress as Staff!	25
26	27	28 NYS 3 & 4 ELA Assessments	29 NYS 3 & 4 ELA Assessments	30 NYS Assessment Makeups		



Big Flats Elementary School