

The School Connection



Principal's Post

Horseheads Intermediate School

Here we are again wrapping up another school year! This one, however, was not a typical school year. Once the COVID-19 crisis hit, everything was turned upside down. I'd like to share how proud I am of our staff and students who stepped up to a huge challenge so that learning could continue. I'd also like to thank all of the parents who provided necessary, at-home support so our students could maintain some sense of normalcy in learning. Without your support, educating your child would be a very difficult task.

Please be sure to check out some important dates and reminder in the coming pages. These things include report cards, student materials exchange, budget vote, technology drop-off, and more. Students have materials that need to be picked up from school, and there are books and other materials that need to be dropped back off at school. Please follow the process sent via email for that which will take place on June 17 and 18. Also, please note that all budget vote will take place by absentee ballot on June 9. If you have not received a ballot, you may contact the district office for more information.

Summer is a great time to relax and become refreshed, but it's also a time in which most students regress (or slide back) on their academic skills. Although students need a mental break from school, they should never stop learning over the summer. Please see page 4 for suggested ways to keep their brains active throughout the months of July and August. Research shows that students who do not engage in activities lose up to three months of learning over the summer. That means that they are three months behind when they return in September compared to those who have stayed academically active. At the very least, encourage your child to read something they enjoy on a daily basis. Any reading during the summer can count toward the 25 book goal for the following year. Check out the article to the right for the importance of summer learning. Scroll to the bottom of the article for the summer learning tips.

Thank you for being a strong support system over the course of the school year. Lastly, there is a very important notice from our school nurse on page 6. **All sixth grade students who have not received the vaccination by September 22nd, will not be able to attend school.**

Enjoy the warm summer months, and the time with your family! If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Main Office.

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>

"There is only one thing more painful than learning from experience and that is not learning from experience."

-Archibald MacLeish

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Parent Article

ATTENTION!

Parent Resources
on IS website.

"Research shows that students who do not engage in activities lose up to three months of learning over the summer."

Mark Your Calendars!

Monday, June 1st:	Public Hearing on Proposed 2020-2021 Budget, 6:00 PM(Remotely)
Tuesday, June 9th:	Budget Vote/BOE Elections By Absentee Ballot
Mon., June 15th – Tues., June 16th:	Students Turn in Missing Assignments
Wed., June 17 and Thur. June 18:	Student Materials Drop-off and Pickup
Thursday, June 18th:	Board of Education Meeting, 6:00 PM(Remotely)
Friday, June 19th:	Report Cards Mailed Home
Mon., June 22nd – Wed., June -24th:	Students Turn in Technology

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

1. **On Monday, June 22nd - Wednesday, June 24th, students turn in technology.**
2. **Report Cards:** Report Cards will be mailed home on Friday, June 19th. Reminder that all grades on the report card will be **H** (Honors is 85.0 – 100), **P** (Pass is 65.0 – 84.99), and **F** (Fail is 64.99 or lower).
3. Current fifth grade students will receive a letter by the second week of August with your **teacher assignment** and the team specific school supply list for your team. We typically do 2 self-guided tours in August. Due to the need for social distancing, we are working through a plan on how we can make this work. More information will be sent home when it's available.
4. We are proud to recognize the students who reached the goal of **Reading 25 Books** this year. Congratulations to all of our 'ferocious readers' who made the 25 book goal. A special surprised will be mailed home in the near future.
5. Important Information from the Horseheads Transportation Department: This is a reminder that for the 2020-2021 School Year we are going to send out our **Bus Pick-Up and Drop-Off Information for students by E-mail**. Parents, if you have an e-mail address, please make sure your schools all have correct e-mail information. We are trying this for efficiency purposes and will mail out bus information to any family that we have no e-mail address for.
6. There will be virtual ceremony for our 6th grade students who received academic and service awards. More information will be sent when the details have been finalized.
7. Reminder to parents...If you move within the district, we require two proofs of residency when you submit the address change for your child(ren). Accepted forms of proof are:
 - Bank contract or mortgage agreement showing purchase of home with name and address
 - Signed rent or lease agreement with landlord's name, address, and telephone number, or DSS processed landlord statement
 - Most recent utility bill (phone, gas, electric)
 - Deposit receipt for gas, electric, phone service start-up
 - Driver's license or State ID card with picture showing current district address.
 - Currently active bank account/checkbook statement with name and address imprinted (bank may be contacted to verify existence of account)
 - Payroll stub with address

8. **End of Year Medication Pick-Up Information:** Medications will need to be picked up on June 17 or 18 with the materials exchange that is planned. Any medication that do not get picked up, will be disposed of per New York State Law.
9. We are now using Family ID for sports registration. Family ID uses a secure platform that provides you with an easy, user-friendly way to register for our programs and helps us to be more efficient and environmentally responsible. **This program is replacing the current paper process. You will no longer need to submit paperwork to the Nurse or Athletic Office. Everything will be completed online.** In addition, once you register, the system keeps track of your information so you need only enter it once for multiple programs and student-athletes.
10. **Have a happy, relaxing, and safe summer.** The Office will be open from 7:30 AM to 3:00 PM starting June 25th. If you plan to stop in the Office during the summer, you might want to call first (739-6366). Those of us in the Office will be taking vacation time and there will be times the Office is closed.

BUDGET VOTE/BOARD ELECTION BY ABSENTEE BALLOT THIS YEAR

In accordance with New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Order, the Horseheads Central School District will hold the 2020-21 Budget Vote/Board of Education Election via Absentee Ballot only.

Ballots will be mailed to those eligible voters who voted in the 2019 Annual Vote. In addition, applications for Absentee Ballots may also be applied for at the Office of the District Clerk for any qualified voter in the District who did not vote in the 2019 Annual Vote. Contact the District Clerk at 607-739-5601 ext. 4260 to schedule an appointment to complete the application for a ballot to be mailed to you. Such applications for an Absentee Ballot must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days before the Vote if the ballot is to be mailed to the absentee voter or the day before the vote if the ballot is to be picked up by the absentee voter by scheduled appointment at the District Office. Absentee Ballots must be received in the Office of the District Clerk, 143 Hibbard Road, Horseheads, NY 14845, not later than 5:00 PM. on June 9th in order to be counted.

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
- Are not restricted from voting in general elections based on election law

A Public Hearing will be held at 6:00 PM on Monday, June 1, 2020, virtually at <http://Ideas.gstboces.org/hhds>. (After June 1, a video of the hearing will be at www.horseheadsdistrict.com/Budget2020-21.cfm.)

For more information on the Proposed Budget, please go to <https://horseheadsdistrict>

THANK YOU!

A tremendous thank you to all of our PTO Volunteers. Your continual support over the years has made field trips, assemblies, our Buy One Get One Free Book Fair, the 25 Book Goal Celebration, Staff Appreciation, the Sixth Grade Celebration and more possible. Thank you again to all who have volunteered and supported the many activities for our school this year.



Stay Active in Mind and Body

We believe that the 2019-20 school year was a great success due to the students' hard work as well as your commitment and support. In order to stop student regression (loss of academic skills) over the long summer vacation, there are other things you could do to help keep the momentum of your child's learning throughout the months of July and August. The following are great locations for learning and enrichment:

- Local libraries (Horseheads, Big Flats, Elmira)
- Tanglewood Nature Center (Elmira)
- Wings of Eagles Discovery Center (Big Flats)
- Arnot Art Museum (Elmira)
- Rockwell Museum (Corning)
- Corning Museum of Glass (Corning)
- Horseheads Youth Bureau (offers some programs for kids)
- Science Center (Ithaca)



"I am still learning."

-Michelangelo, age 87

Also, there are an overwhelming amount of interactive educational websites that provide practice in the core subject areas of school. Here are some to try:

<http://www.funbrain.com/>

<http://www.billnye.com/>

<http://www.coolmath.com/>

<http://www.squiglyplayhouse.com/BrainTeasers/>

<http://www.playkidsgames.com/>

<http://www.factmonster.com/>

Reading to/with your child each day will improve their skills and foster a love of literature. If you are interested, I included a website below of a fantastic article that explains 10 simple ways to improve reading skills. Although we will miss working with the students each day, the new school year will be upon us before we know it. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Article: ***Top Ten Ways to Improve Reading Skills***

<http://school.familyeducation.com/top-10-ways/improve-reading-skills/38329.html>

Keep your body active as well! Some suggestions are walking, running, biking, exercises, sports games, or any other physical activity. Get your heart rate up for at least 30 minutes per day.



"None of us is as smart as all of us." ~Ken Blanchard "Do a little more each day than you think you possibly can."

~ Lowell Thomas

INFORMATION REGARDING VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS!



NEWS FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

PLEASE READ THIS VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Dear Fifth Grade Parents/Guardians:

All 6th grade students will need to receive 2 doses of the Varicella (Chicken Pox) vaccination along with the Tdap vaccine. The laws are very strict, and we cannot allow students to come to school after the first 10 days of school without these immunizations.

Your child may get the required immunization through your health care provider, Five Star Urgent or Walk-In Clinics or through the Chemung County Health Department, at (607)737-2028, appointment, only if qualified.

You must provide proof that your child has received the Tdap immunization in order for your child to attend school in the fall. Your health care provider or health department will provide you with this written proof once your child receives the immunization. Please bring this proof to our Health Office or fax it to us at 795-2495. Information must be received by **Tuesday, September 22, 2020. No appointment cards accepted.**

Please note: 10-year-old students who are entering 6th grade will not be required to receive the Tdap vaccine at this time and will not be excluded from school, but will be tracked and must be immunized upon turning 11 years old.

If you have further questions, please contact the health office at 739-6366 (Option 2). Thank you for your cooperation.



HEALTH CORNER



It is that time of the year again to remember good health practices. Please keep your child home if he/she has had a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, vomiting or diarrhea in the past two hours. Because there is no known cure for the common cold, prevention is the key to keeping colds away. Most of the time you acquire a cold virus by touching your eyes, nose or mouth with an object that has the cold virus on it.

Therefore, to help avoid catching a cold:

- Wash hands thoroughly and frequently with warm soapy water.
- Sneeze into a tissue, rather than your hands, then discard the tissue(*Remember to please send in tissue boxes)
- Don't touch your face—your hands may have come in contact with a cold virus!
- Drink 8 glasses of water daily.
- Get plenty of rest—up to 12 hours a night!!!

Please be considerate of others—you are contagious for the first 3 days after symptoms appear.

If you have questions, please call the health department at 737-2028.



Notes from the IS Library

SUMMER READING

Has your student read all the books in your house? Have you not been able to get to the public library to check out more books? If so (or just FYI!) have no fear **SORA** is here! Your student may check out books electronically from the Horseheads School District electronic library from any device from anywhere, just download the **SORA** app or open **SORA** through your browser. Your student now has free access to any title (both text and audio) for 2 weeks and the book returns automatically!

Your child has already used **SORA** at school but as a reminder they log in using their district network username and password. In most cases that is **Last name-First name** (Smith-John) for user name and their **ID number** for the password.

ATTENTION: INCOMING 7TH & 8TH GRADERS

MIDDLE SCHOOL READING CHALLENGE / SUMMER 2020

Challenge: Record, this summer, your reading material in a journal log. Any kind of reading is important. Once you list all your reading material, obtain a signature from someone who can verify your reading record is accurate. Directions and logs are online at [Summer Reading Journal.docx](#). Read and Record each book, article or topic, log in a title, author, place or setting you learned about and the amount of time you read in days. You must also respond with a brief thought about what you read. This isn't a review, but something you thought about after reading. You can draw or use emojis or clip art if you choose!

Turn it in: Save your log and bring it with you when you return to classes. The Library will collect it. You must also have a signature, even if it is your own! In this way, it will be just like a travel passport, only you are traveling through reading.

Reward: You will receive a small reward for participating and will be eligible for a drawing. Tell your friends about the challenge. If half our students read this summer, we will celebrate when we return to school.

Contact Middle School Librarian, Mrs. Heidrich for more information: heidric@horseheadsdistrict.com



CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The Horseheads Central School District is looking for interested individuals for several job positions: Cleaner, Bus Driver, and Food Service Worker, as well as Substitute Clerical, Registered Nurse and Food Service Worker. We seek candidates who are 18 or older, and we welcome retired community members to inquire as well. To apply, complete our District application and submit it to Human Resources in the South Wing of the High School. The application can be found on the District website

(<http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/uploadeddocs/Application.pdf>) or picked up at our Human Resources Office, south wing of Horseheads High School. Questions?

Email us at hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

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.



Pull for the House.



Many Hearts. One Home.

Keep hoarding pull tabs! **Get others involved** - ask your friends, neighbors, and family members to collect! Pull tabs can be brought to the office.

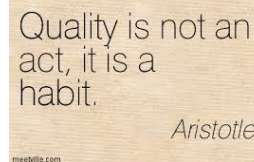
CHARACTER TRAIT AND HABIT OF MIND' OF THE MONTH

Character Trait: *Caring*

- Helping a neighbor
- Model random acts of kindness
- Discuss with kids who they care about and why
- Donate some items or time for charity
- Discuss how characters in movie or book show character trait

The Habit of Mind: *Thinking and Communicating with Clarity and Precision*

- Be Clear! Striving for accurate communication in both written and oral form; avoiding overgeneralizations, distortions, and deletions.
- Students who are skilled at thinking and communicating with clarity and precision have developed a habit of using correct names for objects, ideas and processes. They avoid fuzzy language such as: "...that thingy over there." "...it was really good."



Chapter 434 of the New York State Education Law requires school districts to notify parents or persons in parental relation of their rights regarding the referral and evaluation of their child for the purposes of special education services or programs. This information can be found on our district website (www.horseheadsdistrict.com) or on the New York State Education Department website (www.nysed.gov) in "A Parent's Guide to Special Education." If you have further questions, please contact Kelly Squires, Director of Student Services, at 607-739-5601, x4300.

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.

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.