

Our school year nears its end

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As our school year comes to a close, I would like to thank you all for your tireless efforts with your children's education and taking care of each other during this global pandemic. We are continuing to weather this storm together, and I am grateful to live in such a caring community.

This newsletter provides information on picking up student belongings and returning district-owned electronics and other materials, as well as a review of grading.

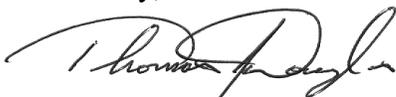
I'd like to update you all on the state's executive order regarding school budget votes. The new order, issued Sunday, allows districts to only accept mailed ballots beyond the original date of June 9. Note that this is for mailed ballots only. The last day for hand delivering a ballot to the district office at 143 Hibbard Road remains June 9 by 5pm. If you mail your ballot, it must be received by the district by 5pm on June 16. We are unable to pass out ballots past June 8. If you have questions, please call us at (607) 739-5601, x4260. We thank all who voted.

During this quarantine, our teachers, administrators, and staff have worked to make sure students know that we miss them and we care for them. We are especially concerned about the Class of 2020. They couldn't have known that March 16 would be the last time they walked our halls, sat in class, or participated in activities as Horseheads students. For many, this is heartbreaking. Our goal during this time has been to recognize these students. We shared profiles of spring senior athletes, senior music students, and all seniors on our social media. A group of anonymous district do-gooders put "Home of a Horseheads Senior" signs in senior yards. Our elementary schools placed messages for the class on their fences, and messages for our seniors have appeared on area billboards. Our virtual Sports Tribute was June 2, and our band, orchestra, and choir programs plan virtual award programs for their seniors. It is our sincere hope that our seniors have felt our care and concern for them during this time.

More is planned. While the governor has decided to allow in-person graduations of 150 people or less, we continue to hope that he will increase this number so that we can hold an in-person graduation for our seniors and parents. At the same time, we are planning a virtual drive-through graduation event where seniors and their families will come to the High School Field House parking lot and move through a diploma event as a back up plan to an in-person graduation. There they'll get to see many of their teachers, and they'll see a display of senior photo banners created for the Class of 2020 by Multimedia Services and sponsors.

Seniors and senior parents/guardians will be receiving more information in the coming days. Thank you once again for all you are doing for our students and our community during this time.

Sincerely,



Dr. Thomas J. Douglas
Superintendent of Schools



Pick-up and Drop-Off

If this were a traditional school year, “pick-up and drop-off” would refer to students, but this year has been anything but traditional. We are talking about picking up student belongings still in our schools and dropping off district materials as this school year comes to a close.

Our schools will be sending information to parents on the process and timeline for picking up belongings and dropping off materials (textbooks, readers, library books). You may have received this information already. Below are the dates for each school:

Big Flats Elementary School:	June 17 and 18
Center Street Elementary School:	June 8 and 10
Gardner Road Elementary School:	June 11 and 12
Ridge Road Elementary School:	June 16 and 17
Horseheads Intermediate School:	June 17 and 18
Horseheads Middle School:	June 15 and 16
Horseheads High School:	June 15 and 16



Our hope was to include yearbook distribution on these days as well, but due to delays related to the shutdown of businesses, not all schools will have yearbooks by the end of school. Building principals will communicate new delivery dates as they hear from the publisher.

Laptop return

The return of district assigned laptops and iPads will be June 22, 23, and 24 at the Intermediate/Middle School complex on Sing Sing Road between 7:30am and 3pm. Please park in the upper (north) parking lot and follow the signs into the building. Parents of students in multiple grade level can drop items off all at the same time. If you cannot make the date for your child’s grade level, please choose another day and time listed below. Don’t forget to bring the power cord!



Grades PreK-6:	Monday, June 22, 9am to 3pm
Grades 7-12:	Tuesday, June 23, 9am to 3pm
Any Grade:	Wednesday, June 24, 9am to 3pm

Note: If you have students in multiple grades with devices, you can choose which day to bring all devices.

Notes for returning laptops and devices:

- Heavy traffic tends to be in the early morning, lunch time, and end of day.
- Please practice social distancing. Masks and 6 foot spacing are expected during these times.
- Please make sure you have the power cord for the laptops to hand in as well.
- When turning in the laptop we ask you to power-on each laptop.

If you are unable to make any of the dates or times listed above, please complete the form [here](#) or call (607) 481-2850 to arrange a time for drop-off.

The Parent Portal and Student Portal will be off-line for the summer, beginning Monday, July 6, 2020. The system will be back on-line September 9, 2020. If you have any questions, please contact your child’s school.

End of Marking Period and Grades

As noted in previous district communications, grades at the PK-4 schools will be replaced with teacher comments on the final marking period report card. Grades 5-12 final marking period and overall grades for the course will be converted to a Honors, Pass, Fail mark. Here is some additional information on grading:

Grades PK – 4

- An asterisk (*) will be used in the Marking Period 4 column representing a “Modified Curriculum” for the final marking period. This asterisk will be used for all categories on the report card: ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, Behaviors for Learners, Response to Intervention (RtI), and Special Areas.
- In the comment section of the report card, teachers will use a narrative structure to explain the progress of students in effort and learning during the marking period.

A note for grades PK-5:

2020-2021 teacher assignments will be mailed in August.

Grades 5 – 12

- Final Marking Period Grades: Teachers will enter final marking period grades based on the latest and best evidence available from students in this extended dismissal. Recall for the High School, the final marking period of the year began May 4 rather than May 15 as originally scheduled.
- The final marking period will be converted to a letter grade based on the following:
 - ◇ Honors (H): 85% or greater
 - ◇ Pass (P): 65% to 84.99%
 - ◇ Fail (F): 64.99% or lower
- Local and State Final Exams: There will be no local final exams or Regents (June and August 2020 Regents exams canceled by the state). ***Please note: These columns will be blank on report cards.***
- New York State Education Department has cancelled June and August Regents exams, exempting those students scheduled to take the exams. There is no limitation and no affect on diploma types awarded this year or in the future.
- Final course averages will also be converted to the same H/P/F system as noted in the Final Marking Period Grades above.
- High School: Spring full credit classes Marking Period 5, 6, and the Final Marking Period (MP8) will be considered in the final course grade. ***Marking Period 7 will not be factored into the overall grade for a course and will be blank on report cards.***
- AP World History (2-credit course) will be separated with the second course having the same rules as the above and the first course following the normal process from the Fall semester.
- Any Middle School class currently running will be converted to the H/P/F system for the final course average.

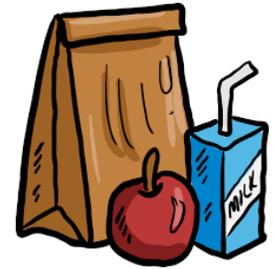
High School Transcripts

- The final letter grade H/P/F will be marked on the transcript for those courses that are credit bearing.
- High School Ranking Percentile: All courses with the H/P/F grade will be removed from rank calculations
- For students taking ACE courses, their Corning Community College transcripts will show the CCC grade, not the district’s H/P/F grade.

Questions? Please contact your teacher, counselor, or principal.

Emergency Meals Information

Please note: We will share information on the possibility of a summer meal program in the coming weeks. Thank you!



District meal program

This program is for any district family who needs assistance. Meals are available for those 18 years old or younger at no charge. Meals are provided weekdays during the school dismissal at the following locations and times:

10:30-11:30am	Center Street School	812 Center St, Horseheads
10:30-10:50am	Collingwood Mobile Home Park	358 Chambers Rd, Horseheads
10:30-10:50am	Pine Valley Mobile Home Park	3600 Watkins Rd, Pine Valley
10:30-11:00am	Ridge Road School	112 Ridge Rd, Horseheads
11:00-11:30am	Millport Fire Department	2016 Crescent St, Millport
11:00-11:20am	Thunderbird Greens Mobile Home Park	391 Sing Sing Rd, Horseheads
11:15-11:35am	Erin Town Hall	1356 Breesport Rd, Breesport

Please note: We are continuing to evaluate the program, and we will make adjustments if necessary.

Meals are provided via drive up or walk up service for recipients to take home. There is not a dining area.

Please call (607) 739-5601, x4260 or x4295 if you absolutely cannot get to a site to order meals for the following day. For Monday delivery, please contact us on the Friday before. We will need parents to contact us each day they need delivery. ***Questions? (607) 739-5601, x4260/x4295 or hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.***

Food Bank assisting residents in six-county area



The Food Bank of the Southern Tier is working to assist residents in their six-county region during this time. For more information on how, visit their website at <https://www.foodbankst.org/>.

If you need assistance with food, please go to <https://www.foodbankst.org/find-food/> for a searchable list of food distributions, partner pantries, and meal sites.

Child Care

We are working in partnership with the Chemung County Child Care Council to assist families of health care workers and first responders during this time. The Council has updated information for parents about available childcare during school closings related to COVID-19. For information, please call (607) 734-3941 or go to www.chemchildcare.com.



Please note: Governor Andrew Cuomo has also required New Yorkers to wear masks or other face/nose coverings when they are in public and cannot safely maintain at least six feet of social distance.

Contact Information

Schools

Horseheads High School	795-2500
Kris Earl, Principal.....	kearl@horseheadsdistrict.com x1600
Dan Buseck, Assistant Principal	dbuseck@horseheadsdistrict.com x1602
Mike McCawley, Assistant Principal.....	mmccawley@horseheadsdistrict.com x1603
Betsy Scanlon, Dean of Students	bscanlon@horseheadsdistrict.com x1618
Horseheads Middle School	739-6357
Ron Holloway, Principal	rholloway@horseheadsdistrict.com x3640
Tom Hoeffner, Assistant Principal.....	thoeffner@horseheadsdistrict.com..... x3642
Horseheads Intermediate School	739-6366
Michael Bostwick, Principal	mbostwick@horseheadsdistrict.com..... x3620
Robin Doubrava, Assistant Principal	rdoubrav@horseheadsdistrict.com..... x3628
Big Flats Elementary School	739-6373
Elizabeth Scaptura, Principal	escaptura@horseheadsdistrict.com x5600
Center Street Elementary School	795-2580
Patricia Sotero, Principal.....	psotero@horseheadsdistrict.com..... x2600
Gardner Road Elementary School	739-6347
Patrick Patterson, Principal	ppatterson@horseheadsdistrict.com..... x6600
Ridge Road Elementary School	739-6351
Anne-Marie Bailey, Principal	ambailey@horseheadsdistrict.com..... x7600

District Offices

Student Services	739-5601, x4305/x4308
<i>(Special Education, Speech/Physical/Occupational Therapy, Nurses)</i>	
Technology.....	739-5601, x4245
Food Services (meal delivery)	739-5601, x4260/x4295
Athletics	739-5601, x4254
Superintendent's Office/Board of Education	739-5601, x4201
Business Office	739-5601, x4260/x4248
Human Resources.....	739-5601, x4211/x4212
Community Information.....	739-5601, x4295

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.