

April 2026

Horseheads Intermediate School

Newsletter

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A message from your Interim Principal

Dear Intermediate School Families,

I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable Spring Break. As we welcome students back, we are looking forward to a productive and positive stretch of learning as we move into the spring months.

Classrooms are busy with engaging lessons, projects, and activities as students continue to build their skills and prepare for the end of the school year. We encourage families to continue supporting good learning habits at home, including regular attendance, completion of assignments, and open communication with your child about their school day.

As a reminder, the ELA State Tests will take place on Tuesday, April 28th and Wednesday, April 29th. While testing is just one part of our instructional program, these days are important opportunities for students to demonstrate their learning.

Ways families can help support students during testing week:

- Help your child get a good night's sleep before each testing day.
- Plan for a calm and quiet morning, allowing plenty of time to get ready and arrive at school relaxed.
- Encourage a healthy breakfast, either at home or here at school.
- Provide reassurance and encouragement—remind your child to take their time and simply do their best.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions, and we look forward to a successful spring season together.

Warmly,

Kim Malone

Kim Malone
Interim Principal





- Wednesday, April 15th ~ IS Presentation and Open House for 4th grade families, 6:00pm, IS Cafe
- Thursday, April 16th ~ Tentative Board of Education Budget Workshop, 6:00pm, HS Aud
- Friday, April 17th ~ Character Kick-Off Spirit Day, Nature Day
- Tuesday, April 21st ~ Parent/Principal Chat, 5:30pm, IS Library
- Tuesday, April 21st ~ PTO Meeting, 6:00, IS Library
- Wednesday, April 22nd ~Board of Education Meeting, 6:00pm, HS Auditorium
- Tuesday, April 28th ~ NYS ELA assessment
- Wednesday, April 29th ~ NYS ELA assessment



Intermediate School PTO

Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 21st. We hope to see you there!



IS Illuminator BINGO Winners in March



Character Trait of the Month: Responsibility

How to help reinforce this character trait at home:

- Create simple routines for homework, chores, and bedtime
- Encourage independence with age-appropriate tasks
- Model responsible behavior at home and in daily life
- Praise follow-through and effort without reminders



Placement Information for Incoming 6th Grade Students

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 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 email interim principal, Kim Malone at kmalone@horseheadsdistrict.com and interim assistant principal Meghan Gunderson at mgunderson@horseheadsdistrict.com. We look forward to working with you to ensure your child's academic success!

If you have not had a chance to email us yet, please do so no later than Thursday, April 30th!

Please join me in wishing Mrs. Klossner the best of luck in her retirement! Her last day with us was Monday, April 13th.

Please join me in welcoming Mr. Roe as our new art teacher! His first day with us was Monday, April 13th.

NYS ELA and Math Tests

The ELA State Test will be given on Tuesday, April 28th and Wednesday, April 29th. The Math State Test will be given on Tuesday, May 5th and Wednesday, May 6th. The 5th grade Science State Test will be Wednesday, May 13th. These tests help us determine how each student is performing with specific skills in both ELA and Math toward the standards' expectations. It is just one data point we consider when making important decisions. They also help us to know who needs extra help (Academic Intervention Services or AIS) for the following school year in each of these areas. Please note that a refusal of the State Tests does not mean students will be exempt from AIS if they qualify.

The State Tests will be taken electronically in grades 3 – 8. We will continue to give students practice on the computer with the questions they will see. One of our challenges is helping students to be fluent in their typing ability. If you'd like to encourage your child to practice, Typing.com is a great program for that!

Information Regarding Vaccination Requirements

Dear Fifth Grade Families,

All children must receive the immunizations required by New York State Law Section 2164 to attend school. You are receiving this letter because your child will require additional immunizations to enter 6th grade. All 6th grade students must receive a booster dose of the Tdap immunization.

The Tdap immunization is for tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis (whooping cough). This requirement has been in place since 2016.

You must provide proof of immunization. The required immunizations can be obtained from your primary care provider (PCP)/pediatrician.

In limited circumstances immunizations may also be obtained from the Chemung County Health Department. For more information on requirements contact the health department at: (607) 737-2488. The immunization must be given no earlier than 10 years of age and no later than 11 years of age.

Student Age	When is proof of immunization required?
Students who are 11 years old when entering 6th grade	Proof of immunization must be received within 14 calendar days of the start of school (by September 16, 2026), or your child will be unable to attend school until proof of immunization is received.
Students who are 10 years old when entering 6th grade	Proof of immunization must be received within 14 calendar days of turning 11 years old and will be tracked accordingly.

Acceptable forms of proof of immunization (documentation) include:

- An electronic health record from your provider's office, an immunization certificate signed or stamped by your health care provider, a record issued by NYSIIS or CIR, an official immunization registry from another state or foreign country if applicable.

You may email this information to kmalone@horseheadsdistrict.com, fax to the office at (607) 795-2495, or drop it off at the Intermediate School.

To learn more about this and other immunization requirements in New York State visit, www.health.ny.gov/immunize.

If you have further questions, please contact the Intermediate School Main Office at (607) 739-6366. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,
Kim Malone, Interim Principal

Classifieds

Help Wanted

Substitute Teachers, Teaching Assistants and Substitute RNs and LPNs needed for per diem work during the school year

Teaching substitutes must meet the following criteria: 1) An Associate's Degree or higher; OR 2) completion of at least 2 years of college; OR 3) Graduated from high school for at least 4 years and completed at least 12 college credits; OR 4) an Honorable Discharge from the military.

Sub RNs and LPNs should bring in evidence of their license.

Rates for Substitute Teachers

The District needs certified teachers for day-to-day substituting opportunities in all of our schools.

1. Uncertified Teacher without Four-Year Degree ~ \$120/day
2. Uncertified Teacher with Four-Year Degree ~ \$130/day
3. Certified Teacher ~ \$140/day
4. Retired Teacher from HCSD ~ \$160/day
5. Retired Teacher from Another District ~ \$150/day
6. Additional Pay for 20 Days of Per Diem Substitute Teaching ~ \$100
7. Teaching Assistants ~ \$16.96/hr.
8. Retired TA From HCSD ~ \$130/day

To apply, contact Human Resources Office at
739-5601x 4211.

Safe Schools Line

The Horseheads Central School District has a Safe Schools Line for students, parents, and community to use to report rumors, tips, or other items of concern regarding district schools. The service is available twenty-four hours, seven days a week. All calls are anonymous, unless the caller wishes to leave his/her name. The tip line numbers are 795-2044 and 1-800-305-4984 (toll free).

Kim Malone is the Dignity Act Coordinator at the Intermediate School. Caitlin DeFilippo is the Dignity Act Coordinator for the district. All concerns regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying should be directed accordingly.

The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to gender, race, color, national origin or disability. Inquiries regarding this policy may be made to Caitlin DeFilippo, Title IX Coordinator, 143 Hibbard Road, Horseheads, NY 14845, or Kelly Squires, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.