

HARPURSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

# HORNETS NEWS



HIGH ACHIEVEMENT • HIGH EXPECTATIONS

December 2023



Fall  
Fun at  
HCSD

[WWW.HCS.STIER.ORG](http://WWW.HCS.STIER.ORG)

P.O. Box 147 | 54 Main Street | Harpursville, NY 13787





# Letter from the superintendent

To the Harpursville School Community,

As winter break approaches, I want to reflect on how swiftly time has passed since we began our school year. Although we had a great start to the year, we faced a heartbreaking loss with the passing of senior Makai Wilkinson. I would like to extend my heartfelt thoughts and prayers to his family, friends, and everyone affected by this tragedy. The community's support during this difficult time has been a testament to Makai's impact and how much he will be missed.

We continue to provide support for our students and staff through counseling and behavioral supports. To lend additional support to our students, we have added three Binghamton University social work interns at the MS/HS, along with a full-time on-site supervisor. Along with the new interns, grant funding from Lourdes/ Ascension Hospital has allowed us to add a full-time student assistance counselor at the MS/HS. The counselor works with students on short-term goals and addresses risk factors in their lives. If your child needs support, please reach out to our school counselors or principals.

Our fall sports season was a huge success, with highlights including the boys' soccer team reaching the sectional semi-finals and the girls' field hockey team making it to the sectional finals. Congratulations to Kylee Noyes, who was selected for the all-state field hockey team. I am proud of our athletes and our coaches, and I thank all who came out to support our teams this fall on the field or court.

Also, I would like to recognize the Student Council and National Honor Society for hosting the annual Thanksgiving luncheon for the Senior Center of Eastern Broome on Thursday, November 16. It was a great success and enjoyed by all who attended.

Additionally, I would like to congratulate Brendon Pike for his acceptance into the All-State band and orchestra for the second year in a row. What a great accomplishment!

I would like to extend my sincere wishes for a happy winter recess to each and every one of you. I am profoundly thankful and grateful for the privilege of serving this incredible community.

With gratitude and best regards,

Heath Georgia  
Superintendent of Schools



Heath Georgia,  
Superintendent

Friday, December 15th,  
JOIN US FOR THE HARPURSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL  
DISTRICT MUSIC DEPARTMENTS'

# WINTER CONCERT

6:00PM: PERFORMANCES BY THE 5TH AND 6TH GRADE  
CHORUS AND INSTRUMENTALISTS

7:00PM: PERFORMANCES BY THE 7TH AND 8TH GRADE  
BAND, 7TH-12TH GRADE CHORUS, AND THE 9TH-12TH BAND

HARPURSVILLE JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

Colesville  
**Dollars for  
Scholars.**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 11:30 A.M.-1 P.M.

# DRIVE-THRU CHICKEN BBQ

Text or call Jason Lyon at (607)  
651-8318 if you want to order

Half - \$13 with cash or check  
\$13.50 with Venmo

Dinner - \$15 with cash or check  
\$15.50 with Venmo

Venmo: @Colesvilledollars4scholars

COLESVILLE VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE BUILDING  
28 KING RD, HARPURSVILLE, NY



## District communication guidelines

Frequently, parents and other community members request help in knowing the best way to communicate with the school. The chart below will serve as a helpful resource. By contacting the following people in the prescribed order, you can be assured that your questions will be answered.

For questions about	1 <sup>st</sup> contact	2 <sup>nd</sup> contact	3 <sup>rd</sup> contact	4 <sup>th</sup> contact	5 <sup>th</sup> contact
<b>Academics</b>	Teacher	Guidance Counselor	Principal	Assistant Superintendent	Superintendent
<b>Athletics</b>	Coach	Athletic Director	Principal	Assistant Superintendent	Superintendent
<b>Behavior</b>	Teacher	Guidance Counselor	Principal	Superintendent	
<b>BOE Policies</b>	District Clerk	Superintendent	Board of Education		
<b>Budget</b>	Business Admin	Superintendent			
<b>Building Use</b>	Admin Assistant	Principal	Superintendent		
<b>Cafeteria</b>	Director of Food Services	Business Admin	Superintendent		
<b>Classroom Procedures</b>	Teacher	Principal	Assistant Superintendent	Superintendent	
<b>Bus Behavior</b>	Bus Driver	Head Bus Driver	Principal	Superintendent	
<b>Co-Curricular</b>	Advisor	Principal	Assistant Superintendent	Superintendent	
<b>Facilities</b>	Director of Facilities	Business Admin	Superintendent		
<b>Health Office</b>	Nurse	Principal	Superintendent		
<b>Scheduling</b>	Guidance Office	Principal	Assistant Superintendent	Superintendent	
<b>Special Education</b>	Teacher	CSE/CPSE Chairperson	Principal	Assistant Superintendent	Superintendent
<b>Transportation</b>	Head Bus Driver	Business Admin	Superintendent		

## Field Trip to Animal Adventure

On Oct. 27, students in Mrs. Bigelow's Real World Science Class got a behind-the-scenes look at Animal Adventure. Students were given a tour of the preserve barn and saw many different animals that will spend the winter inside. Students were also given information about a career as a

zookeeper and got to ask lots of questions. Students were able to visit Tajiri, April the Giraffe's son, and meet the new White Rhino. Everyone had a great time feeding the giraffes their favorite snack, romaine lettuce! It's safe to say that Mrs. Bigelow's class had a great time!







## MS FYE'S CIVIC PARTICIPATION CLASS IS COLLECTING DONATIONS THROUGH THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

DONATIONS ACCEPTED IN THE MAIN OFFICE OF THE JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL



**Broome County Humane Society:**  
animal and office supplies

**Colesville Community Pantry:**  
non-perishable food items

**YWCA:** socks, clothing and blankets

**Volunteers of America Family Shelter:**  
food pantry goods, new towels, bed sheets, socks, shampoo, hand sanitizer and face masks.



## Lourdes Student Assistance Program at Harpursville

Lourdes Student Assistance Program is a program operated through Ascension Lourdes and is a grant program funded through the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS), which focuses on risk factors for youth that could lead to possible problems in the future. Risk factors can include school truancy, academic failure, family conflict, friends engaged in substance use, family history of substance use, and so forth.

The Lourdes behavioral health counselor will be located in the Jr./Sr. High School but is able to work with students of all grade levels. Our behavioral health counselor uses motivational interviewing techniques while working one-on-one with students to develop goals that can be achieved in a short period of time (90 days or less) and can help address the risk factors identified in the student's life. Our counselor also offers evidence-based curricula focused on the topics of substance use at both the middle and high school levels.

If you have any questions or concerns or would simply like to speak with the Lourdes behavioral counselor, call (607) 693-8105.



Please visit [www.hcs.stier.org/Community.aspx](http://www.hcs.stier.org/Community.aspx) for local agency advertising for our students and their families!

# Science Rules!

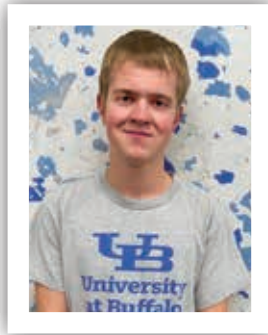
In Mr. Dolphin's seventh grade science enrichment class, students got to roll out homemade dough for their class pasta day. Students also got to create homemade lava lamps during their science scavenger hunt with four simple ingredients: water, oil, food coloring, and Alka-Seltzer. Students always enjoy the science activities in Mr. Dolphin's science classes!





## Brendan Pike was once again accepted into the All-State band!

For the second year in a row, Harpursville's Brendan Pike, grade 12, has auditioned and was accepted into the All-State band and orchestra, performing at the Ithaca College Whalen School of Music.



All State band is the big leagues for young musicians. It's an incredible opportunity to meet talented musicians from around the state, work with guest conductors, and perform challenging music. Since musical talent cannot be measured through statistics (as in sports), All State allows young musicians to strive for and achieve tangible goals in an otherwise subjective field.

This year's performance will be held in February 2024. Please consider supporting Brendan in this great accomplishment as he represents the music program at Harpursville. Congratulations to Brendan!

## A generous donation from Dick's Sporting Goods!

At the end of October, the Harpursville Central School District was awarded a donation of \$10,000 by Dicks Sporting Goods and the employees of Dicks Sporting Goods Distribution Center.

This generous donation will be used for athletic and physical education equipment for our students. We were among two districts to receive the funds (Susquehanna Valley was the other district). We are very grateful for their support for our students and our schools!



## District Directory

**District Office** .....(607) 693-8112

**Board of Education**

**Heath Georgia, Superintendent**

Tabaitha Rhodes, Exec. Asst./District Clerk

**Assistant Superintendent** .....(607) 693-5713

Sarah Miller, Asst. Supt. of Instruction, Curriculum & Accountability

Melanie Allen, Admin. Assistant

**Business Office** .....(607) 693-8120

Joseph McLaughlin, Business Official

Amanda Loihle, Personnel Clerk .....(607) 693-8124

**Special Education** .....(607) 693-8104

Joshua Quick, CSE/CPSE Chairperson

Jennifer DeCamp, Admin. Assistant

**Jr/Sr High School** .....(607) 693-8105

Kristine Conrow, Principal

Amy Walker, Admin. Assistant

**Guidance Office**.....(607) 693-5734

Karen Slesinsky, Jr/Sr HS Counselor

Megan Harrington, Jr/Sr HS Counselor

Cassandra Bakley, Admin. Assist.

**Attendance/Registration** .....(607) 693-8108

Jill Andrews, Student Records

**W.A. Olmsted Elementary** .....(607) 693-8115

Donna Marsh, Principal

Jessica Moore-Hovancik, Admin. Assistant

**Health Offices**

Rebecca Adolf, RN, Jr/Sr High Nurse .....(607) 693-8118

Julia Peets, RN, WAO Elem. Nurse.....(607) 693-8119

**Athletics** .....(607) 693-8133

Joshua Quick, Athletic Director

**Social workers:**

Julianna Cox ..... (607) 693-8105 ext. 3315

**Food Services** .....(607) 693-8127

Norene Tasber, Director of Food Services

**Transportation** .....(607) 693-8100

Dennis Symons, Head Bus Driver

**Facilities**.....(607) 765-4145

Ed Livermore

**Family & Children's** .....(607) 693-8123

Fabienne Lescouffair, Clinician

### HARPURSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT IS HIRING WE ARE ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR

- School Psychologist
- School Counselor (WAO Elementary)
- Substitute Teachers







# STEM CLUB'S ANNUAL HALLOWEEN SCAVENGER HUNT!

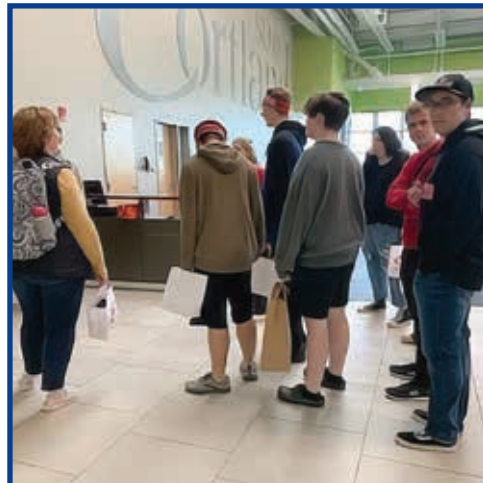
Each year the Harpersville STEM club participates in a Halloween scavenger hunt. They visit all the math and science teachers for a STEM related challenge in a race to be the first team to finish. This year, students made lava lamps, built structures resembling a haunted house, checked density of fluids, and participated in other fun activities. Afterwards, all the students celebrated with a cider and donuts party!



# GETTING A HEAD START ON THE FUTURE

Mrs. Gates EDU 111 (Foundations of Education) class is in full swing! Harpersville has recently joined the ranks of several other school districts in our region in offering a college-level class focused on students who are interested in pursuing a career in education. So far, our students have had guest speakers in their classrooms from both the New York State Union of Teachers (NYSUT) and our own Sarah Miller, Assistant Superintendent of the Harpersville School District.

Students have also visited the campuses of SUNY Broome and SUNY Cortland. They were able to sit in on college classes, tour the facilities, and even experience the college dining hall. The next field trip will consist of the students' observing teachers in both the Susquehanna and Chenango Valley school districts. This course provides students with six college credits in total. Any juniors interested should consider making this program a part of their schedule next year!





## Sarah Mullin

Sarah Mullin, from Long Beach, NY, will be joining the Harpursville team as a social work intern to provide support to the Harpursville student body and their families and support systems.



Mullin graduated from Binghamton University with two bachelor's degrees in psychology and social Work and is now pursuing her master's in social work at BU.

Mullin chose to go into the social work field because she has always been very passionate about mental health. The lack of mental health resources is something that has impacted many of her loved ones, so ever since she was young, she wanted to go into this field to make a difference in the world. Her ultimate career goal is to offer therapeutic resources to help people develop positive coping skills and to empower them to improve their quality of life. She is interested in working with any population but has always been passionate about services for the youth.

Outside of the classroom, Mullin has engaged in a lot of volunteer work. She has volunteered at animal shelters, cafes, community gardens, and on-campus safety initiatives. She has also interned at the Addiction Center of Broome County, and the Mental Health Outreach Peer Educators at Binghamton University.

Mullin also has a pet corgi named Bucket and a pet axolotl named Peach. A fun fact about her is that she used to run a radio station and she also loves to attend concerts. Mullin will be working at the Jr./Sr. High School on Thursdays and Fridays and is looking forward to getting to know the people at Harpursville and making meaningful connections, as well as decorating the office space!

## Caitlin Novielli

Meet Caitlin Novielli, one of our new social work interns! Novielli is from Rockland County, NY, which is about 45 minutes outside of New York City. She received her Bachelor of Science in Psychology from SUNY



Cortland and is currently studying at Binghamton University for her master's in social work. In the future, she hopes to work in a school setting with high schoolers as a social worker and help in any capacity they need. Eventually, she wants to move up to work in administration or policy formation and end her career off by teaching future social work students.

Novielli has always been very passionate about helping and supporting others, and the holistic approach with the diverse opportunities in the field were what initially drew her to study social work. She believes that this work is rewarding and can truly make a difference in people's lives.

Outside of work, Novielli currently works at the Rockland BOCES while on school breaks. She also completed her bachelor's degree in psychology in just three years because of all of the college classes she took in high school. Additionally, she used to be a girl scout when she was younger and used to work at the ARC Rockland. Novielli has a dog, a 13-year-old cocker spaniel poodle mix named Molly, who is her family dog but brings her to Binghamton with her. A fun fact about her is that she was born in the same hospital as Lady Gaga.

You can visit Caitlin on Mondays and Tuesdays in the Jr./Sr. High School. She is looking forward to engaging in activities and building relationships with the students, and overall being another support person for them to hopefully impact them in a positive way.

## Abigayle Bennett

Hailing from the Sidney/Bainbridge area is Abigayle Bennett, one of Harpursville's new social work interns. Bennett graduated high school when she was fifteen years old and went on to earn her associate degree in human services and her bachelor's in science degree in Psychology with a minor in education. She is currently in her first year in her master's in social work program and hopes to open a child and family development center one day.



Bennett is a published author of two books, has a published music album and a few singles, runs a podcast, and owns a photography business. She also grew up traveling and has been to over thirty countries and has visited all of the United States, except for Alaska. Bennett was a 2020 Chancellor's Award winner and has worked with agencies such as the Red Cross, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, the WHO, and more. She also has a dog and three cats.

Bennett is very excited to work with everyone and get the chance to play a role in helping Harpursville students succeed. She loves to meet new people and will be on-site on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in the Jr./Sr. High School, be sure to come by and say hi!





# The 2023 Holiday Luncheon!

On Thursday, Nov. 16, the Harpursville Central School District held their annual staff and senior holiday luncheon, organized, and staffed by the HCS D food services department, honor society, and student council with assistance from Visions Federal Credit Union. Attendees of the Eastern Broome Senior Center sign up to attend, and the district brings them to the WAO Elementary gym via a school bus. Faculty and staff that attend bring non-perishables and monetary donations for the Colesville pantry. The event is always a big hit and is enjoyed by all!







## Veterans Day at WAO Elementary

At the beginning of November, first and second grade classes made Veterans Day cards for the veterans at the New York State Veterans' Home in Oxford, NY. Students enjoyed making colorful cards that were sent to the veterans.



# Fall art

In art class, third grade students created "Fall Reflection" projects. Students explored the use of a variety of materials and processes to create a vibrant Fall nature scene.







## Dancing the night away!

On Oct. 27, the Jr./Sr. High School held their annual Halloween Dance for grades seventh through 12th. The students had a fun time dressing up in their favorite Halloween Costumes and dancing the night away. A big thank you to our chaperones, Miss Riegel, Mrs. Harrington, Mr. Kelly, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Warren, Mr. Young, Mrs. LaVine,

and our DJ, Mrs. Chantry. Without all of you, we would not be able to have this dance. Thank you to the NAHS for running our concession stand and to Mrs. Conrow for letting us keep this tradition going. It was a "wicked" night!







# WAO'S HALLOWEEN PARADE WAS A SCARY GOOD TIME!

On Oct. 31, students at W.A. Olmsted Elementary School got to participate in this year's Halloween Parade. Students walked around the playground waving to their families and friends in the crowd while showing off their coolest

costumes! All grade levels participated, and each grade had such amazing costumes. Even the teachers dressed up in their Halloween best! With all the smiles happening, we know that everyone had a "wicked" fun time!







## Engineering Days

On Nov. 14 and 15, the Harpursville Jr. Sr. High School took nearly forty students to the annual BT BOCES Engineering days. Students grouped in teams of four competed against more than eighty other teams from different schools in the Southern Tier. The challenge was to build the best and most successful Rube Goldberg machine using specific criteria and random items provided to complete a certain end goal. As the day progressed, new challenges were thrown in. Judges then scored each team according to their rubric. Harpursville's ten teams had great success with many completed runs in their challenge and all had a fun time!



# Outstanding!





## A trip to Cornell University

On Oct. 5, 30 current Harpursville high school students went up to Ithaca, NY, to tour Cornell University. This highly acclaimed Ivy League school did not disappoint. From the beautiful campus buildings to the natural beauty of the local waterfalls, all who attended left with a positive impression of the day. The group was also graced with a visit from HCS' 2022 valedictorian and current Cornell attendee, Sarah Young. The guided tour quickly displayed why this international college is so acclaimed and respected.



## A SCARY TRIP TO SLAUGHTERLAND



On Oct. 20, 25 Harpursville high school students headed to Binghamton to challenge Slaughterland's Halloween presentation. The nearly two-hour entertaining challenge had the eager students work together to overcome personal fears of clowns, the dark, and what entity was around the next corner. All were smiling, and a lot of laughter was had as the students conquered the impressive locally offered format. The actors were highly interactive, and each area's theme was well thought out. A big thanks to our Harpursville Central School District Administration for allowing the students an off-beat adventure!



# December 2023 menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><b>Saturdays:</b> Br. Breaks PB&amp;J Uncrustable NY Cheese stick Fruit NY Milk</p>	<p><b>Sundays:</b> Muffin Top/Juice Yogurt Meal w/ NY Cheese stick Fruit NY Milk</p>			<p><b>Breakfast Break WAO</b> <b>Hornet Muffin HS</b> <b>Wild Mike's Pizza</b> Garden Salad w/chickpeas Fruit</p>
<p><b>Mini Cinni Juice</b> Popcorn Chicken w/roll Mashed Potatoes Glazed Carrots NY Apple</p>	<p><b>Breakfast Bread Fruit</b> NY Chicken Mac &amp; Cheese w/breadstick Broccoli Juice NY Apple Slices</p>	<p><b>Brk. Bagel Pizza Juice</b> Fr. Toast Sticks Sausage Patty/Potato Tots Veggie Cup Orange Popcorn Chicken Salad</p>	<p><b>Snack'n Waffle Fruit</b> NY Chili Cheese Tots Corn Muffin NY Green Beans NY Juice/NY Apple</p>	<p><b>Mini Fr. Toast WAO</b> <b>Hornet Muffin HS</b> Stuffed Crust pizza Garden Salad w/chickpeas Fruit</p>
<p><b>Mini Bagel Juice WAO</b> <b>Chicken Croissant HS</b> Cheeseburger on a roll w/lettuce &amp; tomato/ Sw. Potato Fries/ Gr. Beans NY Apple</p>	<p><b>Cinnamon Roll Fruit</b> NY Taco's w/lettuce. Tomato &amp; Cheese Seasoned Rice/ Corn Juice/Assorted Fruit</p>	<p><b>Waffle Juice WAO</b> <b>Brk. Pizza HS</b> Chicken Spiedie on a roll Rst. Potatoes/Veggie Cup Banana Chef Salad</p>	<p><b>Fr. Toast Sticks Fruit</b> HOLIDAY MEAL Turkey &amp; Gravy Mashed Potatoes Corn Dinner roll Peaches Apple Crisp</p>	<p><b>Mini Pancake WAO</b> <b>Hornet Muffin HS</b> Homemade Pizza Garden Salad w/chickpeas Fruit</p>
<p><b>Frudel Juice</b> Chicken Nuggets w/roll Mashed Potatoes Gl. Carrots NY Apple Slices</p>	<p><b>Breakfast Bread Fruit</b> Mandarin Orange Chicken w/Egg Roll Rice Broccoli Juice Assorted Fruit</p>	<p><b>Brk. Bagel Pizza Juice</b> Pasta w/NY Meat Sauce Breadstick NY Green Beans NY Juice NY Apple Southwest Chicken Salad</p>	<p><b>Snack'n Waffle Fruit</b> French Bread Pizza Garden Salad w/chickpeas Fruit</p>	
25	26	27	28	29
				

All Meals served with 1% or less Milk All Breakfasts served with Fruit or Juice





## Jr. Sr. High Yearbook News

Jr./Sr. High School Yearbook orders are now being taken; the cost is \$54.00. If you would like to order a yearbook, please see Mrs. Hendrickson. If you are paying by check, please make payable to HCS Yearbook. You may also pay at <http://ybpay.lifetouch.com>, code 9919624 with a credit card. Parents of seniors please see the document in this newsletter for information about ordering yearbooks and placing a parent ad.

### Parents of Seniors Yearbook/Parent Ad Information

The HCS Yearbook staff would like to offer all parents of the senior class the opportunity to honor and congratulate your daughter or son in the 2023-2024 yearbook.

Ads are only \$25.00 and may include a short message with a favorite photograph of your graduate. We have a limited amount of space set aside for parent ads, so act quickly and include your senior in this special section of your yearbook.

We would like to offer you a chance to purchase the yearbook for your senior or for yourself for \$54.00 (we had to add sales tax to the cost of the book). If you

make this purchase by 12/15/23 we will, at no cost to you, be happy to have a name plate made for them to put on the cover. Please send in your order immediately, this offer does expire 12/15/23.

Please fill out and return immediately the form below with your check payable to the HCS Yearbook.

Thank you and have a fun filled year with your senior.

Sincerely,

Barbara Hendrickson  
Yearbook Advisor

Senior name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print your name the way you want on the book)

Amount	Item	Cost
_____	Parent /family ad @ \$25.00 each (1/8 <sup>th</sup> page)	_____

\_\_\_\_\_ Yearbook \$54.00

Total cost: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Payment must accompany this order.)

(Parent ads are business card size)

Parent Ad Message: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**Deadline for parent ad and personalization submission is 12/15/2023.**

Pictures will be returned in the senior envelopes given out at the end of the school year.

Please remember the ad contains a picture and a **brief** message.  
You may purchase more than one ad to fit a larger message.





**H** Harpursville Central School District  
 P.O. Box 147  
 Harpursville, NY 13787

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 Kacie Huston, Vice President  
 Thomas Fargo  
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 Nicole Robertson  
 Bernard Scott  
 Russell Weist

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**Superintendent**

Heath Georgia



**HORNET PROUD**



Proud Hornet Alumni

Contact us with the link of any of our AWESOME ALUMNI in the news and we would be happy to share it on our PROUD HORNET ALUMNI button on the school webpage!

Email us at  
 HarpursvilleCSDPR@hcs.stier.org

Visit: <https://www.hcs.stier.org/SpotlightonAlumni.aspx> to see more

Cafferty Rd, HARPURSVILLE, NY