



Big Flats News

FEBRUARY 2023

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,

Although the month of February is short, we have a lot going on!

First, I would like to invite everyone to our District Wide Safety Meeting, tomorrow, Tuesday, February 7th, 2023, at 6:00pm in our High School Auditorium. A panel of district wide safety team members will be presenting on both building and district wide safety information. As I continue to share and reiterate, my number one priority as a building principal is to ensure the safety of all students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Our building and district safety procedures are constantly assessed and evaluated as well as continually improving each year as technology improves. Please join me tomorrow night for this informative session about safety.

Our February PTO Meeting will be on Wednesday, February 8th, 2023, at 6:00pm in our school library. Due to the District Wide Safety Meeting on Tuesday, we are moving our PTO meeting to Wednesday. Please note this change!

This month we will be celebrating Black History Month with our continued collaboration with the Black Growth Council of Corning Incorporated. The Mission of the Black History Month Read-In Program is to continue the celebration of literacy, a tradition of Black History Month. Corning Incorporated has purchased the books that will be read and added to each classroom library. We are excited to continue our partnership with Corning Incorporated and volunteer readers. Volunteers from various departments within Corning Incorporated as well as community volunteers, will be sharing these stories and interacting with our students this week!

Lastly, I hope everyone can enjoy our Mid-Winter Recess the week of February 20th-24th, 2023, there will be no school. Whether you can get away or simply stay home during this week off, I do hope everyone is able to take some time to rest, relax and rejuvenate as we begin to prepare for the remainder of this school year. Before we know it, the last day of school will be upon us as will the beginning of our major construction project at Big Flats Elementary.

Stay warm!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth M Scaptura

Elizabeth M. Scaptura

Principal

Elementary Lunches (K-6)

School Food Services prices for the 2022-2023 school year will be: \$1.25 for breakfast and \$2.10 for lunch.

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:

• 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!

• 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.

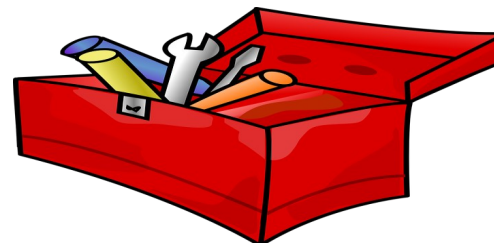
• Lost and Found

Please remind your child(ren) to look in the lost and found bin if they are missing any items that belong to them. There are quite a few articles of clothing in our bin waiting for their owner to reclaim them!

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.



Construction Corner Updates:

With the upcoming construction that will begin soon at Big Flats Elementary,

I want to do my best to keep parents/guardians and staff aware of all that will be going on during our two year construction phase!

As you would assume, this will be a very exciting and stressful time for many of us. I ask for everyone's patience, flexibility and understanding as we go through and embrace this process.

To begin, here are the changes coming to Big Flats Elementary during this two year Construction phase.

The first year of construction will begin out back of our school sometime this Spring! The new construction will include a new gymnasium/auditorium!

It will also include a new general music suite and instrumental music suite! We will also have a total of eight new general education and special education classrooms!

Our current library and gymnasium will soon be our new cafeteria and kitchen! Our current kitchen will become our new library! We have much more coming, so stay tuned to the Construction Corner, to stay up to date with all of our pending changes!

As district voters, thank you ALL for voting for this to happen for our current students and all future Big Flats Falcons! Way to SOAR!

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.

April 19 and April 20, 2023—3rd and 4th grade ELA

May 3 and May 4, 2023—3rd and 4th grade Math



We are excited to share our continued collaboration with the Black Growth Council of Corning Incorporated to participate in the *Black History Month Read-In Program*. The Mission of the Black History Month Read-In Program is to continue the celebration of African American literacy; a tradition of Black History Month. Corning Incorporated has purchased the books that will be read and added to each classroom library.

Volunteers from various departments within Corning Incorporated will be sharing these stories and interacting with our students this week! This year, students in Pre-K will be read the book The Crayon Box That Talked by Shane Derolf and Michael Letzig. Students in Kindergarten will be read The Day the Crayons Quit by Drew Daywalt. Students in grade 1 will be read Counting on Katherine by Helaine Becker. Grade 2 students will be read Henry's Freedom Box by Ellen Levine. Grade 3 students will be read Ruth and the Green Book by Calvin Alexander Ramsey, and students in grade 4 will be read Through My Eyes by Ruby Bridges.

The focus of the guided discussions will start with grade 1 on black inventors, grade 2 on slavery/civil war, grade 3 on segregation, grade 4 on integration; plus other information that is unique to each book. We greatly appreciate this opportunity and look forward to a continued partnership with Corning Incorporated.

2023-24 Budget Development

The Board of Education and district are developing the proposed 2023-24 School Budget. The first budget presentation is Thursday, February 16. The board will continue budget development and discussion at their next several meetings until the final adoption of the budget to be offered to voters at the budget vote May 16. All meetings are open to the public and will be live streamed (at <http://ideas.gstboces.org/hhds/>). Here is the schedule:

- Thursday, February 16 – Regular Meeting and Budget Overview, 6pm, High School Multi-Media Center
- Thursday, March 2 – Budget Workshop, 6pm, High School Multi-Media Center
- Thursday, March 16 – Regular Meeting and Budget Update, High School Multi-Media Center
- Thursday, March 30 – Budget Workshop, 6pm, High School Multi-Media Center
- Thursday, April 13 (if needed) – Budget Workshop, 6pm, High School Multi-Media Center
- Wednesday, April 19 – Regular Meeting and Board Adoption of Budget, 6pm, High School Multi-Media Center

Thursday, May 4 – Public Hearing on 2023-24 Budget, 6pm, High School Multi-Media Center

The Budget Vote/Board of Education Election is Tuesday, May 16, 7am-9pm, in the High School South Gym.

Mark Your Calendars

February 2023

Feb 7 District Safety Mtg
6pm HS Aud.

Feb 8 PTO Meeting at 6pm, Big
Flats Elementary Library

Feb 14 Wear **Red** and **Pink**
Valentine's Day

Feb 16 100th Day of School

Feb 16 BOE Mtg; 6pm HS Aud.

Feb 20-24 NO SCHOOL

Presidents Day Recess

Feb 27 PTO Candy Sale ends for
free shipping.

March 2023

Mar 1 Trooper Sperr Day, Wear
Purple or Gray

Mar 2 Dr. Seuss Day, Wear
Pajamas

Mar 7 PTO Meeting BF library
6pm

Mar 10 PTO Swim Night, 6-8pm
High School Pool

Mar 11 Regional Scrip Spelling
Bee, CPP MS

Mar 11 Horseheads Village
St, Patrick's Day
Parade 2pm

Mar 16 BOE Mtg 6pm HS

Mar 17 Spirit Day, Wear **Green**

Mar 20 NO SCHOOL
Conference Day

February: Trustworthiness

- Be honest
- Don't deceive, cheat, or steal
- Be reliable – do what you say you'll do
- Have the courage to do the right thing
- Build a good reputation
- Be loyal – stand by your family, friends, and country



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—[hhdsschools](#)

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



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

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.

School Safety

Presentation and Discussion

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

6:00 p.m.

**Horseheads High School
Auditorium**

All parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

The presentation by district administrators will include safety programs and explanations of protocols such as Hold in Place, Lock Out, and Lockdown. We will discuss scenarios both within schools and in the community and share procedures for responding including how and when we communicate information. A panel of administrators, school resource officers, and police and fire professionals will provide information and answer questions.





**Questions? Contact your school office or email
hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.**



February 2023

Big Flats Elementary School Parent Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5	2 6	3 1	4
5	6 2 <i>District PTO Meeting at RR 6:00pm</i>	7 3 <i>Safety Meeting 6pm HS AUD.</i>	8 4 <i>PTO Meeting at BFE 6pm library</i>	9 5	10 6	11
12	1 <i>Valentines Day: Wear red and pink</i>	14 2	15 3	16 4 <i>100th Day BOE Mtg; 6pm HS Aud</i>	17 5	18
19	20 NO SCHOOL— 	21 NO SCHOOL— <i>President's Day Recess</i>	22	23	24	25
26	27 2 <i>PTO Candy sale ends for free shipping</i>	28 4	March 1 5 <i>Trooper Sperr Day Wear Purple or Gray</i>	<i>Be reliable—do what you say you'll do Don't blame others carelessly</i>		<i>Be loyal—stand by your family, friends, and country</i>