

Big Flats News JANUARY 2020

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful winter recess and had the opportunity to spend some quality time with family and friends. It really is hard to believe that we are already in the month of January for the 2019-2020 school year.

The month of January brings many exciting events for students and families. This week, we have our annual Innovation Fair on Tuesday, January 13th, 2020. Once again this year, we will be holding our fair during school hours and not as an evening event. We received positive feedback from many parents last year, sharing that they appreciated the daytime fair compared to the evening fair. Based upon this feedback, the PTO decided to keep this event during the day this year. Also, this week, Friday, January 17th at 6:00pm at the high school pool, our PTO will be hosting A Family Fun Swim Night! All BFE students must be accompanied by a parent(s); no students may be dropped off. Parents are encouraged to also get into the water, especially with any weak or non-swimming children. Next week, January 22nd, 2020, beginning at 7:00pm in the high school auditorium will be the annual District-wide Winter String Showcase Concert. This concert highlights all of our string students grades 4-12. Please join us at the high school for an evening of wonderful string music!

I am happy to report that our school social workers continue to push into all classrooms to empower our students to appropriately develop their social interaction skills with others. So far, our social workers have facilitated sessions on mindfulness and kindness. During the mindfulness sessions, students learned how to recognize their different emotions and how to regulate those emotions by focusing on “being in the present.” With the kindness sessions, the students were empowered to understand how their words and actions towards others can either be a positive interaction or a negative interaction. When we are kind to one another, we are “filling each other’s bucket;” however, when we are unkind, we are “bucket dipping.” We look forward to our social workers’ next sessions where they will be expanding upon empowerment and self-advocacy! We ask our parents to please continue to support your child(ren) and encourage them to always be kind, have a positive attitude, and be mindful!

Together, we will make a difference!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Scaptura
Elizabeth Scaptura
Principal

Horseheads Central School District sets the standard of educational excellence by fostering innovative thinking, curiosity, and a passion for learning to maximize the potential of each individual. We engage with our local and global communities to provide a student-centered, nurturing environment.

Explore

Empower

Excel

*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!*

Elementary Lunches (K-6)

School Food Services prices for the 2019-2020 school year will be:

Breakfast: \$1.25

Lunch: \$2.10

School Hours

Hours for the Elementary Schools are:
8:15 a.m. to 2:25 p.m.

Office Hours

Our school office hours during regular school days are:

Monday through Friday

7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Office Phone Numbers

(607) 739-6373

(607) 795-2550

Fax: (607) 795-2555



FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

• **Delayed Start Procedures**

*As we enter the winter months, please be advised that the Horseheads Central School District uses a delayed start procedure in addition to school closings. The delay opens schools **two hours*** later than normal start time. School ends at the regular time on delayed start days. Morning buses will arrive at the bus stops two hours later; staff will arrive two hours later; and students being dropped off at school in the morning should arrive two hours later. **Breakfast will not be served on delayed start days.** The announcements can be found on our Facebook page, on our District website www.horseheadsdistrict.com, via text message, or on the local media stations. Radio and television stations that will be announcing the delayed starts and/or school closings are listed on page 5 of the District Calendar. ***Pre-K classes will begin at 10:30am when there is a delayed start.***

• **Recess**

*Students continue to go outside for recess during winter months. Please be sure that your child has a warm coat, hat, gloves/mittens, and boots so they can stay warm as they play. *Please remember that the nurse cannot provide boots for any student.*

• **Changes in Going Home Routine/Bus Notes**

Please remember to write a 'blue note' with your child's change in dismissal plans if he/she will not be following their normal routine. Blue notes should also be written to explain your child's tardiness, absence, or plan to leave early. This is extremely important for the safety of our students.

Valuable Items in School

Each year over Winter Recess, many of our students will receive gifts that they will treasure. To avoid the possibility of damage or loss of any valuable items, *including electronics*, we encourage students to leave those items **at home**. Please encourage your child to follow our suggestion so that we can avoid any unfortunate situations where items disappear or get broken.

Thank you for your support!



Please pull tabs for Ronald McDonald!

PullTabs4McDonalds@yahoo.com

Pull tabs for Ronald McDonald Charities!

Tabs will be picked up mid-May.

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, Regulation 5500-R;
3. 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.

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 ELA—March 25-26, 2020

4th grade Science Performance Test—May 19, 2020

3rd and 4th grade Math—April 22-23, 2020

4th grade Science Written Test—June 1, 2020

Mark Your Calendars

Jan 7
PTO Meeting; 6pm, BF Library
Jan 14
PTO Innovation Fair
Jan 17
Spirit Day—Hat Day
Jan 20
NO SCHOOL—MLK Jr. Day
Jan 23
BOE Meeting; 6pm, MS Café
Jan 31
Report Cards Go Home

Need more Blue Notes?

By this time of year, you may be running out of blue notes. Please call the office and we will be happy to send a pad home with your child.

Learn Up-To-Date Information About Our Schools and the District

Facebook: The district and each of our seven schools have pages. “Like” them to see our information in your news feed.

Twitter: Follow us on Twitter at @HhdsSchools to read our tweets. Follow Mrs. Scaptura on Twitter at @escaptural

Instagram: The district’s page—hhdschools

Visit our district website at:
www.horseheadsdistrict.com.

Questions about our website or social media? E-mail
hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com



BOX TOPS ARE GOING DIGITAL

SEE THIS... CLIP IT

- CHECK EXPIRATION DATE
- PUT IN BAGGIE
- STUDENT BRINGS TO SCHOOL

NO MORE CLIPPING

SEE THIS... SCAN YOUR RECEIPT

- DOWNLOAD BOXTOPS APP
- SPECIFY SCHOOL
- BIG FLATS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- SCAN RECEIPT WITHIN 14 DAYS

thank you!

Guidelines for Classroom Parties

Before bringing food, please check with your child’s teacher for approval and to see if students in the class have any food allergies; such as peanuts, chocolate, etc. No flowers or balloons may be sent or brought to students. Please do not bring frozen items as there is limited freezer space and access. *Thank you!*

Certified Teacher Substitutes Needed Teaching Assistant Substitutes Needed

The District needs certified teachers for day-to-day substituting opportunities in all of our schools. Certified teacher substitutes receive a rate of \$95 per day. To apply, contact the Human Resources Office at (607)-739-5601 x 4211.

Dignity Act Coordinator

The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for Big Flats Elementary is Elizabeth Scaptura. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student should be referred to Mrs. Scaptura at (607)-739-6373. The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for the Horseheads Central School District is Caitlin DeFilippo, director of Human Resources. If there is a complaint regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student, the complaint should be filed with Caitlin DeFilippo at One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845; 607-739-5601 x4211, or cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

Non-Discrimination Notification

The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, marital status, military status, sex, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, predisposing genetic characteristic, or disability, and provides equal access to applicable groups under the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. Inquiries regarding this policy may be made to Caitlin DeFilippo, Title IX/DASA Coordinator, and Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; Anthony Gill, Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; or Kelly Squires, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.

This policy of non-discrimination includes access by students to educational programs, counseling services, course offerings, and activities, as well as recruitment and appointment of employees and employment pay, benefits, advancement and/or termination.

January —The month of:

Fairness

- Play by the rules
- Take turns and share
- Be open-minded
- Listen to others
- Treat all people fairly
- Don’t take advantage of others
- Don’t blame others carelessly





Digital Citizen News

January 2020

Volume 3 : Issue 5 - January 2020



HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020!

This is the time of year when many people make new resolutions - One of this month's posters is an activity to create a New Year's Digital Citizenship Resolution. Print the poster and make your resolution now.



Did you or any members of your family receive new devices over the holidays?

If so, this is a great time to review online safety tips with your family members geared toward helping them protect their personal information.

Here are some very important tips to share with your family:

- **Remind them why security is important.** People of all ages should not reveal too much information about themselves. Keeping data secure and only providing what is necessary minimizes online exposure to scammers and criminals. Birthdates, addresses, age and especially Social Security numbers are among things that should not be shared freely.
- **Always use security software with firewall and anti-virus protections.** Make sure the security software is always turned on and can automatically update. Encrypt sensitive files such as tax records stored on computers. Use strong, unique passwords for each account. Be sure all family members have comprehensive protection especially if devices are being shared.
- **Teach them to recognize and avoid scams.** Phishing emails, threatening phone calls and texts from thieves posing as IRS or from legitimate organizations pose risks. Do not click on links or download attachments from unknown or suspicious emails.
- **Protect personal data.** Don't routinely carry a Social Security card. Keep it at home. Be sure any financial records are secure. Advise children and teens to shop at reputable online retailers. Treat personal information like cash; don't leave it lying around.
- **Teach them about public Wi-Fi networks.** Connection to Wi-Fi in a mall or coffee shop is convenient but it may not be safe. Hackers and cybercriminals can easily intercept personal information. Always use a virtual private network when connecting to public Wi-Fi.
- **Think twice before using a public USB charging station.** There is a security risk labeled "juice jacking", a USB charger scam that permits hackers to access and/or infect devices while charging. Hackers can load malware into the public charging stations or in cables left plugged into the stations.

More safety information and tips about avoiding scams - <http://go.gstric.org/305-safety>

DO YOU KNOW



What is TikTok?

TikTok is a short-form, video-sharing and social media app that allows users to create and share 15-second videos, on any topic.

The app has simplified video creation and sharing and taken it to the next level. All users can record anything from their daily routines and post it instantly. Neither the video-creation nor the watching process takes much time or effort.

When a user opens the app, the videos start playing one-by-one and a viewer gets lost in a sea of addictive video content.

As for the content itself, all the inappropriate words and sexual lyrics that go along with popular music are obviously part of the app, and some of the clothing and dance moves in videos can be a little risqué.

Parents can access the privacy settings though there are no actual parental controls. Be aware that it is still possible to watch videos from the app without ever creating an account.



Sign Up to receive this newsletter in your email inbox

Scan this QR code with your phone, or go to <http://go.gstboces.org/dcnews-signup> in your browser.

TECH-KNOWLEDGE-G QUOTE FOR JANUARY

The Internet? Is that thing still around?

HOMER SIMPSON, *The Simpsons*, Season 10, Episode 23



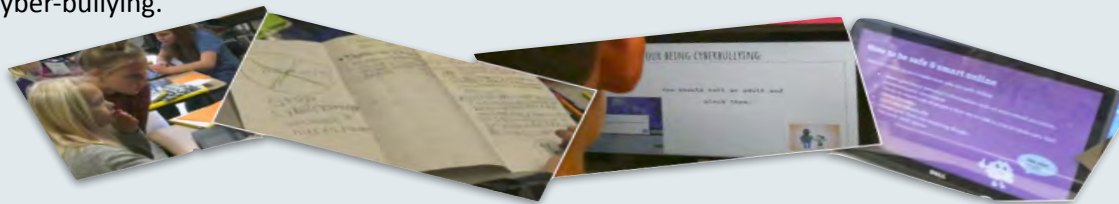
Send comments, suggestions, and questions to dc@gstboces.org
Visit <http://dc.gstboces.org> January 2020 - page 1 of 3



Integrating Digital Citizenship and Internet Safety into the new ELA Curriculum



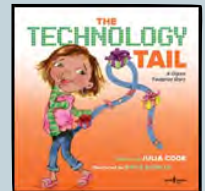
Fifth graders in the Horseheads Central School District are incorporating digital citizenship as they learn about informational reading and expository writing in their new ELA curriculum. Students were given various informational pieces related to digital citizenship which they had to read, annotate, comprehend, and gather information to present to their peers. For their final task of the unit, students could choose to do either do a Google Slides presentation or a paper pamphlet to create an informational guide. Additionally, they could choose between the topics of digital citizenship or cyber-bullying.



Students created their final products and shared them with their classmates in small groups to further solidify their learning. The project met students at a very good age, where they are increasingly having access to phones and other technologies. Some teachers also found that the exposure prompted deeper discussions in class as they, along with their students, began to define safe and appropriate online behavior.

RESOURCES

Many sources were utilized including Google's "Be Internet Awesome" (go.gstric.org/305-awe) digital safety and safety curriculum, a guest presentation on digital citizenship, an article entitled "World Wide Web of Hurt" by Tamekia Reece (go.gstric.org/305-hurt), as well as an anchor text entitled "The Technology Tail," by Julia Cook (go.gstric.org/305-tail), which provides a new twist to the familiar digital footprint concept.



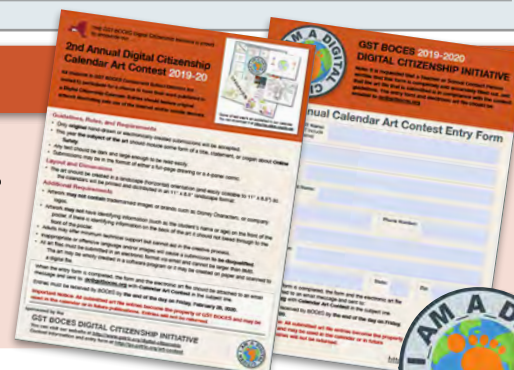
- For a few activities to use with the "Tail" story.
- go.gstric.org/305-tail2

** Calendar Art Contest Reminder

Students Artists! Create some original art on the topic of **Online Safety**. Enter it in our contest and if it is chosen - It will appear in our next Calendar. **Entries must be received by February 28th, 2020.**

Get the full details on our website. Use the shortcut below:

<http://go.gstric.org/art-contest>



Back in May of 2017 we sponsored an **“Un-plug and Play” Weekend** and encouraged everyone to put down their devices. Here are some more suggestions!

Unplug and Reconnect

10 ways to take a Tech Time Out

Taking time away from digital technology can be a challenge, but disconnecting from the digital world is a great way to reconnect with family and friends.

Here are ten ideas for things you can do when you’ve unplugged from cyberspace.

<p>PLAY A GAME</p>	<p>With all the great board games out today there are a lot of great choices you can find at your local board game shop or department store if you don’t already have a favorite game at home.</p>
<p>TELL STORIES BY CANDLELIGHT</p>	<p>Pretend you are sitting around a campfire. Take turns telling true or make-believe stories to each other.</p>
<p>FAMILY DESSERT TIME</p>	<p>Set up a sundae bar with your favorite toppings and let everyone make their own ice cream treat!</p>
<p>READING THEATER</p>	<p>Pick out a book that your friends and family can read together. Take turns reading parts of the book out loud – and don’t forget to make up voices for the characters!</p>
<p>VISIT A MUSEUM</p>	<p>There are a lot of great places in your town to learn something new – take a trip to a local museum to see what you can find out about the world around you.</p>
<p>MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT</p>	<p>Help take care of our surroundings by organizing or participating in a clean-up effort to beautify your town or park.</p>
<p>COOKING LESSON</p>	<p>Have a favorite dish that your family has for dinner? Ask your parent or guardian to show you how to make it and learn to cook it for your family.</p>
<p>MAKE SOMETHING</p>	<p>Show your crafty side by making something out of what you have at home – what can you build? It can be something simple like origami or even a bird house to feed our feathered friends!</p>
<p>TAKE A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE</p>	<p>Look at old photos of your family and talk about what the story is behind the pictures. Ask a parent or guardian to do it with you and learn about what your family did before you were born.</p>
<p>BUILD A FAMILY TREE</p>	<p>Start building the tree with the family members you know and then get help from parents or guardians to help add more branches.</p>



Robby Reindeer says ...

Treat your password like your toothbrush!



- ... Choose a good, strong one
- ... Don't leave it laying around
- ... Don't share it with anyone
- ... Change it regularly

GST BOCES DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP INITIATIVE
"Reindeer Wisdom" January 2020 poster

<http://dc.gstboces.org>



Source: Based on a Clifford Stoll quote. <http://go.gstric.org/toothbrush-quote>





January 2020

My Digital Citizenship Resolution

This year I will improve my digital citizenship skills by:

Signed by:

Date:

Review the Digital Citizenship Elements:

- Digital Law
- Digital Security
- Digital Rights & Responsibilities
- Digital Access
- Digital Etiquette
- Digital Communication
- Digital Literacy
- Digital Wellness
- Digital Commerce

And then make your resolution.

Plan to make your resolution something that you can easily work on through the end of the school year and into the summer.



GST BOCES
Digital Citizenship

<http://dc.gstboces.org>