

Horseheads Intermediate School

Newsletter

INSIDE THIS EDITION

Mark Your
Calendars & PTO
Information - Page 2

Important
Reminders - Page 3

Advanced Art &
Volunteers -
Pages 4

Vaccination
Requirements -
Page 5

Emergency School
Closings/Delays -
Page 6

Parents Bill of
Rights & Character
Trait of the Month -
Page 7

Student
Photographs -
Page 8

Classifieds -
Pages 9-10



A message from your Interim Principal

Dear Families,

I am delighted to share that the new school year is off to a wonderful start! I know I can speak for the entire staff when I say how excited we are to have our students back in the building. This new school year marks the beginning of a fresh start filled with amazing learning opportunities, chances to make new friendships, and moments to grow as individuals.

We are truly honored to educate the students of the Horseheads Central School District and are committed to supporting each child's success. Please take a moment to read through this newsletter, as it contains important information to help you stay connected and informed.

We look forward to welcoming you at various school events throughout the year. If you ever have any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the office. Your partnership is invaluable to us.

Warm regards,

Kim Malone





- Tuesday, September 9th ~ Open House 6:30-7:30pm
- Thursday, September 18th ~ Board of Education Meeting, Gardner Road, 6:00pm
- Monday, September 22nd - Thursday, Sept. 25th ~ Fall Book Fair
- Tuesday, September 23rd ~ Principal/Parent-Guardian Chat, 5:30pm, Library
- Tuesday, September 23rd ~ PTO Meeting, 6:00pm, Library
- Wednesday, September 24th ~ PTO Ice Cream Social, 6:30-8:00pm
- Tuesday, September 30th - Tuesday, October 14th ~ PTO Believe Fundraiser

Intermediate School PTO

We are always looking for parents/guardians who would like to help out with school events. This could be as simple as working at the Book Fair or assisting at an event. Everyone is welcome to attend the PTO meetings listed on the district calendar. We appreciate your support and value the partnership! **The first meeting is Tuesday, September 23rd at 6:00pm in the library.** Hope to see you there!



Important Reminders

The staff at Horseheads Intermediate School warmly welcomes you to our community. We are excited for a fantastic year ahead! Our team is dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of your children from the moment they arrive in the morning until they board the school buses at dismissal. To help us fulfill this important responsibility, we kindly ask for your cooperation with the following requests.

- 1.If you would like your child to be excused from school year, please send a note stating the time of dismissal, the name of the person to whom the child is to be released, and the reason for the early dismissal. Students will remain in their classroom until you arrive.
- 2.School opens at 6:50am. Students who do not ride the bus to school **should not arrive before 6:50am**. No supervision will be provided prior to 6:50am. From 6:50am until 7:10am, students will be directed to the cafeteria. Breakfast is provided from 6:50am-7:19am. Morning buses will use the Fieldhouse entrance to drop-off students to school.
- 3.If your child has a change to their normal dismissal plan, please send a note on that day outlining your child's change in plans. We are unable to make last minute changes due to the impact on the district transportation schedule. **If a child does not bring in a note, the child will follow their regular dismissal process.**
- 4.On the first day of school, several papers were sent home that need to be signed and returned. **One very important notice is the Emergency Go Home form.** Please be sure that your child is aware of the emergency address in the event of an emergency early dismissal. Be sure to alert us to any changes that may occur throughout the school year in order for the changes to be made here at school.
- 5.Please note an important message from the Transportation Department. If you should have any questions, please feel free to call the Transportation Department directly at 739-6338: In an effort to cut costs and increase efficiency, we have consolidated some of our bus runs. As a result, your child's bus number(s) and bus times may change, and your child may be on the bus a little longer than last year. In addition, due to limited space on the buses, we are no longer able to allow friends of students to ride their bus to and from school with them."



Open House
Tuesday, September 9th
6:30-7:30pm

Advanced Art with Mrs. Klossner and Ms. Hamilton



Advanced Art classes will be offered to fifth and sixth grade students who show skills and demonstrate accelerated levels. These classes allow for students to engage in higher level projects during an extra Art time. Some of the criteria for the program selection are: 1) The student consistently demonstrates excellence in art skills, technique and creative problem solving with a variety of art forms and materials; 2) The student completes quality Art assignments; and 3) The student consistently exhibits self-motivation, interest in pursuing Art outside of the classroom, and considers pursuing Art as a possible future career.

*Students need to be successful in their classroom studies to be available during this time for extra art instruction.

Initially, each student's ability level will be assessed through a Composite Drawing Test, their beginning art projects and recommendations from elementary Art teachers.

Class attendance is mandatory for participating students. Please understand that space is limited, with only two classes of Advanced Art available for each grade level. Students who were previously in Advanced Art are not automatically guaranteed a spot for this school year. ALL students will be assessed on a continuous basis and can join the program throughout the year.

The school district has many career-related events including career days, career panels, job shadows, classroom speakers, field trips, and mock interviews. We are always looking for volunteers for these events. We are looking for parents, grandparents, other adult family members and friends as well as community volunteers in every career field. If you feel your career is not of interest or you are currently at home, you may still contribute through mock interviews and other fun classroom events. Most events are only an hour or two on a given day, yet your experience and career knowledge can deeply influence a child's life, career goals, and future educational path.

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about how you can get involved, please contact Jenny Sonsire, the Career Development Representatives for the Horseheads School District, at (607)795-5320 or jsonsire@gstboces.org.

Volunteers
needed

Information Regarding Vaccination Requirements

Dear Sixth Grade Caregivers,

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 17, 2025), 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 tsenatore@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

Information about Emergency School Closings/Delays

Schools will be closed when weather conditions make it unsafe for students to attend or prevent safe operation of school facilities and transportation. If the weather improves by early morning, the school day may be delayed. Inclement weather includes snow, ice, and freezing temperatures. On a delayed start day, buses will operate, and schools will open two hours later than usual.

The District announces school closings and delays in a variety of ways:

- Text messaging – Parents/guardians can receive a text message if schools are closed or delayed by opting into our text messaging service through School Messenger. To opt in, text Y or Yes to 67587. You will receive a text response confirming that you are registered for texting.
- District website at www.horseheadsdistrict.com
- District Facebook pages (the district and all six schools have pages)
- 'X' – @HhdsSchools
- Local television and radio stations:
- TV – WENY, WETM, Spectrum Cable News
- Radio – WELM 1410AM, WNKI 106.1FM/WPGI 100.9FM, WENY 1230AM/ Magic FM 92.7FM/WGMM 98.7
 - Note: Television and radio stations also put closing/delay information on their websites.

Please do not call the radio/TV stations or the district's Transportation Office.

Important notes about school closings/delays:

- There may be a time when any of these means of communication do not work due to Internet issues, etc., so we ask that you check more than one of our communication methods to determine if school is in regular session or not for that day.
- If schools are closed, they will remain closed all day for scheduled activities, including remedial programs, extra-curricular activities, use of facilities by non-school groups, and evening programs.
- When school is delayed, there is no supervision for students until schools open two hours later than the usual time, so parents should not drop their children off at school until they open. Additionally, on school delays, there is no breakfast is served.
- If a storm develops after school begins, usual procedure is NOT to close school early. This allows time for highway crews to plow and sand the roads and has proved to be less disruptive and confusing than attempting to send students home early.

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.

Parents' Bill of Rights for Data Privacy and Security

The parent/guardian or eligible student has a right to:

1. Inspect and review the student's education records;
2. Request that records be amended to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights;
3. Consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) authorizes disclosure without consent; and
4. File a complaint with the United States Department of Education alleging failure of the district to comply with FERPA and its regulations. Complaints may be sent to Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202-4605.

Character Trait of the Month:

Respect

- Treat others the way you want to be treated
- Be tolerant of differences
- Use good manners and positive language
- Be considerate of the feelings of others
- Respond peacefully in times of conflict



Student Photographs



Throughout the year, our school and district may photograph, videotape, and/or interview students for its publications or broadcasts, which include school and district newsletters, videos, and social media. Additionally, local newspapers and TV stations often attend school events and photograph, videotape, or interview students about events and issues. These stories will also appear on the media's websites and social media platforms.

Please complete and return the form below to the Main Office if you **DO NOT wish your child to be photographed or videotaped for school publications or by the media.**

Note that we will still publish student photographs in school yearbooks.



Student Photos

I **DO NOT** wish to have my child photographed or videotaped while in school.

Child's Name: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Classifieds

Parent Portal

Would you like to know more about your child's grades and attendance? Join Parent Portal to get access to up to date student records. To set up an account, we must have a valid e-mail address for each parent who would like access. If you haven't already signed up, visit the Main Office. You will be asked to complete a short form and present identification.

Please note: If you checked the Parent Portal box on your child's emergency form, or if you signed up at the school's Open House, you do not need to do anything further. You should have received further information about Parent Portal via e-mail.



Picture Day is scheduled for
Tuesday, October 21st.
Information packets and payment
envelopes will be sent home
approximately one to two weeks
prior to picture day!



PTO Fundraisers

The PTO will be running 2 fundraisers this fall. The Believe Fundraiser will run from Tuesday, September 30th through Tuesday, October 14th. The second fundraiser, Texas Roadhouse Gift Cards and Frozen Rolls fundraiser will run from ... We invite you to participate in both, or whichever one suits your family. Thank you for your participation in helping the PTO and provide wonderful events throughout the year for our students!

Classifieds Continued

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 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 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.

Pull Tabs

We will again be collecting aluminum can pull tabs this year. Thanks to all who donated pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Please continue collecting the tabs.

Ask friends, neighbors, and relatives to save their tabs too! You can drop them off in the office anytime!

Box Tops for Education

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

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).