



Big Flats News

March 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,

I hope this month's newsletter finds everyone patiently waiting for Spring, as I am! The nice weather has been a true “breath of fresh air” and has no doubt gotten many of our students and staff equally excited about the arrival of Spring. I know, only to be reminded tonight that we are still in winter! Anyway, we have many reminders below for the months of March and April. I hope this is helpful as you plan the next couple of months!

Below is a list of many important reminders for the remaining month of March and all of April!

- ◆ Superintendents Conference Day **Monday, March 20th, 2023- NO SCHOOL** for Students!
- ◆ 3rd & 4th Grade New York State Computer Based ELA Assessments April 19th and 20th, 2023
- ◆ 3rd & 4th Grade New York State Computer Based Math Assessments May 3rd & 4th, 2023
- ◆ PTO Gertrude Hawk Chocolate pick up days/times: Thursday, March 23rd from 2:45-5:30 and Friday, March 24th, 2:45-4:00pm.
- ◆ Spring photos and Kindergarten Cap and Gown photos will be held on Thursday, April 27th, 2023. Flyers will go home once we receive them!
- ◆ Shine Bright Spirit Day! Wear bright colored clothing Friday, April 14th, 2023
- ◆ Spring Recess- No School Monday, April 3rd – Friday, April 7th, 2023.
- ◆ Pre- Kindergarten and Kindergarten Parent/Teacher Conferences April 24th - April 28th, 2023.

Lastly, PLEASE do not block the entrance when arriving for end of the day pickup. Parents leaving the campus, cannot see around illegally “standing” vehicles at the entrance/exit. If your vehicle cannot properly fit straight in line, then please wait on the shoulder of the road so that everyone can safely exit our school campus. Also, please be sure to NOT block any of our neighbors' driveways as you are patiently waiting to turn into our school campus. Thank you for your patience and understanding!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth M. Scaitura

Big Flats Elementary Principal

Elementary Lunches (K-6)

School Food Services prices for the rest of the 2021-2022 school year will be offered at no cost to students.

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



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

FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR 5th GRADE at the Intermediate School

The Intermediate School will soon be completing 2023-2024 classroom placements for students. We create class sections with the intent to achieve a mix of students by ability, gender, personality, and individual special 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 put them in writing and send them to the Intermediate School no later than April 10th. We look forward to working with you to ensure your child's academic success! Thank you!

The Intermediate School Parent Information Night and Self-Guided tour for **incoming 4th grade families** is scheduled for April 12, 2023 at 6:00pm in the IS Cafetorium.

Spring Photos and Kindergarten Cap and Gown photos are Thursday, April 27, 2023.

2023-24 Budget Development

The Board of Education and district are developing the proposed 2023-24 School Budget. The first budget presentation was 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.gstbores.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 2023-2024 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.

REMAINING SPIRIT DAYS:

Friday March 17 – St. Patrick's Day -Wear your green

Friday, April 14– Shine Bright Day! Wear a bright color

Friday, May 19– Mismatch Day! Wear mismatched clothes

Thursday, June 22– Too Cool for School Day—Wear your Hawaiian clothes and/or sunglasses



Attention Parents and Guardians of Third and Fourth 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

Spelling Bee:

SCRIP Spelling Bee is March 11, 2023 beginning at 9:00am at the Corning/Painted Post Middle School.



Teacher Placements for the upcoming 2022-2023

School Year:

It's that time of year, when we begin to prepare for next year! If you have any concerns regarding your child(ren's) next year's teacher placement please put your concerns in writing to Mrs. Scaptura, no later than Friday, April 21 2023. Per BOE policy parents can NOT request a specific teacher.

Parent Morning Drop Off Times:

K-4: 7:40am - 8:15am

PK: 8:50am - 9:05am

Parent Afternoon Pick Up Times:

PK: 1:50 pm - 2:00 pm

K-4: 2:25 pm - 2:35 pm

Please be punctual! We are running on a very tight schedule. We appreciate your support!

Please Remember These Important Pick-Up Reminders!

- ◆ The earliest you may arrive for K-4 pickup is 2:10pm. We begin dismissal at approximately 2:25pm. Please do not arrive any earlier than 2:10pm as we are dismissing our PK students until approximately 2:05pm.
- ◆ Please pull up as close as you can to the car in front of you. We need to get as many vehicles off Maple Street as possible.
- ◆ Please be as quick as you can with assisting children with car seats and seatbelts. Please be sure that every child is properly restrained before pulling forward. Please continue to build independence!
- ◆ Please do NOT pass any vehicles, please stay in line!
- ◆ 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!
- ◆ If the fire siren goes off, please pull off the road immediately!
- ◆ 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 KEEP YOUR FAMILY TENT NAME POSTED UNTIL YOUR CHILDREN HAVE ENTERED YOUR VEHICLE!** Throughout the school year, we will have different BFE staff members assist with student pick up duty. Please do not assume all staff know or recognize you or your vehicle.

Mark Your Calendars

Mar 1 Trooper Sperr Day—
Wear purple and gray

March 2
Dr. Seuss Day—Wear pajamas
PTO Mtg; 6pm

Mar 11
Spelling Bee
St. Patrick's Day Parade
Mar 16 BOE Mtg; 6pm HS Aud
Mar 17

St. Patrick's Day—Wear green
Mar 20
No School— Conference Day

Apr 3-7
Spring Recess—No School

Apr 8
Shine Bright—Wear bright
clothes

Apr 11
PTO Meeting, BF Lib 6pm
Apr 19
BOE meeting, 6pm HS Aud.

Apr 19-20
3rd & 4th grades NYS ELA
Assessment s
Apr 21 Report Cards go home
Apr 29 Spring Photos
May 3-4 3rd & 4th grades NYS
Math Assessment

March —The month of:

RESPECT

- Follow the Golden Rule
- Be tolerant and accepting
- Deal peacefully with anger and insults
- Use good manners, not bad language
- Be considerate of the feelings of others
- Don't threaten, hit, or hurt anyone



St. Patrick's Day Parade:

The St. Patrick's Day Parade is Saturday, March 11, 2023. Participants meet at 1:45pm at the Horseheads High School Field House. The parade begins promptly at 2:00pm. To ensure safety, all children must be accompanied by an adult.

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 @escaptura1 **Instagram:** The district's page—hhdsschools

Visit our district website at:

www.horseheadsdistrict.com.

Questions about our website or social media? E-mail [hcsdin-](mailto:hcsdin-fo@horseheadsdistrict.com)

[fo@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:hcsdin-fo@horseheadsdistrict.com)



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.

District Updates

Canvas Learning Management System

Throughout the fall semester, our district has been transitioning to a new Learning Management System (LMS) called Canvas. Canvas allows teachers to provide a personalized learning experience through instructional support, class calendars, messages, notifications, assignments, collaborative activities, and course resources in one platform. Parent/guardian Canvas accounts will allow you to view assignments, due dates, and calendars. These accounts will become active on Thursday, March 2. To access your Canvas parent/guardian account, you will need to use the same email you use for your Schooltool/Parent Portal login, and then set up a password for Canvas. For more information and help using Canvas, as well as the login link, click here: <https://horseheadsdistrict.com/HCSDCanvasHelpforParentsGuardians.cfm> .

Remote Learning Plan

The district is developing a remote learning plan as required by the state to be used in an emergency. This would be a plan we could call upon in emergency conditions such as adverse weather conditions, utility issues, or a communicable disease outbreak. This remote plan would allow the district to keep the calendar intact during years when winter weather is particularly challenging, or we face other reasons for school day closures. The state requires districts to post their remote plans and provide a means for parents/guardians to comment on the plan. You may read the plan here: <https://horseheadsdistrict.com/HCSDRemoteLearningPlan.cfm>, and comment using the links found within the plan.

As you know, we have used three of the four snow days built into our 2022-23 calendar. If the district must use more than one more snow day this year, this plan could be used to remain in session and therefore meet the state requirements for days of instruction.

February 7 Safety Presentation

On Tuesday, February 7, the district held a safety presentation and discussion for parents and guardians. We recorded the presentation for those who were unable to attend. To view the recording, click here: <https://youtu.be/jQC2L7ndI9U>.

Horseheads Central Schools 2023-2024 School Calendar

^ Early Dismissal Drill

BOE approved 2/16/23

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
AUG	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13^	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

School Not in Session:

Labor Day	9/4
Columbus Day	10/9
Veterans Day (observed)	11/10
Thanksgiving Recess	11/22-11/24
Winter Recess	12/22-1/2
Martin Luther King, Jr Day	1/15
President's Day Recess	2/19-2/23
Good Friday Recess	3/29-4/1*
Spring Recess	4/22-4/26*
Memorial Day Recess	5/24-5/27*
Juneteenth	6/19

* Pending days utilized for school closures.

Parent/Teacher Conference

11/17/23 - 1/2 Day AM	(pm off PreK-6 th Only)
11/21/23 - 1/2 Day AM	(pm off PreK-6 th Only)
11/29/23 - 1/2 Day AM	(pm off PreK-6 th Only)

1/2 Days (AM)

6/21/24 (Pre-K - 8 th Only)
6/24/24 (Pre-K - 8 th Only)
6/25/24 (Pre-K - 8 th Only)
6/26/24 (Pre-K - 8 th Only)

LEGEND



Conference Days
(8/29, 8/30, 10/20, 1/29, & 3/18)



Schools Closed*



Regents Exams

The district will communicate to residents and staff about any calendar adjustments needed due to excessive closure days by April 19, 2024 (per contractual obligations). Please be aware, if the district needs to make up school days**, the priority of make-up days will be as follows, unless modifications to the below schedule are needed:

1 st Make Up Day	4/1/24
2 nd Make Up Day	5/24/24
3 rd Make Up Day	4/26/24
4 th Make Up Day	4/25/24
5 th Make Up Day	4/24/24
6 th Make Up Day	4/23/24
7 th Make Up Day	4/22/24

**The district has the potential for closure days built into the calendar (all pending total # of hours and Days required by NYSED and state attendance regulations).

First Day of School PreK - 12th:

Tuesday, September 5, 2023

Last Day for Students:

Wednesday, June 26, 2024

Last Day for Teachers:

Friday, June 28, 2024

THE HORSEHEADS HIGH SCHOOL GREENROOM PLAYERS
PROUDLY PRESENT

Disney THE LITTLE
MERMAID

MARCH 16 & 17
7 PM
MARCH 18
2 PM & 7 PM

HORSEHEADS HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!

To purchase tickets:



hhsgrp.booktix.com

Tickets will be available at the door

\$15 for adults & \$12 for students/senior citizens



DISNEY'S THE LITTLE MERMAID



Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.



March 2023

Big Flats Elementary School Parent Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		28 1	1 <i>*Trooper Sperr Day—Wear Purple & Gray</i> 2	2 <i>*Dr. Seuss Day—Wear Pajamas!*</i> BOE Budget Mtg; 6pm 3	3 4	4 
5	6 5	7 PTO MTG; 6pm BF Lib 6	8 1	9 2	10 PTO Pool Night 8 PM 3	11 Horseheads Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade 2:00pm
12 Daylight Savings Time change	13 4	14 5	15 6	16 1	17 <i>*Wear Green!*</i>  2	18
19	20 NO SCHOOL for Students Superintendents Conference Day	21 3	22 4	23 5	24 6	25 RESPECT Follow the Golden Rule Be tolerant and accepting Deal peacefully with anger and insults
26	27 1	28 2	29 3	30 4	31 5	Use good manners, not bad language Be considerate of the feelings of others Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone