

The School Connection



Principal's Post

Horseheads Intermediate School

October has been a busy and exciting month as we are now well into our school routines. I can't believe we are in November already as we just wrapped up the month with our Halloween celebrations in school.

The academic expectations are growing each day as we move into more rigorous content. There are many things you can do to help lead your child to success in school. Please check out the Intermediate School website, specifically the **Parent Resources**. We have included many helpful resources including month-by-month tips, problem solving strategies, homework tips, internet safety, academic standards support, bullying information and much more! Simply click on *Parent Resources* link to the right on this page. It's very useful, and we thank you for taking an active role in your child's education as it is one of the most critical pieces of success.

Each month we focus on a specific character trait as well as a Habit of Mind (HoM). November's character trait is **citizenship** and our HoM is **managing impulsivity**. The teachers infuse them into the classroom, and we highlight the traits in activities and throughout the building. We would appreciate your help with these at home as well. Discussing ways to show citizenship in daily practices and promoting strategies for managing impulsive behaviors, are great ways to build these skills. See page 9 for more information.

In closing, I'd like to say thank you for sending us such great kids. November is a month to reflect upon what you're grateful for, and for me it is the great mix of students at the Intermediate School. We certainly face our challenges, but we always collaborate as a team to make this a welcoming and productive place of learning. With your help, we are developing some fantastic young minds. Thank you very much for your assistance in reinforcing academics, positive behaviors, and healthy relationships.

Check out the article to the right about **being good at math**. Math ability is not passed on from parents! Despite what many people think, being good at math *isn't* either something you have or something you don't. Math is learned, and everyone is capable. Anything you can do to promote positive thinking and hard work will benefit your son or daughter! If you have any questions or comments, do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours in education,

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

Michael Bostwick
Principal

Connect with 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>

"We are apt to forget that children watch examples better than they listen to preaching." - Roy L. Smith

November 2019
Volume 8 Issue 3

Inside this issue:

Principal's Post	1
Calendar Dates	2
Informational	2
Artsonia	3
CIM & AIS Services	4
School Spirit!	5
Box Tops for Education	6
News From the Health Office	7
Scripps Spelling Bee	8
Classifieds	9

PARENT ARTICLE

ATTENTION!

Parent Resources
on IS website.

"Thank you very much for your assistance in reinforcing academics, positive behaviors, and healthy relationships."

Mark Your Calendars!

Friday, November 1 st :	Marking Period Ends
Thursday, November 7 th :	Picture Re-takes
Thursday, November 7 th :	Report Cards Go Home
Friday, November 8 th :	NO SCHOOL - Parent/Teacher (P/T) Conference Day
Monday, November 11 th :	NO SCHOOL – VETERANS' DAY
Tuesday, November 12 th :	Veterans Celebration 7:45 AM; PTO Meeting, Library, 6:30 PM
Friday, November 15 th :	½ day students – P/T Conf. Day (Dismissal at 11:00 AM)
Thursday, November 21 st :	Board of Education Meeting, HS Multi-Media Center, 6:00 PM
Wed. 11/27 – Fri. 11/29:	NO SCHOOL – THANKSGIVING RECESS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

1. We welcome parent and family member Veterans to join us on Tuesday, November 12th from 7:45 AM to 8:30 AM to greet our students as they enter in the morning. This is a way to highlight and thank our Veterans for their service!
2. Fall is well under way and temperatures are below freezing on some mornings. Physical Education classes and recess are outside when weather permits. Please be sure your child wears a coat and dresses appropriately for the weather.
3. Friday, November 8th, is a Parent/Teacher Conference Day. The IS and all elementary schools are not in session on that day. Monday, November 11th is Veterans Day and all schools will be closed. Also, Friday, November 15th, is a half-day of school due to Parent/Teacher Conferences. **Dismissal will be at 11:00 AM this day.**
4. The School Store is open daily from 10:50 AM – 12:45 PM. Middle School students operate the store. Pencils, erasers, paper and many other items are available there for students to purchase.
5. We will recognize students on the Honor Roll who have a grade point average of **85.0** or higher and do not fail any classes. Students achieving a grade point average (GPA) of 95.0 or above will be recognized as Distinguished Honors. A student will receive a “U” for any grade under a 65. A GPA will not be calculated if a student has a “U” on the report card. Art and Music classes are weighted 1/3 of the core subjects for the GPA because they meet twice in a six-day cycle.
6. Parent-Teacher Conference Forms were sent home. We encourage you to meet with your child’s homeroom teacher to discuss their progress this year and ask questions. Focus for the conferences could be about academic, behavioral, and social strengths as well as areas for improvement.
7. The Intermediate School staff gratefully declines Christmas gifts this Holiday Season. Instead, we encourage you to help those in need or less fortunate by donating to your favorite charity. Applications for assistance from the Arctic League are available in the Social Worker’s Office.
8. Math Facts—Memorization of math facts is critical for student success at this grade level. Math facts are essential for students as they study higher level math concepts. The Intermediate School would like to see ALL students testing at 100% on their math facts by the end of this school year. Your child may borrow a set of math facts cards. We ask that you or someone in your family help your child to study these math facts cards and then return them to their homeroom teachers. Practice will pay off!
9. We are encouraging our students to wash their hands often with soap and water. Hand sanitizer is available at the doors to the lunch room. We appreciate those who had sent some in with your child this year. We want to inform you that the District will be maintaining this during the year. Thank you.
10. PTO is planning a Luncheon for staff on Friday, November 15th, Parent/Teacher Conference Day. Donations are appreciated. Please contact one of the PTO officers listed below with questions.

Intermediate School PTO Officers (2019-2020)

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:	Christina Staight	Cstaight@aol.com	426-8597



Dear Horseheads Intermediate Family and Friends,

All of the students have been hard at work creating unique and creative pieces in their art rooms. We are so proud of them and want to share artwork with you at home. Most artwork will remain at school throughout the year to be ready for shows and displays, so we wanted to send a reminder that you can follow along with what the students are making by signing up on **www.Artsonia.com**. Once you have signed up, you have the ability to see your child's artwork, leave positive comments or artist statements, share it with family and friends, and you can also purchase memorabilia with your child's artwork on it. Part of all of the proceeds from items purchased on Artsonia return directly to our school to help with art materials and other events. If you need any assistance signing up, or have questions about the website, please feel free to contact the art teachers at Horseheads Intermediate School at any time!

Thank you for all of the support you give to both students and staff,

Angela Niforatos aniforatos@horseheadsdistrict.com

Chris Bell cbell@horseheadsdistrict.com

LUNCH WITH YOUR CHILD



We want to provide a place for parents to eat lunch with their child on those special occasions when you come to school. We will have a table in the Cafeteria designated for this purpose. Your child may wish to invite a friend or two to join you at this table. This will still allow the "down time" that students look forward to having at lunch with their friends.

PRESIDENTIAL SERVICE AWARDS

A reminder that Presidential Service Award volunteer forms for the first marking period are due on Thursday, November 8th. Students may give the forms to their teacher or drop them off in the Office. As a reminder, this is an optional activity.



SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELLING BEE

The Intermediate School PTO is excited to participate in the Scripps National Spelling Bee again this year. Our Local Spelling Bee will be held on Wednesday, January 29, 2020, at 2:45 PM, in the Middle School Cafeteria for qualifying students. (more on page 8)



CIM TEAM

Our School District currently is utilizing the CIM (Classroom Intervention Model) in assuring your child is receiving all necessary supports to have a positive school year. The CIM Team is a collaborative approach which includes teachers, special area teachers, administrators, special education staff, school psychologist, social workers and other staff with knowledge or specific skills. Our goal is to discuss, confidentially, any student's needs and to develop an Intervention Plan that will help him/her be more successful. You, as the parent/guardian, can be involved in the process to help make this a joint effort between home and school. If you have any questions regarding this team, please consult with your student's classroom teacher.

ACADEMIC INTERVENTION SERVICES (AIS)

The New York State Education Department mandates that all schools identify and provide academic assistance to any student falling below a designated cutoff on various assessments. AIS stands for Academic Intervention Services. Identified students will be monitored and will receive additional help, which continues until the student demonstrates competency in the identified area. In many cases, a student will have been identified through a State Assessment he/she took at the end of the previous school year. In addition, students may qualify for AIS support if they have fallen below designated levels on District tests and/or have been recommended by teachers.

STUDENTS READ THREE BOOKS A MONTH

Our District has established the standard that Grade 5 and 6 students will read a minimum of 25 grade level books per year. We need your help to encourage your child to reach this goal each month. Children whose parents read with them on a regular basis are more successful in school.



School Spirit Days

Once a month we have School Spirit Days to promote school pride. Students are encouraged to dress in their #ISinnovators shirts or wear Raider Blue. Two students (below) are chosen randomly and win #ISinnovators gear. These days are meant to be a fun way to promote and highlight all the hard work we do in learning, showing a growth mindset, and building a strong school culture!

(Ella Brady and Garrett Cunningham)


























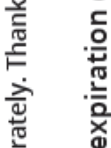





























MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

Thank you to all of the students, parents, and teachers who volunteered their time on October 19th, for Make A Difference Day. Many wonderful projects were accomplished in support of the school and local community agencies.





Clip, fill the page,
and bring it in to
school!

							
50 BOX TOPS =							
\$5 FOR YOUR							
CHILD'S SCHOOL							
<p>Clipped Box Tops are each worth 10¢ for your child's school. Tape or paste them to this collection sheet and send it to school. Please note, bonus certificates must be submitted separately. Thanks for your help!</p>							
<p>1 Clip Box Tops and check expiration date</p>							
<p>2 Tape or glue Box Tops on sheet until filled</p>							
<p>3 Send completed sheet to your school Coordinator</p>							
							
							
							

Teacher name: _____

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NOTES 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. **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 24 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 three days that cold symptoms appear.

Scripps National Spelling Bee



Horseheads Intermediate School is excited to participate in the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Below are the steps to participate:

1. Interested students will be given a grade-specific spelling list to prepare for the classroom spelling bee.
2. In November, your child will participate in a *Classroom Spelling Bee* to qualify for the *School Spelling Bee*. The *Classroom Spelling Bee* will be done on the computer during school.
3. Students who qualify will be invited to the *School Spelling Bee* and given the School Study List.
 - a. Place: Horseheads Middle School Cafeteria
 - b. Date and Time: Wednesday, January 29, 2020, at 2:45 p.m.
4. Two winners from the *School Spelling Bee* will then continue to the *Local Spelling Bee* in Corning, NY, on Saturday, March 28th. They will be given a School Champion study list that will be used for the district level and following levels.
5. If a Horseheads Intermediate School Spelling participant wins, they will continue to the National Spelling Bee in Washington DC.

If your child is interested, he/she will be given a list from their classroom teacher to start studying for the Classroom Spelling Bee. If you have any questions, contact Robin Doubrava at 739-6366.

Horseheads Central School District Parents' Bill of Rights Relating to Student Data

The District, in compliance with Education Law 2-d, hereby establishes the following Parents' Bill of Rights in regard to student data:

1. A student's personally identifiable information will not be sold or released for any commercial purpose;
2. Parents have the right to inspect and review the complete contents of their child's educational record. Procedures for reviewing student records can be found in the Board Policy entitled "Student Records," Policy 5500, Regulation 5500-R;
3. Security protocols regarding confidentiality of personally identifiable information are currently in place and the safeguards necessary to protect the confidentiality of student data are maintained at industry standards and best practices. The safeguards include but are not limited to encryption, firewalls, and password protection.
4. New York State maintains a complete list of all student data collected by the State and the data is available for public review at www.nysed.gov, or by writing to 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12234
5. Parents have the right to have complaints about possible breaches of student data addressed. Complaints should be directed to the Superintendent of Schools, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845.

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.

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.

Attention!

PRINCIPAL CHATS

October 8th, **January 14th**, and April 14th

9:00 AM in the Cafeteria 6:00 – 6:30PM

in the Library



Pull for the House.



Many Hearts. One Home.

Please start hoarding pull tabs! We began our drive to benefit the Ronald McDonald House. Last year we gathered over 40 pounds which was the most out of any school in the region! **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: Citizenship is contributing to your school and outside community, staying informed, and participating in decision-making.

The Habit of Mind: Managing impulsivity means taking a minute to think before you speak or act. Consider how your words and actions will affect you and other people.

Parents can help reinforce *citizenship* by

- Promoting community service
- Encouraging cooperation
- Staying informed and voting when possible
- Being a good neighbor
- Respecting authority; obey laws and rules

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 Caitlyn 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.