

The School Connection



Horseheads Intermediate School

Principal's Post

It seems hard to believe that we are already into the month of December. November always flies by so quickly from an educational perspective. It is a busy, yet short month.

With the extension of the first marking period, parent/teacher conferences have been moved to December 15, 16, and 18 in the afternoon. Teachers have already been reaching out and scheduling conferences, which will take place through Zoom. Thank you in advance for carving out some time to work closely with our teachers. This process will better assist your child.

Thank you to all who supported the PTO Believe fundraiser and to those who spent their time organizing the event. Any money we make goes directly back to the school toward field trips, PTO activities, technology, classroom supplies, and much more.

Please continue to value your child's attendance at school. Arriving on time to virtual classes and scheduling vacations/appointments outside of school hours, makes a tremendous difference in the academic progress of students. I also ask you to keep your child's mind and body active during winter break. Exercise, reading, journaling, and problem-solving/brain teasers have been shown to be great methods in staying fresh during school breaks.

Please encourage your child to participate in community service with our Presidential Community Service program. If you need more information or the service logs, [click here](#).

Check out the article to the right about 6 ways to help your child become a **quality reader**. Thank you for your support, and I wish you a very Happy Holiday season!

Yours in education,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Bostwick".

Michael Bostwick
Principal

Follow me on Twitter: Michael Bostwick@[M_Bostwick](#)

School Hashtag: [#ISinnovators](#)

Like us on facebook: Search Horseheads Intermediate School

Website: <http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/HHIS.cfm>

"At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents."

- Jane D. Hull

December 2020
Volume 9 Issue 4

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Parent Article

ATTENTION!
[Parent Resources](#)
on IS website.

"The connection between school and home is vital for your child's academic success."

Mark Your Calendars!

Friday, December 11th:	Report Cards Go Home (mailed)
Tuesday, December 15th:	Parent/Teacher Conferences, PM Only, Dismissal at 11:00 AM
Wednesday, December 16th:	Parent/Teacher Conferences, PM Only, Dismissal at 11:00 AM
Thursday, December 17th:	Board of Education Meeting, Zoom, 6:00 PM
Friday, December 18th:	Parent/Teacher Conferences, PM Only, Dismissal at 11:00 AM
Thur., 12/24 – Fri. 1/3:	No School – Winter Recess
Tuesday, January 12th:	PTO Meeting, 6:30 PM, Zoom

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

1. Applications for assistance from the **Arctic League** are available in the Office. If interested, please stop by or call for more information.
2. **Report cards will be mailed home on Friday, December 11th.** We have a 3-Tiered Honor Roll System and will recognize students who have a grade point average (GPA) of **85.0** or higher and do not fail any classes. Students achieving a GPA of 85.0-89.99 will be recognized as Honor Roll, 90.0-94.99 will get High Honors, and 95.0 or above will be recognized as Distinguished Honor Roll.
3. For this school year, **special area classes** (PE, art, and music) will be graded with an H (95 or higher), G (80 – 94.99), S(65 – 79.99), or U (below 65). These grades are not weighted into the overall average. Students must pass all subject areas to be considered eligible for any of the honor roll tiers.
4. A study has found that **irregular bedtimes** can lead to behavioral problems. [Click here.](#)
5. We will have a **Canned Food Drive** for our local Horseheads Food Pantry sometime in late winter or early spring when their supplies often run low.
6. Reminder that recess is outside when weather permits. Please be sure that your child wears an appropriate jacket when we return to in-person classes.
7. We thank all the parents who will participate in **Parent Teacher Conferences** this month. Communication with home is essential. Please contact your child's homeroom teacher to monitor your child's progress throughout the year or if you have any other questions. Parent Portal is always available as well.
8. Please encourage your child to **read at home**. Our Goal is for all students to read three books each month in order to reach the goal of 25 books for the year.



Visions and Voices, Horseheads' district-wide publication of student work, is now accepting submissions. Students and parents/guardians can submit student work including drawings, paintings, photography, sculpture photos, poetry, short stories, comics, etc. Send to cbell@horseheadsdistrict.com by March 5th. Please include student's full name, school, and grade. If you have questions, contact Mr. Bell at the address above.

View a video about Visions and Voices at this link: <https://youtu.be/7hlqpNOslPs>.

CREATIVE GIFTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Need some gift ideas for your Intermediate School student? How about some new art supplies to help keep them creative and productive over the break. Here is a short list of quality well priced art supplies and tools you can pick up. If you have questions or want more suggestions, contact Mr. Bell at cbell@horseheadsdistrict.com.



**8.5x11
Hardbound
Sketchbook**
\$8 - \$12
(Hobby Lobby)



**Watercolor
Paint Set**
\$1 - \$5
(Hobby
Lobby)



**Colored
Pencils**
\$3 - \$10
(Hobby
Lobby)



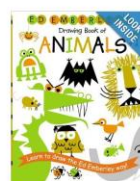
**Darice 80-Piece
Deluxe Art Set**
\$15.99
(amazon.com)



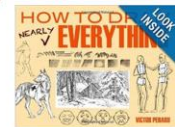
**How to Draw
Comics the
Marvel Way**
\$13
(amazon.com)



**Drawing for
the Absolute
Beginner**
\$15
(amazon.com)



**Ed Emberley's
Drawing Book
of Animals**
\$7
(amazon.com)



**How to Draw Nearly
Everything** \$10
(amazon.com)



HANDLING NON PAYMENT OF MEAL CHARGES

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY:

The Board of Education recognizes that on occasion, students may not have enough funds for a meal. To ensure that students do not go hungry, but also to promote responsible student behavior and minimize the fiscal burden to the District, the Board will allow students who do not have enough funds to “charge” the cost of meals to be paid back at a later date subject to the terms in this policy.

A student may charge up to ten reimbursable meals. The District may allow additional reimbursable meals to be charged when extenuating circumstances exist. Extra items such as à la carte items and snacks may not be charged.

No student with unpaid charges will be prohibited from purchasing food if they have money on a particular day.

PLEASE NOTE:

If you would like to receive the notifications from PaySchools Central, you must sign in to your account and turn on the notification. [Click here](#) for a link to PaySchools Central. If you have questions, please contact food services at 739-5601 x3671 or email Derek O'Brian DOBRIAN@gstboces.org

Thank you to our Veterans!

We'd like to thank you our Veterans for your sacrifice and dedication to our country. We are sad that we couldn't invite you in for something more personal, but we look forward to continuing our tradition next year. Most importantly, we'd like to thank all Veterans for protecting our country!

Thank You, Veterans



Horseheads Schools



GOT TALENT? SHOW OFF YOUR STUFF!

HORSEHEADS INTERMEDIATE VARIETY SHOW

Sing, dance, flip, magic, jokes, etc. Students may enter the show with one individual or group act. More information will be given in January when sheets will be sent home to sign up!

We will not be able to have an in-person Variety Show this year due to the restrictions of the pandemic. However, we are trying to plan a virtual Variety Show so we can still showcase our student talent. More information to come! Start thinking about how you can show-off your talent!



Intermediate School PTO Officers (2020-2021)

President:	Gretchen Ferraro	gferraro2010@gmail.com	425-2603
VP:	Angela Sullivan	Aksullivan624@gmail.com	518-708-4288
Treasurer:	Danielle Richardson	dani0227@aol.com	425-6896
Secretary:	Denise Trondsen	dtrondsen@outlook.com	742-9051



PRINCIPAL CHATS

Mr. Bostwick normally holds principal chats several times a year as a way to ask questions and get to know the opportunities at our school. These have been cancelled due to the pandemic and rules about school visitors. If you have any questions or concerns, reach out to him directly.

CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

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

Teaching Substitutes must meet the following criteria: 1) An Associates' 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 should bring in evidence of their license.

Sub Bus Drivers – Training will be included

Apply in person at Human Resources

or email: hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com for more information.

Apply in person at the address below:

Human Resources Office
Horseheads Central School District
143 Hibbard Rd. Big Flats, NY

RATES FOR SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

The District needs certified teachers for day-to-day substituting opportunities in all of our schools. Certified substitutes receive a rate of \$105 per day. To apply, contact the Human Resources Office at 739-5601 x 4211.

CHARACTER TRAIT AND 'HABIT OF MIND' OF THE MONTH

Character Trait: **Caring** is being kind • being compassionate and showing you care • expressing gratitude • forgiving others • helping people in need.

- Have your child perform 1 selfless deed per day
- Help care for pets
- Perform Community Service

The Habit of Mind: **Thinking Flexibly.** Flexible thinking means finding more than one way to do something. It means stretching what you know enough to make an educated guess that could be right. It is about finding out what you need to know and problem solving. Being a flexible thinker will give your child the tools they need to thrive in school now and in the future.

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).

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/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.

Michael Bostwick is the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Coordinator at the Intermediate School. Caitlin DeFilippo is the DASA Coordinator for the District. All concerns regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying should be directed accordingly.