Horseheads Middle School

December, 2020



Winter Issue

Contact Us!

607-739-6357 • Horseheadsdistrict.com/HHMS.cfm

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What's Happening at HMS

12/23/20
Progress Reports Issued

Progress Reports will be available to view online through your Parent Portal account.

They will not be mailed.

Please contact the main office if you would like a hard copy of the report card.

12/24/2020 - 1/1/2021 Winter Recess If your child is sick, please call Ms. Cobb, school nurse at (607) 739-6357.

Cohort A- January 11 Remote Students - January 13 Cohort B- January 14

In the event we are 100% remote on these dates, pictures will again be rescheduled.



Applications are due by December 15, and can be returned by mail, or dropped off at the Arctic League headquarters at 249 West Clinton Street 1



249 West Clinton Street, Elmira NY 14901. For a link to the online application, click here: http://www.arcticleague.com/apply



Notes from the Nurse

Your School Nurse, Mrs. Cobb



We may be learning in a hybrid model or entirely remotely, but there are still some important health related items that need to occur for our students. Please keep your annual physical wellness exams for your children. The annual examination monitors height, weight, blood pressure, scoliosis, BMI, eye and hearing tests and ongoing medical issues, and updates vaccinations.

Due to SARS-Covid 19 restrictions, I will not be completing my annual screenings for our students. There are large growth spurts and hormonal changes that occur in the Middle school years. Annual vision tests should be done by eye care provider. Hearing and vision tests are two of the most frequent evaluations, important because difficulties with these senses are often subtle, and neither parents, teachers, nor children may even recognize that a problem exists. A child who has difficulty reading the blackboard may not know that she is seeing differently from anyone else. Even mild deficiencies of sight can significantly affect a child's ability to learn.

Other Information:

Help stop the spread of COVID-19 by washing your hands often with soap and water, covering coughs and sneezes, and avoiding close contact with other people – even your friends. Make sure you all have a clean mask daily and are frequently washing reusable masks. COVID-19 may be spread by people who do not have symptoms. These actions will keep you from getting sick and spreading the virus to other people you care about.

Avoid close contact- maintain 6 feet from other people who do not live with you and from people who are sick. Wear masks when you do leave your home to help slow the spread of COVID-19. You can be social, but do it from a distance, such as reaching out to friends by phone, text, video chat, and social media.

Help your child cope with stress. Some common changes that you should look for are listed below:

- Excessive crying or irritation in younger children.
- Returning to behaviors they have outgrown (for example toileting accidents/bedwetting).
- Excessive worry or sadness.
- Unhealthy eating or sleeping habits.
- Irritability and "acting out" behaviors in teens.
- Poor school performance or avoiding school activities.
- Difficulties with attention and concentration.
- Avoidance of activities that were enjoyed in the past.
- Unexplained headaches or body pain.
- Use of alcohol, tobacco or other drugs.

Ways to support your child:

Talk with your child about the COVID-19 outbreak. Answer questions and share facts about COVID-19 in a way that your child can understand. There are a few simple things you can do to manage your stress. Take deep breaths, stretch, or meditate. Try to do activities you enjoy, like exercising, gaming, reading or other hobbies. Keep to a schedule. Plan times for doing schoolwork, relaxing and connecting with friends.

Reassure your child that they are safe. Let them know it is okay if they feel upset. Share with them how you deal with your own stress so that they can learn from you how to cope with stress. Be a role model. Take breaks, get plenty of sleep, exercise, and eat well. Connect with your friends and family members.

Take care of your mental health. You may experience increased stress during this pandemic. Fear and anxiety can be overwhelming and cause strong emotions. Please feel free to contact me (Mrs. Cobb), school counselors, social workers or school administrators.

Get immediate help in a crisis:

Call 911

National Suicide Prevention: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

National Domestic Violence: 1-800-799-7233 or text LOVEIS to 22522

Safety Protocols

Our top priorities are the health, safety, wellbeing, and education of all our students. While we must follow the requirements of health and education agencies, we also have instituted our own protocols to guard the health and safety of our students and staff.

Monitor your child's health

On the days students attend school, parents/guardians are required to check the student's temperature and monitor for symptoms of COVID-19. Please be mindful of your child's overall health when screening your child in the morning. If your child has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher and/or exhibits other symptoms (including but not limited to cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle aches, loss of taste/smell, etc.), please keep your child home. If our screening determines your child has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher and/or symptoms of COVID-19, you will be notified and required to immediately pick up your child.

Please remember to complete the Stay Well survey using the link sent to you each morning on the days your child attends school. The Stay Well survey links are sent to both parents/guardians as listed in our database. If you are not getting these emails or you have questions, please contact your child's school.

Masks

All staff and students are required to wear masks while in school, on the playground, and on buses. Students will be allowed mask breaks when eating and when at least six feet of social distancing is consistently maintained. It is very important that masks are worn correctly; this means covering the nose and below the chin.

Hand Washing

One of the most effective ways to stop the spread of viruses is washing hands properly and often.

Returning to school in COVID-19 health-related situations

Please note: The district must follow requirements of both the Chemung County Health Department and the New York State Education Department in regard to safety protocols. The district also has its own additional safety protocols to guard the health and safety of students and staff.

If a student has symptoms of COVID 19, the following are required to return to school:

- Documentation of evaluation by a healthcare provider clearing the student to return to school, and
- Documentation of a timely negative COVID-19 test result, and
- Symptom resolution for 72 hours with no medication

continued

If a student tests positive for COVID-19, here are the requirements to return to school:

- Release from quarantine by the Health Department paperwork provided to the school:
 - If symptomatic, the student must complete at least 11 days of isolation from the onset of symptoms
 - If asymptomatic (no symptoms), the student must complete ten days of quarantine after the positive test

If a student is in direct contact with a person who tests positive for COVID-19, the following are required to return to school:

- Release from quarantine by the Health Department (generally 14 days, but if the direct contact lives with the COVID-19 positive person, then the quarantine period starts only after the positive person is cleared by the Health Department).
- Proof of a negative COVID test (highly preferred that this test is taken on day 10 or after of the quarantine period)

If a student is a secondary contact (contact of a direct contact) who lives in the same household of a direct contact, here are the requirements to return to school:

- 14-day quarantine period
- Person must remain symptom-free and healthy during quarantine period

Testing locations

Below is a list of testing locations within Chemung County as listed with the NYS COVID-19 Resource Center:

Arnot Ogden Medical Center – Horseheads Appointment and Physician order required 100 John Roemmelt Drive, Suite 301 Horseheads, NY 14845 (607) 737-4100

Arnot Ogden Medical Center - Big Flats Appointment and Physician order required 31 Arnot Road Big Flats, NY 14845 (607) 795-5100

Arnot Ogden Medical Center - Hospital and Drivethrough

Appointment and Physician order required
600 Roe Avenue
Elmira, NY 14905
(800) 952-2662 Elmira VA Clinic Appointment and Physician order required 1316 College Avenue Elmira, NY 14901 (607) 664-4640

Wellnow Urgent Care - Big Flats Walk-in 830 County Road 64 Big Flats, NY 14903 (607) 846-2030

Smith Allergy & Asthma Associates Appointment required 2977 Westinghouse Road Horseheads, NY 14845 (607) 684-6115

For more information, please call the Middle School at (607) 739-6357.

Student Screening Informational Form Student: _____ Grade: ____ Date: ____ Your child is: not being allowed to enter school today is being sent home with the following symptoms that have been identified as COVID-19 Related: Fever of _____ Cough Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing Fatigue/Tired Muscle/Body Aches ☐ Headache ☐ New loss of taste or smell ☐ Sore throat ☐ Congestion or runny nose ☐ Nausea/vomiting/Diarrhea Other: Returning to School after Illness Schools must follow CDC, NYDOH and Local Health Departments for guidance allowing a student to return to school after being diagnosed with COVID-19 or exhibiting symptoms consistent with possible COVID-19. Your child may return to school when one of the following is met. MUST MEET ALL CRITERIA IN ONE BOX TO RETURN: STUDENT HAS SYMPTOMS OF POSSIBLE COVID-19 ILLNESS, BUT IS DETERMINED NOT TO HAVE COVID-19 BASED ON A NEGATIVE COVID TEST. CAN RETURN TO SCHOOL WHEN... (all 3 conditions must me met and paperwork provided to the health office) Student has been diagnosed with another condition (not COVID-19) and has a note written/signed by a health care provider (MD, NP, Physician Assistant) note stating they are clear to return to school; AND Documentation of a negative COVID-19 test is provided to the health office; AND There is no fever, without the use of fever reducing medicines, for at least 72 hours (without using fever reducing medicine); OR☐ STUDENT HAS BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19 BASED ON A POSITIVE TEST. THEY SHOULD NOT BE AT SCHOOL AND SHOULD STAY HOME UNTIL: Student has been cleared by the Chemung County Department of Health a provides documentation of this; AND It has been at least THREE days since the student has had a fever or symptoms (without using fever reducing medicine); It is recommended by the Horseheads School District and School Nurse that the parent/guardian of any student being sent home for the above illness reach out to the Students Health Care Provider as soon as possible for Guidance and if any symptoms worsen or any concerns, they should contact 911.

Student Screening Informational Form, continued

Your child may return to school when you have documentation from a health care provider following an evaluation, negative COVID-19 diagnostic test result, and symptom resolution.

Below is a list of testing locations within Chemung County per the COVID-19 Resource Center:

AOMC – Horseheads

Appointment and Physician order required

100 John Roemmelt Drive, Suite 301, Horseheads, NY 14845

(607) 737-4100

AOMC - Big Flats Appointment and Physician order required 31 Arnot Road, Big Flats, NY 14845 (607) 795-5100

Elmira VA Clinic Appointment and Physician order required 1316 College Avenue, Elmira, NY 14901 (607) 664-4640

Arnot Ogden Medical Center Hospital and Drive-thru Appointment and Physician order required 600 Roe Ave., Elmira, NY 14905 (800) 952-2662

Wellnow Urgent Care - Big Flats Walk-in 830 County Road 64, Big Flats, NY 14903 (607) 846-2030

Smith Allergy & Asthma-Corning, Ithaca and Cortland locations; Starting 10/1/2020-Horseheads location Call 607-684-6115 to schedule an appointment

If you have any questions about requirements for school reentry, please contact your school building nurse.

health.ny.gov/flu



Fight Flu at Home and School

Flu, or influenza, spreads easily and can make people very sick, especially kids. You can help stop flu!

Flu symptoms include:

Fever or chills, body aches, cough, sore throat, headache, runny or stuffy nose, feeling very tired. Some people, especially children, may have stomach problems and diarrhea. Unlike a cold, the flu comes on very suddenly.

Prevent flu!

- Flu vaccine is the best protection against the flu. It is recommended every year for everyone 6 months and older.
- Get the flu vaccine for you and your children every year! It helps make flu sickness milder or prevents it all together.
- Getting the vaccine early in the fall means you and your children will be protected when flu season starts.
- Ask people close to your children, like babysitters and relatives, to get the vaccine, too.
- The vaccine is especially important for people with certain health conditions, like asthma, diabetes, heart or lung conditions because the flu can make them even sicker.

If your child gets the flu:

- · Your child will need plenty of rest and lots of fluids.
- Keep your child home from school for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone without using fever-control medicine. This helps avoid giving the flu to others.
- Talk with your child's health care provider before giving a child any overthe-counter medicine.
- Never give your child or teenager aspirin or any medicine that has aspirin in it. Aspirin can cause serious problems.
- If your child gets flu symptoms and is younger than 5 or has a medical
 condition like asthma, diabetes, or heart or lung disease, call their health
 care provider. Young children and those with certain medical conditions
 are at greater risk for getting seriously ill from the flu. Ask their health care
 provider if they recommend an antiviral drug.
- · If you are worried about your child, call their health care provider.

Don't spread flu!

- · Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- . If soap and water aren't handy, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow, not your hands. Put used tissues in the trash.
- · Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. That's how germs spread.
- · Stay away from people who are sick.

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6/19

Parent Dashboard

Horseheads CSD at a Glance





The New York State Education Department (NYSED) has developed a Parent Dashboard for parents, guardians and the public to access information about our schools. This new dashboard will provide parents with information about each of the district's seven schools, as well as all private, charter and public schools throughout the state. The Par-



ent Dashboard is now available in addition to the New York State School Report Card on NYSED's public data site. Click here to view the Parent Dashboard: https://data.nysed.gov/profile.php?instid=800000054075

In 2019, NYSED gathered feedback from parents and stakeholders to guide the work of developing the Parent Dashboard. The data elements that parents ranked highest on the survey are available on the Parent Dashboard.

The Parent Dashboard is part of New York's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) which emphasizes equity in education for all students. It also provides federal funds to improve elementary and secondary education in the nation's schools. ESSA requires states and Local Educational Agencies (i.e., school districts and charter schools) to take a variety of actions to ensure that all children, regardless of race, socioeconomic status, gender, disability status, primary language, or ZIP code, receive the education that they need to be prepared for success in postsecondary education, careers, and citizenship. Click here to view the ESSA: http://www.nysed.gov/essa/nys-essa-plan

COVID-19 report card. Click here to see your school's reported COVID-19 rate: https://schoolcovidreportcard.health.ny.gov/#/home









Career Development Council

The school district has many career related events including career days, career panels, job shadows, class-room 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.

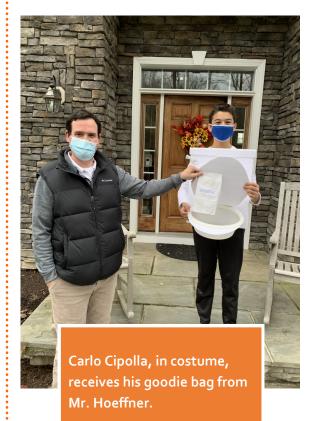
If you feel your career is not of interest or you are currently at home, you may still contribute through mock interviews and other fun classroom events. We will be doing many of these events on-line, but they are still important experiences for the career development of our students. Most events are 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 Deb Lynch, the Career Development Representative for the Horseheads School District, at (607)795-5320 or dlynch@gstboces.org.

Student Council Sponsors Halloween Costume Video Contest

Student Council advisors Ms. Stratton and Ms. Leland created a Flipgrid video assignment where students could submit up to a 30-second clip of themselves in costume on October 30. We had 28 students participate and submit videos. Our PTO provided each student with a \$5 Target gift card and student council provided candy.

Mr. Holloway, Mr. Hoeffner and Officer West delivered the goodie bags on Friday, November 13 and Monday, November 16.





Kasidy McCracken receives her goodie bag from Mr. Holloway.



We ♥our SRO!

Officer West surprised everyone by dressing up as Chief Clancy Wiggum to chauffeur Mr. Holloway and Mr. Hoeffner to students' houses.

Great Costume, Officer West!

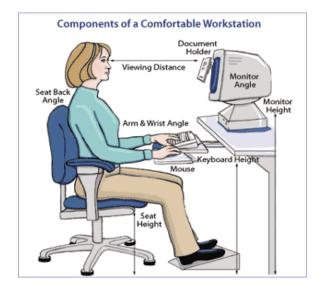




Ergonomics:

The science of how to work comfortably!





If you sit behind a desk for hours at a time, you're not doomed to a career of neck and back pain or sore wrists and fingers. Proper office ergonomics — including correct chair height, adequate equipment spacing and good desk posture — can help you and your joints stay comfortable at work.

Chair: Choose a chair that supports your spinal curves. Adjust the height of your chair so that your feet rest flat on the floor or on a footrest and your thighs are parallel to the floor. Adjust armrests so your arms gently rest on them with your shoulders relaxed.

Key objects: Keep key objects — such as your telephone, stapler or printed materials — close to your body to minimize reaching. Stand up to reach anything that can't be comfortably reached while sitting.

Keyboard and mouse: Place your mouse within easy reach and on the same surface as your keyboard. While typing or using your mouse, keep your wrists straight, your upper arms close to your body, and your hands at or slightly below the level of your elbows. Use keyboard shortcuts to reduce extended mouse use. If possible, adjust the sensitivity of the mouse so you can use a light touch to operate it. Alternate the hand you use to operate the mouse by moving the mouse to the other side of your keyboard.

Telephone: If you frequently talk on the phone and type or write at the same time, place your phone on speaker or use a headset rather than cradling the phone between your head and neck.

Footrest: If your chair is too high for you to rest your feet flat on the floor — or the height of your desk requires you to raise the height of your chair — use a footrest. If a footrest is not available, try using a small stool or a stack of sturdy books instead.

Desk: Under the desk, make sure there's clearance for your knees, thighs and feet. If the desk is too low and can't be adjusted, place sturdy boards or blocks under the desk legs. If the desk is too high and can't be adjusted, raise your chair. Use a footrest to support your feet as needed. If your desk has a hard edge, pad the edge or use a wrist rest. Don't store items under your desk.

Monitor: Place the monitor directly in front of you, about an arm's length away. The top of the screen should be at or slightly below eye level. The monitor should be directly behind your keyboard. If you wear bifocals, lower the monitor an additional 1 to 2 inches for more comfortable viewing. Place your monitor so that the brightest light source is to the side.

Advice from the staff of the Mayo Clinic on how to avoid injuries while working from home. For more information, click here: https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/adult-health/in-depth/office-ergonomics/art-20046169

HHCSD Opens New Wi-Fi Hot Spots in the Community



Erin Fire Department

Please park in the side parking lot



Tompkins Corners Fire Department

Please park at the corner of Chambers Rd and Murphy Hill Rd.

Guidelines

- *Please practice safety when parking in the designated areas
- *Please, no more than four cars at a time in these areas
- *A district device should connect automatically
- *A personal device will need to connect to the HH-BYOD network. This will prompt a student to use their network credentials from school.
- ₩WiFi signal may vary

Please note that you can still access the internet in the parking lots of our schools. The best signals are at our elementary schools and the high school.









VISIONS & VOICES

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.

Please send to <u>cbell@horseheadsdistrict.com</u> by March 5. Please include the student's full name, school and grade. If you have questions, contact Mr. Bell, Intermediate School art teacher, at the address above.

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

School Notes

Progress Reports / Report Cards

Parents are informed of student progress in two ways. Progress reports are sent home with students at the five-week point of each marking period. A report card is sent home with students at the end of the ten-week marking period. We encourage parents to sign-up for Parent Portal to help keep track of your student's progress between the reporting periods.

Distinguished High Honor Roll 95-100
High Honor Roll 90-94.99
Honor Roll 85-89.99
Failing Grade 64.0 or lower in any course

Progress Reports will be available to view online beginning December 23 through your Parent Portal account. They will not be mailed. Please contact the main office at 607-739-6357 if you would like a hard copy of the progress report.

Checking your student's grades on Parent Portal?

The URL for a computer browser is:

https://schooltool.horseheadsdistrict.com

The URL for the mobile app is:

https://schooltool.horseheadsdistrict.com/sthhweb



If you have not yet signed up for Parent Portal, please visit the District website. Under the "Quicklinks" section, hover over "Parent Portal" and click on "Parent Portal Registration Form". Fill out the form and submit it, and a link will be sent to your email.



Hot Chocolate

A cold winter's day treat of choice

From its origins in Mesoamerica more than 4,000 years ago, our familiar "hot chocolate" has come a long, long way. The ancient civilization of the Olmec are generally credited with making a thick chocolate beverage from the cacao bean. The drink was thought to have numinous attributes. Although Christopher Columbus did not take the cacao drink back to Spain, Cortes did, and it quickly spread across Europe. Swiss Miss was the first American company to package the powdered drink we all enjoy today.





Cacao beans in the Theobroma cacao tree, native to the rainforests of Central and South America.



Each pod contains from 20-60 beans, from which chocolate is made.





Important Contact Information

Safe Schools Hotline - 607-795-2044

Middle School Phone Number - 607-739-6357

Middle School Website - http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/HHMS.cfm

Horseheads District Phone Number - 607-739-5601

Horseheads District Website - http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/index.cfm

Athletic Office Phone Number - 607-739-5601 x4254

Athletic Office Website - http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/athletics.cfm



Amphibious Antifreeze Not Just for your Car!

As the outside temperature drops, we put more layers on. The scourge of winter - coats and scarves and hats and mittens so thick and heavy it's hard to move - help protect us from freezing. Animals in New York do the same thing each winter. Some grow thicker fur, some hibernate and some produce their own anti-freeze. That's right, just like you put in your car every winter, some critters produce cryoprotectants to keep them alive.



The Wood Frog is a 'cool' example. It produces extra insulin as soon as temperatures go below freezing. This is the "anti-freeze" that enters the frog's bloodstream and lowers its freezing temperature. Their heart stops beating, and they appear frozen. Extra urine is produced, and stored in the frog's bloodstream. The sugar and the urine (urea) combine to form frog 'antifreeze', and the frog remains frozen throughout the winter.

For more information, visit these websites:

https://forestsociety.org/something-wild/frozen-wood-frogs-thaw-out https://owlcation.com/stem/Frozen-Wood-Frogs-and-Adaptations-for-Survival



"Frozen" Wood Frog



Wood Frog (Rana sylvatica)



Woolly Bear Caterpillar (Pyrrharctia Isalsabella)



The Isabella Tiger Moth

Over the last warm days of fall, if you paid attention, you might have seen woolly bear caterpillars crossing the road. They were on a mission to find a nice, dry place to make their cocoons. *The Old Farmer's Almanac* says that you can tell the severity of the winter by how wide the black bands are on the caterpillar. The longer the black bands, the tougher the winter will be, in theory, of course. The woolly bear turns into the Isabella Tiger Moth.

For more information, visit this website:

https://cwhl.vet.cornell.edu/article/wildlifes-winter-preppers-and-more







HMS is Proud to Present our 1st Marking Period Distinguished Honor Roll Students!

7th Grade	Brianna Giblin	Mishal Osman
Yossif Ahmad	Sadie Gustin	Gabrielle Owusu
Owen Amey	Emma Guzylak	Cheryl Peng
Brayden Andrews	Liliana Hall	Amelia Pronti
Levi Audinwood	Aubrey Howe	Kayla Rathbun
Mackenzie Baker	Genevive Jones	Lily Rivers
Zachary Balland	Joseph Juan	Daniel Robinson

Zachary Balland Aaron Kaiser Gabrielle Romig Erica Bancroft Alyssa Ketter Kate Rought Briley Beach Thomas Klee Delaney Ruhmel Andrea Benjamin Ava Klesh Olivia Schwab Zachary Bennett Caden Skinner Nicholas Kowal Ojas Bhushan Hannah Smetanka Lauren Kozemko Haley Blake

Alexa Lese **Emily Smith** Isabel Blitz Isabella Liddle **Grace Stratton** Alexus Borek Chase Luangsuwan Maggie Sullivan Victoria Burden Dominick Marino Abby Sumner Peyton Butts Grady Matteson Aylen Torrey Kaitlyn Carpenter Justin Mauter Tobias Tremba Genevieve Carro

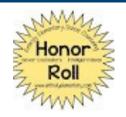
Mia Carro Kalle May Breanna Van Gorden

Dmitri Charlanow Jacqueline Mayotte Allen Wetmore
Sophia Christmas Paityn McAllister Thomas White
Eliana Clark Kaelyn McCarthy Max Williams
Grace Cronin Kailey McCormick Grace Wilson
Lucas Dordoni Kasidy McCracken Atticus Worrey

Gavin Dyer James McKee Kole Zufall
Madelyn Ellis Lucie McKenzie
Bryce Ensign Mark Mendez
Andrew Fedele Catherine Miley
Madden Foster Kegan Monahan

Ellie French Jeffrey Orbin







HMS is Proud to Present our 1st Marking Period High Honor Roll Students!

7th Grade Heather Mayo

Rayyan Abdeen

Zane Alexander

Elly Bachert

Carter Benway

Joseph Cain

Alexandria Mosher

George Navarro

Allyson Perry

Amellia Pryor

Quinn Redder

Blake Carman Anastasia Rodriguez

Gene Clark III William Roe

Emelia Clark Gabriella Romanick

Annabelle Cleary Collin Ruhmel
Alexander Cranmer Zachary Schrage
Isabella Custred Eliza Sedlak

Hunter Earl CarLynn Sindlinger
Payton Evans Tiffany Staight
Jacob Finlayson Tristan Stantz
Logan Furney Paige Stevens
Pranav Ganesh Derrick Wilcox
Addison Halm Katelyn Winderl

Garren Harer Cameron Woodward

Margaret Hartman Trent Woodward

Olivia Hornsby Caitlin Yearick

Rebecca Hunter Keagan Zeller
Kendra Jividen

Aiden Kiser Patrick Laney Isabella LoVecchio

Mattisen Johnston

Santiago Lozada Hunter Matkosky









HMS is Proud to Present our 1st Marking Period Honor Roll Students!

Carter VanPatten

7th Grade Wyatt Macneal

Carson Bell Susan Perry
Hailie Bockus Justin Posten
Charlie Bourgeois Anna Powell

Ella Brady Carver Robbins

Andrew Brechner Gabriel Rodriguez

Sally Brown

Tayler Carter

Quintin Crandall

Mallory Crum

Jack Starbuck

Mikaelie Stedge

Teagan Sullivan

Jacob Swarthout

Kara Curione Carrer
Miley Darmstadt

Gabriella DeMuth Krislynn Dubuque

Makennah Evans

Morgan Evans

Rhianna Gable

Keegan Harkness

Shawn Harrigan

McKenzie Hart

Keirra Hartwell

Alexis Hoyt

Rebecka Hutcheson

Joshua Knapp

Tanner Knapp

Karina Lapierre

Joshua Lewis

Jakob Loomis

Amy Lugo Ballester

Seamus Lynch









HMS is Proud to Present our 1st Marking Period Distinguished Honor Roll Students!

8th Grade Anika Kamaraju Lauren Tournour

Thai Tran Lainey Knapp Karis Adams Meleah Kohberger Brady Utter Ian Balster

Goran Krajnik Madelyn Weigand Maycie Bennett Natalie Williams Luke L'Amoreaux Chauntel Berry Marloe Laughlin Megan Wolf Riley Bronson Natalie Luckette Logan Woodrow

Adrianna Calbi Braden Woodworth Mari Mayo Alyssa Carlson

Malorie McCarthy Connor Carpenter Santiago Moreira Benjamin Church Cayden Mosher Carlo Cipolla Nikolas Narsiff Cecilia Cowen Emma O'Harra Garrett Cunningham Drew Parsons Kirsten Davis

Avi Patel Ethan Dziennik Chloe Perritt Noah Edson Greydon Pulvino Amelia Ellison Trevor Reidy Gem Fazzary Mia Ruggiero Gianna Ferraro Annalee Ruhmel Jack Fesetch

Chase Schermerhorn Elijah Friend

Leah Scott

Arianna Fuksman Gracie Sherman Patrick Gallagher Caitlyn Slavin Olivia Gavin Lilian Snowburg Gavin Gilbert Griffin Stevens MacKenzie Grover Raegan Stevens Mickenzie Gryska **Joshua Stout** Arthur Heath Jr Ian Suh

Braelyn Switala Nathan Johnson Joanne Tiberia Mariam Kamal

Samuel Heffner





Julia Busch

Ellia Diezhandino

Ethan Domey





HMS is Proud to Present our 1st Marking Period High Honor Roll Students!

8th Grade Zachery Kathan Lucas Teets Kegan Kent Miles Twomey Adrian Bacon Avery Leljedal James Waters IV **Jack Benton** Elise Levantovich Lincoln Watson Joseph Biviano Alexander Lotocky Serenity Welch Jenna Blitz Anna Lowe Britney Wheeler Hailee Bly Sibby Lowe Maeve Wheeler Nolan Bostwick Isabelle Lucas Kaylee Williams Mikiera Breedlove Alivia Lunger Michael Brink

Jordyn Lunger

Danika Morehouse

Jordan Sheehan

Alexa Malay Lilia Chaffee Dylan Mattoon Michael Colon Morgan McCooey Haley Comfort Finnegan McInerney Virginia Curione Gavin McInerney Nikolas Darr Amanda McLaughlin Corinne DeFilippo Ayden Mekos

Narayani Niraula Alexandra Drake Laken Niver Patrick Dunn Lexie Ostrander Sequoia Fazzary **Emily Overly** Rebecca Fullmer Lily Patelunas Zachary Giammichele Mia Richardson Sienna Gibson Allison Ruhmel Olivia Haberstroh Joel Scibek Tori Harley

Noelle Harpster Chace Sherwood Christian Headley MayAnna Sindlinger Aiden Hickox **Hunter Stratton**

Gabrielle Janeski Devin Sullivan Darius Jividen









HMS is Proud to Present our 1st Marking Period Honor Roll Students!

Thomas Spencer Logan Swarthout

Connor Trimber

Miles Woodhouse

Lillian Walton

Drue Welty

Sofia Toribio

8th Grade

Adam Bailey

Ryan Burns

Joseph Caracci

Dominic Cardinale

Hayden Chatlani

Jack Clate

Ryan Colvin

Calvin Cragle

Marney Durr

Drake Ernst

Casey Golden

Andrew Hollenbeck

Martin Huang

Dominic Hugg

Carter Jones

Reilly Kelly

Michelle Koester

Lucas Landowski

Zoey McClelland

Brennan Murray

Madison Mustico

Devon Northrup

Tabitha Oakes

Coleton Owen

Caleb Remchuk

Michael Rennells

Elena Ruffer





In October, we looked at maintaining your physical SECURITY and the integrity of all of your data. Then in November, we focused on awareness regarding your use of online services and how that can shape an IDENTITY and how you are viewed by others.

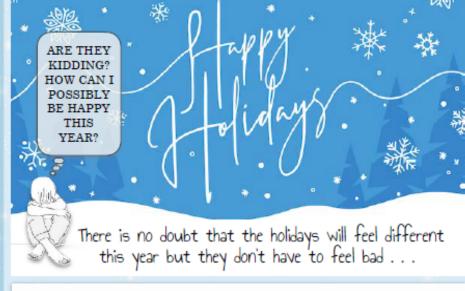
This month, we look at DIGITAL RESPECT and the importance of showing respect to others online, as well as demanding that others treat you and your online interactions respectfully.

The Golden Rule says, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Is this old saying any less important today?

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When we are spending a lot of time online in classrooms or video conferences or chats, let's extend this courtesy to our teachers, to our classmates and colleagues, and to anyone else that we interact with.

How would you phrase your own version of the Golden Rule for online activity?



Often we rely on the holidays to lift our spirits as we near the end of another year. We look forward to experiencing the joy we feel as we take part in our traditional parties, meals, and visits.

We know that restrictions from the pandemic will make it hard for many of us to share those traditions this year. We have lost much; travel to favorite places, closeness with friends and family, jobs and income, health and mobility, and some have even lost loved ones. This all adds to our collective feeling of sadness at this time of year.

But if we can't take part in our old traditions why don't we try to create some new traditions. We challenge all of you digital citizens out there to invent a joyful new experience for your holiday gathering(s).

One idea that we heard was to ask a family member who is known for cooking some holiday treat to hold a zoom session so that others in the family could learn the dish, and have it at their table.

We know that you will come up with lots of other suggestions that you can do to create new traditions. Share them with us at dc@gstboces.org.







THINK Send comments, suggestions, and questions to dc@gstboces.org

Visit http://dc.gstboces.org

Volume 4: Issue 4 - December 2020 - page 1 of 3

Ask Techie Tom SPEAK TO A TRUSTED ADULT

Dear Techie Tom,

There is a kid at school who keeps saying things about me online that bother me. I asked that person to leave me alone, but it hasn't stopped. What can I do?

Worried in Cyberspace

Dear Worried in Cyberspace,

CONGRATULATIONS, you have taken the first step by telling someone! When you are in a situation where you feel bullied, talk to an adult you trust. Don't keep your feelings inside. Telling someone can help you feel less alone. An adult can help you make a plan to stop the bullying.

Did you know there is someone in your school who is responsible for helping you? This person is called a DASA Coordinator.

Each school has a DASA Coordinator and the district policies and procedures, including an incident report form, are posted on the district website. Ask a teacher, guidance counselor or principal to identify the DASA Coordinator in your school.

Be sure to keep talking about bullying and how to stop it from happening!

Not saying anything could make it worse for everyone.

The kid who is bullying will think it is ok to keep treating others that way.

Now Hear This!

The Dignity for All Students Act also called The Dignity Act was established to protect all students from harassment, bullying and discrimination. It became effective on July 1, 2012 and was amended to include cyberbullying effective July 1, 2013.

DASA is designed to protect public school students from bullying by employees or other students based on actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex.

For more tips on dealing stopbullying.gov with bullying, visit this site. This link goes directly to resources for kids. http://go.gstric.org/404-no-bullies

RESPECT FOR OTHERS ONLINE

Why You Should Cite Sources and Avoid Plagiarism

The Internet makes it very easy to grab content and paste it into another document, or to post it to another site. However, just because we can do it doesn't mean that we have a right to do it.

A lot of materials that are available to you on the Internet are also copyrighted and using them without giving credit to the original author is wrong. This article defines plagiarism and helps you avoid it.

http://go.gstric.org/404-cite-sources

Activity Time

More Awesomeness and a Bit of Kindness Too

The last few issues of this newsletter have featured interactive games from Google's "Be Internet Awesome" initiative. Now that you have dodged hackers and kept your secrets safe, it is time to jump over to the third level: Kind Kingdom.

You are welcomed by the message "Vibes of all kinds are contagious, for better or for worse."

Your goal in this level is to and report troublemakers to stop their take over of kind kingdom and to restore the peaceful nature of their land. You do this by spreading good vibes and getting rid of the bad.



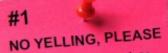
You can join kind kingdom with no sign up by going to http://go.gstric.org/404-kingdom.

Once you've spread out your good vibes, check out Google's **Internet Awesome Tipsheet** and see what they say about kindness online.

http://go.gstric.org/404-awesome-tips



This Newsletter prepared for RIC ONE Data Privacy and Security
Volume 4: Issue 4 - December 2020 - page 2 of 3



There's a time and a place for everything - BUT IN MOST SITUATIONS TYPING IN ALL CAPS IS INAPPROPRIATE. Most readers tend to perceive it as shouting.

Don't abuse the chat box

Chat boxes are incorporated into many online classes as a place for students to share ideas and ask questions.

The class chat box isn't an instant messenger like you'd use with friends.

Treat it like the learning tool it's meant to be and try not to distract your classmates with off-topic discussions.

Rules for Engagement in Online Learning

#3

Learn 6 netiquette guidelines every student needs to know.

Stop ... **Grammar Time**



Always make an effort to use

proper punctuation, spelling and grammar. Misspelled words with erratic punctuation frustrates the reader and distracts from the point of your message.

On the other hand, nobody likes the grammar police and scolding a classmate because he or she used "your" instead of "you're" - isn't practicing proper netiquette.

Set a respect- ful tone



Every day may feel like casual Friday in an online classroom where you don't see anyone in person, but a certain level of formality is still expected in your communication with teachers.

Think before you type

A passing comment spoken in class can be forgotten a few minutes later, but what you share in an online classroom is part of a permanent digital record. Whether or not privacy settings are in place, the internet has a tendency to save things forever, and what you say privately can easily become public.

Be kind and professional

Online communication comes with a level of anonymity that doesn't exist when you're talking to someone face-to-face. Make a point to be kind and respectful in your comments - even if you disagree

#6

Adapted from an article on rasmussen.edu - use our shortened link to read it http://go.gstric.org/404-guidelines.

Respect Yourself Online - Limit Social Media Time What Some Studies Say About Teen Self-Esteem

Social media use is certainly very prevalent among teenagers today. Some research has shown that teens may use as many as seven different media sites each day, and some only use a single site but they may visit it many times a day. The nature of social media is to be very stimulating and intoxicating so that some users almost feel addicted to their social media.

Recent studies suggest that the amount of time that teens spend on social media can have a profound effect on their moods and moodiness. Social media notifications pull their attention from other things and can increase a teen's sense of anxiety. There is an expectation from many peers that texts and posts require that they be answered immediately, and many feel pressure to "like" or respond positively to messages from "popular" friends.

In addition to their moods, a teen's body image and self-esteem may be linked to likes and comments from other friends. Some teens feel a sense of isolation, and feelings of rejection and loneliness if their posts don't garner positive attention. Some even develop negative thoughts and feelings of depression from their interactions on social media. Communication on social media lacks the non-verbal cues like facial expressions or body language so the words may seem harsher than they would if spoken wouldn't say in person. We recommend the articles below for additional information about teens and social media.

"How Using Social Media Affects Teenagers" - http://go.gstric.org/404-affect1 "5 Ways Social Media Affects Teen Mental Health" - http://go.gstric.org/404-affect2

face to face. Some people take advantage of this to purposefully say things that they

Things Parents Can Do to Keep Their Kids Safe on Social Media

- 1. Have kids share all of their screen names and passwords with you.
- 2. Friend their accounts and follow them to keep an eye on what they are posting, and what others post about them on their feeds.
- 3. Don't allow cookies to track them.
- 4. Turn off location settings that can be read by other sites.
- 5. Disable data sharing.
- 6. Use strict privacy settings. It is always easier to loosen up as they get older.
- 7. Don't use social media identities to login to other sites.
- 8. Set limits when can they use social media? and for how long? Can they keep their phone in their bedroom? etc.
- 9. Talk about what should and shouldn't be kept private.
- 10. Talk about and model appropriate language and photo sharing.



This Newsletter prepared for RIC ONE Data Privacy and Security Volume 4: Issue 4 - December 2020 - page 3 of 3



Picture Me...Remotely!

Ms. Kamas, Library Clerk

I like to take pictures throughout the year of what is going on at the Middle School, so we can have an awesome end of the year slideshow in June. Believe it or not, remote learning is very challenging for teachers and staff!



I have pics of what school looks like from staff's and teachers' points of view, but I really don't know what remote learning looks like from the STUDENTS' point of view. I am looking for pictures of what remote learning looks like for YOU, if you are willing to submit pictures to me. What does your workspace look like? Do your pets join you while you're 'in school?' What do you get to have for lunch? What do you like to do for physical activity/gym class? What are you doing to have FUN? I really miss seeing your smiling faces!!!

I would love to see your pictures! You can email them to me at <u>kkamas@horseheadsdistrict.com</u>, and then you may see them in the end of the year slideshow.









Join the Horseheads Central School District as a School Bus Driver



- Paid training
- Benefits package including health insurance
- No weekends, holidays, or summers

To apply, submit a completed employment application to our Human Resources Office, south wing of Horseheads High School, during school hours. Our application may be found at www.horseheadsdistrict.com, or you may pick one up in our Human Resources Office.

Applicants must be 21 years old. Fingerprint/background check and drug testing are required.

Questions?

Call the Transportation Department at (607) 739-5601, x4401, or email us at hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.



HMS Clubs

Student Voice

HMS Live

HMS Live is our daily television show broadcast through the Middle School each morning and occasional other times. The show gives students the opportunity to



learn basic broadcasting skills. It features daily announcements, interviews, sports, club reports and other programs. Mr. Donovan is the advisor. Email Mr. Donovan at cdonovan@horseheadsdistrict.com for more information.

Student Council

Student Council acts as the student government for the Middle School. As a group, they host several activities such as dances and open gyms, as well as many fundraising and charitable events throughout the year.

Elections for Student Council Officers will occur soon. Eighth grade students will elect candidates for President, Vice- President, Treasurer and Secretary. Seventh grade students will elect officers for Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. Seventh and eighth grade officers work together with the advisors to plan and organize student council meetings and events.

In addition to the officers, we will have class representatives. These students are responsible for attending monthly meetings, reporting back information to their classmates as well as give input and vote on events hosted by Student Council.

Student Council represents all middle school students. Any student wishing to participate in Student Council events is welcomed and encouraged to do so. Advisors are Ms. Leland & Ms. Stratton. See the middle school student council course on itslearning for more information.

National Junior Honor Society



Those who were accepted as members last June continue to demonstrate their exemplary character and citizenship through service to the school community.

Overall, membership in the National Junior Honor Society is an outstanding goal for students to strive for. Not only are they recognized for their academic and community achievements, they also continue to cultivate their sense of citizenship, service, leadership and character, preparing them to become better participants in the school, local and global communities.

New candidates for the NJHS will be selected following the application process which begins in May. Students are inducted into the National Junior Honor Society every June. Advisors are Ms.

Leland and Ms. Kelly.

Horseheads Middle School Yearbook 2020-2021

"Who controls the past controls the future.

Who controls the present controls the past."

- George Orwell

So, you think you'd like to join Yearbook Club? Do you attend Horseheads Middle School? Are you in 7th or 8th grade? Do you feel like you can be entrusted with the **fate** and **future** of the entire Middle School? Are you responsible? Do you enjoy photography, writing or technology? Do you like having your fellow classmates respect, and yes, **fear** you?

If you answered **YES** to the above questions, then we are looking for you! Horseheads Middle School Yearbook is seeking the **best** and the **brightest** to be in the Yearbook Club.

Please email me for an application and put Yearbook in the Subject Heading kobrian@gstboces.org



Opening soon for online orders!

Applications will be available when we return to the hybrid in-person model. You must be in 8th grade and passing all of your classes to be considered for the job.

Join Science Olympiad!

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

Start a Team



Just like an athletic team, Science
Olympiad clubs are coached by
teachers, improved by mentors
and filled with top talent.

This year, Science Olympiad will be 100% virtual and from home! We will still compete in a virtual Regional Tournament, with the chance to qualify for both the State and National Tournaments.

If you like Science and Technology and are interested in joining Science Olympiad, send an email to Mr. Johnson or Mr. Steele at:

- briohnso@horsheeadsdistrict.com
- bsteele@horseheadsdistrict.com

We will have an informational meeting online at a later date. Stay tuned!

Science Olympiad: The Basics

DIVISION B (Grades 6-9)

DIVISION C (Grades 9-12)

8Kini

15 XXXX Members on a Team

450 Invitational, Regional, State and National Tournaments

Events in Each Division

50 State Organizations



Exploring the World of Science









EARN CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL

NO MORE CLIPPING, ALL YOU NEED IS YOUR SMARTPHONE.

The NEW and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online.

LOOK FOR THE NEW LABEL:



HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:



BUY BOX TOPS PRODUCTS

You can find Box Tops on hundreds of products throughout the store.



SCAN YOUR RECEIPT

Use the app to snap a photo of your receipt within 14 days of purchase.



EARN CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL

Box Tops earnings are identified and automatically updated at BTFE.com.

You do not need to clip or send Box Tops labels to school.



BOX TOPS CLIPS ON PACKAGES

Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store as packages transition to the new Box Tops labels. You can still clip these and send them to school. Please make sure each clip has a valid expiration date.







SEE PRODUCTS & LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BOX TOPS APP AT BTFE.COM

HE BOX TOPS APP AT BTFE.COM

THE ALL-NEW BOX TOPS IS HERE!

DOWNLOAD THE APP:



Parking Lot Safety

Due to the large volume of students being dropped off in the morning, the drop-off line can become very long. We ask that you help alleviate unnecessary wait time by following these simple procedures:

- Utilize the entire drop-off lane. Please do not wait until you have pulled up to the Middle School main entrance to drop off your students. Approximately 10 cars can drop off students simultaneously. Please stay in line.
- Students should exit the vehicle as soon as it is safely stopped. Please be sure students have all of their belongings ready to go.
- Do not drop students off on the road.
- Students should be exiting the car no later than 7:40. This will allow them to arrive in their 1st period class by the 7:45 tardy bell. Drop off early; the closer to 7:40 you get, the more traffic you will experience.

Thank you for your patience and helping our morning drop off go as safely and efficiently as possible.

Note that there is only one driveway into the parking lot, and one driveway out of the parking lot.

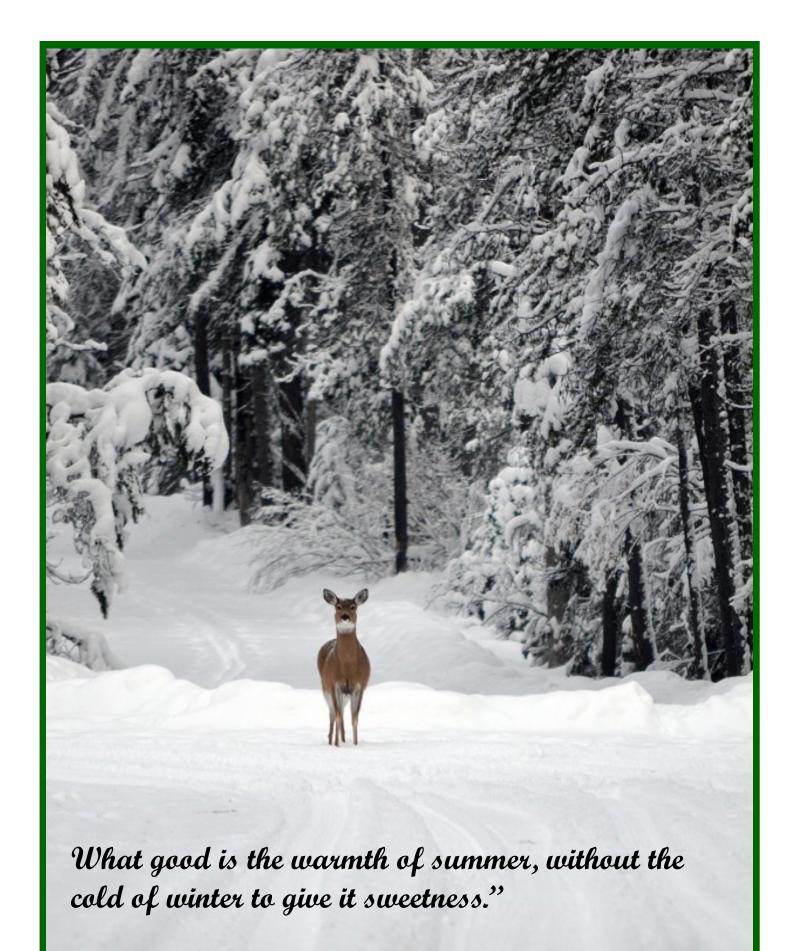




Information about Emergency School Closings and Delays

Schools are closed when the weather makes it impossible to have reasonable attendance or when the schools or vehicles would not be able to operate safely. The school day is delayed when inclement weather conditions improve by early morning. Inclement weather may include snow, ice, and freezing temperatures. If the school day is delayed, buses will run and schools will open two hours later than the usual time.

If it is necessary to close or delay schools, the information will be posted on the district's website at www.horseheadsdistrict.com, the district's Facebook pages, Twitter and the local television and radio stations. Horseheads schools now uses SchoolMessenger to alert you of school closings or emergencies. Opt-In from your mobile phone: Just send "Y" or "YES" to 67587.



— John Steinbeck

District Dignity Act Coordinator

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 One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845; 607-739-5601 x 4211 or at cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

Middle School Dignity Act Coordinator

The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for the Horseheads Middle School is Ron Holloway, building principal. If there is a complaint regarding discrimination, harassment or bullying of any student, the complaint should be filed with Mr. Holloway at 950 Sing Sing Rd., Horseheads, NY 14845; 739-6357 x 3640 or at rholloway@horseheadsdistrict.com.

Notice

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, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.

This policy of non-discrimination includes access by students to educational programs, counseling services, course offerings, and activities, as well as recruitment and appointment of employees and employment pay, benefits, advancement and/or termination.

Horseheads Middle School:



Home of the Raider Way