



Horseheads Central School District

# Golden Star Gazette

May 2023

**Gardner Road Elementary School**

541 Gardner Road, Horseheads, New York 14845 (607) 739 – 6347

ppatterson@horseheadsdistrict.com



Dear Gardner Road Families –

We are excited about all the great opportunities our Golden Stars have the last two months of the school year. The GRPTO will be hosting our Spring Carnival on Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup> which also includes a Multicultural and Marketplace Fair and the Book Fair. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be performing in their spring concerts (see details on page 2). We hope to see families join us for our annual Book Bingo event on Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30. All students will go home with at least one book. On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, we look forward to greeting our incoming kindergarteners at our Kindergarten Orientation. The rest of June will be filled with celebrations, the Mud Run, Field Day and more.

If you would like to share your input for your child's classroom placement next school year, feel free to write me a letter by Friday, May 12, 2023. Please note that the letter should include details on the style of teacher and/or classroom your child would benefit from most. We do not honor specific teacher requests.

The Pop Tab Drive that supports the Ronald McDonald House will end Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. Any collected after that will be donated in the spring of 2024. Thank you to the generous donations of these through the year. We have over 10 boxes of Pop Tabs collected.

May 22<sup>nd</sup> will be the last day of book checkout in our library this year. Thank you in advance for returning all library books prior to the last month of school.

Be sure to check out our [school website](#) for updates and please keep up to date with the happenings at our school, by following our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages. Please contact me if you need anything, have questions, or would just like to chat about our school/your child.



Your Partner in Education,

Patrick Patterson - Principal



## Inside the Gazette:

### Page 2:

Main Office Updates

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April Spotlight

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Character Corner

School Mission & Vision

**Included in the Online Newsletter:**

Lunch Menu

May and June Calendar

Kid Friendly Volunteer Ideas



Happy  
May!



## GENERAL INFORMATION:

### Gardner Road School Hours

8:00 a.m. to 2:25 p.m.

Tardy Bell – 8:15 AM

### Gardner Road Office Hours

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

### Elementary Lunches (K-6)

Breakfast: \$1.25

Lunch: \$2:10

<https://horseheadscafeteria.gstboces.org/>

## Moishe's Quote of the Month:

"It's been my experience that you can nearly always enjoy things if you make up your mind firmly that you will." – Anne of Green Gables by Lucy Maud Montgomery

## Gardner Road Main Office Updates:

### Vote on district image May 16

On May 16, students across the district will vote on an updated image for the district. District residents and alumni can also vote on May 16 in a separate vote from the budget vote/board election. The vote for district residents and alumni will be held in the High School Multi-Media Center from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. May 16. Community members were invited to submit images earlier this year. The submissions were narrowed down to three final images by the Board of Education. You do not need to vote on the budget to vote for a district image.

### 2023-24 Budget Vote/BOE Election is Tuesday, May 16, from 7am to 9pm in the Horseheads HS South Gym.

All district residents are eligible to vote, as long as they meet the following requirements are: a U.S. citizen, are 18 years of age or older on the day of the vote, have lived in the district for at least 30 days prior to the vote on May 16, and are not restricted from voting in general elections based on election law. You do not have to be registered in general elections or own property to vote. All residents will receive a newsletter about the budget prior to the vote. You can also learn more about the 2023-24 budget here: <https://horseheadsdistrict.com/HCSDBudget2023-24.cfm>. Prior to the vote, the district will hold a Public Hearing and Board of Education Candidates' Forum. Please see below for more information.

Thursday, May 4	Public Hearing on the 2023-24 Budget, 6pm, Horseheads HS MMC (South Wing)
Tuesday, May 9	Board of Education Candidates' Forum, 6pm, Horseheads High School Auditorium
Tuesday, May 16	Budget Vote/BOE Election, 7am-9pm, Horseheads High School South Gym

### Spring New York Assessment Dates (Grades 3 & 4):

Math – Grades 3 and 4:	May 3, 2023 & May 4, 2023
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Test:	May 19, 2023



### Summer of Innovation – Summer of 2023:

Several organizations from across the Southern Tier have united to offer unique learning opportunities for children and young adults during the summer months. These organizations have a common goal of extending the traditional school year into the summer. Offerings have another purpose as well - to provide students with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) skills that are essential to their success in the future. Check out the details at

<https://apps.gstbores.org/summerofinnovation/>

### Spring Clothing:

With the warmer weather coming, we will be seeing many summer-type outfits. Please remember to check with your child to make sure that the shorts and shirts they are choosing to wear meet the Code of Conduct requirements. Short shorts, spaghetti straps and crop tops are not permitted for school attire. If your child chooses to wear sandals, they need to have straps on the ankle, and he/she must be responsible for bringing sneakers for playground/gym. Flip-flops **are not** appropriate for school. Thanks for helping us keep kids safe!



The 4<sup>th</sup> grade orchestra, band, and chorus will be performing their Spring Concert on Thursday May 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the High School Auditorium. Students should wear white on top and black on bottom. Please arrive by 6:30PM. We're looking forward to our concert as our 4<sup>th</sup> graders have been working hard with Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Matthews all year long!

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders have been working hard learning how to play their recorder. We will have a Recorder Concert on Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Gardner Road Cafeteria at 7:00PM.

# April Snapshots *(See more on our Twitter & Facebook pages)*



We  our Golden  !

Horseheads Central School District

## Bus Driver JOB FAIR

**Saturday, May 20**

**9 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

Horseheads Transportation Department  
601 Sayre Street Extension

- Learn what it takes to be a bus driver\*
- Tour a bus - inside, outside, and underneath
- Learn about the job benefits
- Hear about the rewards of driving a school bus
- Test drive a bus!

Questions? Call (607) 739-6338 or  
email [bsheahan@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:bsheahan@horseheadsdistrict.com).



\*Must be 21 or older to drive a school bus

## Join the Raider Team

Horseheads Schools seek bus drivers, cleaners,  
food service helpers, teaching assistants, monitors



- Full time and substitute positions available
- Full-time positions include health, vision, dental insurance, as well as New York State retirement
- Bus driver, teaching assistant, food service helper, and monitor are 10-month positions (no weekends or summers).
- Applications available at the District Office at 1443 Hibbard Road or at [www.horseheadsdistrict.com/employment.cfm](http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/employment.cfm)
- Questions? Call 607-739-5602, x4212 or email [hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com).



# "We Succeed Because The Stars Lead!"

## Mav's Character Trait is:

Character Education

### Citizenship

- Help to make your community, school and world a better place
- Take responsibility for what goes on around you
- Participate in community service and help take care of the environment
- Treat others with respect and dignity

Character Matters  
Horseheads Central School District

Our students are earning Golden Tickets everyday!  
Great job to our Golden Stars for showing great character, using the Power of Yet, and following our school rules!

## New Playground Open:



Our second, third and fourth graders have been enjoying our new playground that opened earlier this month. Thank you to the entire community that worked together to make this great play place for our students to use!



## Horseheads Central School District's Mission & Vision:



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**

## SAFE SCHOOLS LINE

795-2044 or  
1-800-305-4984

Report a concern, rumor, bullying incident, or any safety issue anonymously and confidentially, 24 hours a day.

**To report child abuse or neglect call toll free**  
**1-800-342-3720 or**  
**ocfs.ny.gov/main/cps**

Proud Supporter of  
**School Matters!**



Be Your Own Hero!



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.

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. The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for Gardner Road Elementary is Patrick Patterson. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student should be referred to Patrick Patterson at (607) 739 – 6347.

## Report to PARENTS

# 10 Kid-Friendly Volunteer Ideas for Families

Volunteering teaches kids the importance of giving back to their communities. It also helps them grow as people, build strong self-esteem, develop social and life skills, and show appreciation. Families can use these kid-friendly volunteer ideas to encourage their children to make a difference in their community and help them cultivate compassion, empathy, and a passion for helping others.



- 1. Clean up the neighborhood.** Grab a trash bag and some rubber gloves and pick up trash and litter and items that can be recycled. Get other families involved to build connections and community pride.
- 2. Get moving for a good cause.** Participate in events like 5K runs or fun runs that donate funds raised to a local charity that's near and dear to your child's heart.
- 3. Collect items for a homeless shelter or food bank.** Find out their biggest needs, and design flyers to hang up at school and hand out to neighbors that explain how to donate to help neighbors in need.
- 4. Don't forget the animals.** Organize a collection of pet supplies to support an animal rescue. Look into what types of items rescues need. Then ask family members, your school, neighbors, and friends to help out.
- 5. Hold a lemonade stand.** Volunteerism and an entrepreneurial spirit come together when kids hold a lemonade stand in the summer—or sell baked goods and hot chocolate in the winter. Pick a charity and donate a portion of the proceeds to it.
- 6. Decorate paper lunch bags or placemats.** Senior communities love donations of items like lunch bags or placemats. Encourage your child to get creative with designs as they learn how important it is to support our “grandfriends.”
- 7. Give back to those who support the community.** Hand out cookies or water bottles to mail carriers, delivery people, and trash collectors to show appreciation. Deliver a meal or treats to the local firehouse or police station to thank them.
- 8. Donate books to a little library.** Many communities have little libraries where people can borrow books to read. Have your child select some books they're willing to donate so another kid can enjoy them.
- 9. Help a neighbor.** Older kids can help neighbors mow their lawns or weed in the spring and summer, rake leaves in the fall, and shovel snow in the winter. Giving back on a personal level helps them build relationships and see firsthand the impact they're having on their community.
- 10. Go beyond volunteering.** Beyond traditional volunteer opportunities, consider taking your child on a field trip to expose them to important social issues.






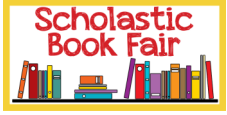





Keep the momentum going and set volunteer goals to keep kids excited about their next opportunity to make a difference. By trying out different types of volunteer ideas, they will learn what they're most passionate about.



# May 2023

## Gardner Road Elementary School









Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>1 Day 3</p> 	<p>2 Day 4</p>	<p>3 Day 5</p> <p>NYS Math—Grades 3 &amp; 4</p>	<p>4 Day 6</p> <p>NYS Math—Grades 3 &amp; 4 Kind. Cap/Gown Pictures BOE Public Budget He</p> 	<p>5 Day 1</p> <p>Wear <b>Blue</b> and <b>Gold</b> Gardner Road Spirit Day!</p>
<p>8 Day 2</p>	<p>9 Day 3</p>  <p>Arnot Mall May 9—May 21</p>	<p>10 Day 4</p>	<p>11 Day 5</p>  <p>4th Grade Spring Concert 9:20 &amp; 7:00 (HS)</p>	<p>12 Day 6</p> <p>Spring Fling Carnival Book Fair/ Marketplace Night</p> 
<p>15 Day 1</p> 	<p>16 Day 2</p> <p>District Budget Vote</p> 	<p>17 Day 3</p>  <p>Principal Chat - 5:30 GRPTO Meeting - 6:00</p>	<p>18 Day 4</p> <p>BOE Meeting 6:00 HS</p>	<p>19 Day 5</p>
<p>22 Day 6</p>	<p>23 Day 1</p> <p>3rd Grade Recorder Concert 7:00 GR Café</p>	<p>24 Day 2</p>	<p>25 Day 3</p>	<p>26</p> 
<p><b>MEMORIAL DAY</b></p>  		<p>31 Day 4</p>	<p><b><u>Character Education at Home— Citizenship</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit a local, county, state or national landmark</li> <li>• Send thank you letters to community service providers</li> <li>• Learn about the American Flag</li> <li>• Volunteer as a family for a community service project</li> </ul>	

# June 2023

## Gardner Road Elementary School



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<a href="#">Character Education Connection—Caring:</a> --Discuss how characters in a book show caring. --Help a neighbor --Discuss with your kids what/who they care about and why --Consider donating your time or items to your favorite charity --Help your child make a card/letter of caring to a friend or relative --Model random acts of kindness			1 Day 4  Science and Discovery Center Assemblies  Book Bingo 5:30 - 6:30	2 Day 6 Wear <b>Blue</b> and <b>Gold</b> Gardner Road Spirit Day!  8:50—10:30
5 Day 1  Kindergarten Screening	6 Day 2  Kindergarten Screening	7 Day 3  Kindergarten Screening	8 Day 4	9 Day 5
12 Day 6	13 Day 1  4th Grade Celebration	14 Day 2  Senior Walk 1:30  	15 Day 3  PK—4th Field Day   BOE Meeting 6:00 HS	16 Early Dismissal  PK Celebration 9:20
NO SCHOOL 	20 Early Dismissal  Kindergarten Celebration 9:00  GRPTO Mud Run 6:00 	21 Early Dismissal	22 Early Dismissal  Sing Along 9:30 Report Cards Go Home 