

# The School Connection



## Principal's Post

## Horseheads Intermediate School

I hope the new year has been treating you well so far. It has been so nice throughout the month of January to have students back and learning in school.

I'd like to first thank you all for being true champions by showing strength and resilience throughout this very difficult and trying time. We appreciate your understanding and flexibility as we continue to navigate the struggles of the pandemic. As educators, we realize the importance of continuity in delivering instruction so that students can learn to the best of their abilities. Yet, nothing is more important to us than the social, emotional, and mental well-being of every single student. While no one can deny, this year has been far from ideal, we will continue to explore ways to look after our students and engage them in learning. We, however, cannot do it without your help! Please continue to encourage your child with positive messages of you much you believe in them. Check on their work completion in itslearning and Parent Portal. Most importantly, **please be sure they are tuning in live to their lessons whenever possible**. If you have any questions or need help in anyway, please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher or the Main Office.

Email is a very efficient, effective, and cost-savings way of staying informed. If you do not have your email address registered to receive school information, please contact the Main Office to be added to the list or email ([cmaine@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:cmaine@horseheadsdistrict.com)). Many school reminders and information are sent home via email unless you specifically request a paper copy. Other great ways of staying informed are by following our school on Facebook. Join the digital connection!

Check out the parent article below called ***Nine Steps to More Effective Parenting***. Let's face it fellow parents, we could all use a little parenting advice from time to time, but especially now amidst our struggles. If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me via email or phone.

Yours in education,

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>

## [Parent Article](#)

*"While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is all about." - Author Unknown.*

## Explore · Empower · Excel

February 2021  
Volume 9 Issue 6

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### ATTENTION!

[Parent Resources](#)  
on IS website.

*"We appreciate your understanding and flexibility as we continue to navigate through the struggles of the pandemic."*

## Mark Your Calendars!

<b>Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>:</b>	No School – Superintendent’s Conference Day
<b>Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Board of Education Budget Meeting, 6:00 PM, via Zoom
<b>Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>:</b>	PTO Meeting, 6:30 PM, <a href="#">via Zoom</a>
<b>Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Report Cards Go Home with Cohort B. Cohort A and 100% remote will be mailed
<b>Mon., Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>:</b>	No School – Presidents’ Day Recess
<b>Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Board of Education Meeting, 6:00 PM, via Zoom

## Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

1. Please be aware that when you are attending any after school events, you cannot park in the fire lanes, block hydrants or block exits at any of our school buildings. This includes the lanes in the front of the IS/MS complex. This is a State Education Department law in which our local enforcement officers may ticket vehicles who are in violation of it. Please adhere to the stop sign when you are exiting the rear parking lot.
2. **Ferocious Readers:** Please encourage your child to read on a daily basis. This will certainly build their reading skills, increase ability, and help them reach the 25 book goal.
3. Please continue to save aluminum can pull tabs and Box Tops for Education.
4. Intermediate School Parent Information Night and Self-Guided Tour typically takes place in March to help transition our 4<sup>th</sup> grade students to the IS. Due to health and safety restrictions, we have decided to postpone it until later in the spring or possibly summer when restrictions might be lessened.
5. **Middle School Parent Orientation:** Middle School Orientation (for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students going into 7<sup>th</sup> grade) will also be postponed until further notice.
6. To report child abuse or neglect: Call Toll Free 1-800-342-3720 or [ocfs.ny.gov/main/cps](http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/cps).



Office of Children and Family Services

### Intermediate School PTO Officers (2020-2021)

President:	Gretchen Ferraro	<a href="mailto:gfferraro2010@gmail.com">gfferraro2010@gmail.com</a>	(607) 425-2603
VP:	Angela Sullivan	<a href="mailto:Aksullivan624@gmail.com">Aksullivan624@gmail.com</a>	(518) 708-4288
Treasurer:	Danielle Richardson	<a href="mailto:dani0227@aol.com">dani0227@aol.com</a>	(607) 425-6896
Secretary:	Denise Trondsen	<a href="mailto:dtrondsen@outlook.com">dtrondsen@outlook.com</a>	(607) 742-9051





**Black history month first began as Negro History Week in 1926, when Carter G. Woodson desired to ring the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass together as a cohesive celebration. It morphed into a wider observance as popularity grew, notably by young Black college students in the 1960s. Now, Black History Month is marked by special curriculums, performances, art and events to remember the history of Black people in America.**

**This year – amid the coronavirus pandemic, a racial reckoning ignited from protests against police brutality and a new presidential administration, the Black community has a lot to appraise. This has been a year unlike any other, and this month, we should recognize where we (Black community) have been and the stunning victories that have been achieved. – Evana Upshaw**

**Now more than ever, we need to celebrate diversity as a step toward reunifying our nation and our people. Join me in honoring the past heroes in the black community such as Dr. Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks, as well as everyone currently fighting for global equity.**

## **PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR SIXTH GRADE**

The Intermediate School will soon be completing 2021-2022 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 by Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. We look forward to working with you to ensure your child's academic success!

## INFORMATION REGARDING VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS!

### NEWS FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

#### PLEASE READ THIS VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Dear Fifth Grade Parents/Guardians:

In order to be in compliance with NYS immunization requirements, all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students\* must receive a booster dose of the Tdap immunization. The Tdap immunization is a tetanus, diphtheria and acellular pertussis immunization. It is a tetanus booster that also adds protection for pertussis (whooping cough). This vaccine has been required for school attendance since September 1, 2016.

To meet the requirement, this Tdap vaccine must be given no earlier than 10 years of age and no later than 11 years of age. For 6<sup>th</sup> grade students who are 11 years old, proof of this vaccine must be received within 14 calendar days of the start of school. **Information must be received by September 21, 2021 or your child will be unable to attend school starting on September 22, 2021**, until paperwork has been received. You must provide proof that your child has received the Tdap immunization for your child to attend school in the fall. Acceptable forms of documentation include an Immunization Certificate signed or stamped by your health care provider or an electronic health record copy from your health care provider's office. You may email this to [rtorgalski@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:rtorgalski@horseheadsdistrict.com), fax to our office at 607-795-2495, or drop it off at the Intermediate School.

Your child may receive the required immunization through your health care provider or through the Chemung County Health Department. For more information, please call (607) 737-2028 #2 for an appointment.

**NYS Department of Health effective September 2, 2016 requires all 7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students have a meningococcal vaccine.**

**\*Please note: 10 year old students who are entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade will not be required to receive this vaccine at this time. They must receive this vaccine no later than 14 days after turning 11 years old and will be tracked accordingly.**

To learn more about this and other vaccination requirements in New York State, visit [www.health.ny.gov/immunize](http://www.health.ny.gov/immunize). For specific questions about your child, please contact your primary provider.

If you have further questions, please contact the health office at 739-6366 (prompt 3). Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Michael Bostwick  
Principal

Robyn Torgalski, RN  
Intermediate School Nurse

## ***Reminders From the Art Rooms***

Dear Horseheads Intermediate Family and Friends,

The school year has been flying by and we're already knee deep in the winter season. The students have been creating some really incredible projects in class and we are so impressed with their skills and creativity. We hope you're following along with them throughout the school year on [Artsonia](#). Artsonia is a great resource for seeing what is going on in the Art Rooms, watching your student's growth over the course of the year, and it's also an opportunity to get some great mementos with your child's work on it. If you have any questions about accessing Artsonia or your child's account, please don't hesitate to contact Chris Bell or Angela Niforatos here at the Intermediate School. All the proceeds from the website directly benefit us here and help us get supplies to keep doing great work!

We also wanted to send out a reminder that Visions & Voices, the Horseheads School District's annual magazine of student art and literature, is coming out again this year. We would love to showcase your students work. It can be drawing, painting, sculpture, poetry, or written prose. Work doesn't just have to be something that they've done in class. Submit artwork digitally to:

[cbell@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:cbell@horseheadsdistrict.com)

As always, we thank you for your support, and are looking forward to showing off all the great work from the students in the upcoming art show in the spring!

Thank you!

Angela Niforatos

[aniforatos@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:aniforatos@horseheadsdistrict.com)

Chris Bell

[cbell@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:cbell@horseheadsdistrict.com)

Art Teachers





## District Website

Check out the school district's website. It's interactive, appealing, and provides an easier way to access a variety of information. There are many resources including:

- Current info related to Covid and 2020-21 school year
- Calendar of events
- Upcoming events
- Closing advisories
- Newsletters
- Data Center
- School links
- District information
- BOE Education resources
- ...and much more!

**HORSEHEADS**  
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Big Flats Center Street Gardner Road Ridge Road Intermediate School Middle School High School

Home About Us Academics Board of Education Departments Community Employees

**No school Tuesday, Feb 2 due to weather**  
There will be no school Tuesday, February 2 due to the forecasted winter storm. There will be no remote learning. Be safe everyone!

**Horseheads Schools**  
2020-21 School Year Plan

**2020-21 Revised School Calendar**

Update from the Superintendent  
District Plan 2020-21  
COVID 19 Weekly Update

**NYS ED** New York State EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
Parent Dashboard Click Here

**News**  
Update from the Superintendent  
State says 'high risk' sports can resume Feb. 1  
Questions and Answers  
Technical Support Information  
Board of Education Meetings  
A message for the Class of 2021  
Visions and Voices accepting submissions  
New York State Parent Dashboard  
Revised 2020-21 School Calendar  
Fight Flu  
Parent/guardian newsletter  
Meal registration for at-home days

**Quicklinks**  
District Plan 2020-21  
Office 365  
iTeaching  
Tech Support Form  
Annual Notifications  
APPR Notice  
Athletics  
Budget Information 2020-21  
Calendar 2020-21  
Capital Project Update  
Career Activities  
Code of Conduct  
Community Use of Facilities  
Contact Us  
COVID-19 Information (2020)  
District Guidance Plan  
District Newsletters  
Employment  
Financial Information  
Forms  
Library  
Medicaid Compliance  
Parent Portal

**FEBRUARY 2021**

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	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						

Mouse over bold dates to see events  
Please visit our Google Calendar  
Month by Month 2020-21 Calendar  
Single Page 2020-21 Calendar

February 2, 2021  
HS/MS 2nd Semester begins  
CS PTO, 6:30pm, via Zoom  
BF PTO, 6pm, via Zoom  
February 3, 2021  
MS Report Cards  
February 4, 2021  
CS K Registration (by appt)  
BOE Budget Workshop, 6pm, location TBA (tentative)

Twitter Facebook Instagram Email Parent Portal

## PRINCIPAL CHATS

Mr. Bostwick normally holds principal chats several times a year as a way to ask questions and get to know the procedures of the 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.



Pull for the House.



Many Hearts. One Home.

Keep hoarding pull tabs! So far we have collected far less tabs than usual. **Get others involved** – ask your friends, neighbors, and family members to collect! Pull tabs can be brought to the office.

# 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](mailto:hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com) for more information.

**Apply in person at the address below:**

Human Resources Office  
Horseheads Central School District

## CHARACTER TRAIT AND HABIT OF MIND' OF THE MONTH

**Character Trait:** **Trustworthiness** comes from personal character.

**Trustworthiness** involves four major qualities: integrity, honesty, promise-keeping, and loyalty.



**The Habit of Mind: Questioning and Posing Problems.**

**It means:**

- Ask myself, "How do I know?"
- Develop a questioning Attitude
- Consider what information is needed
- Choose strategies to get that information and
- Consider the obstacles needed to resolve.

## 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.

## 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 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 143 Hibbard Rd, Horseheads, NY 14845; 607-739-5601, x4211, or [cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com).

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, 143 Hibbard Rd., Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.