



# THE HORIZONS WAY

# NEWSLETTER

September 2025

## Principal/Dean News

Hello Families:

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude for your continued partnership and support of our school community. Your involvement is invaluable in helping our students thrive and build a positive learning environment.

With Conferences just around the corner (Oct 13 and 16), please keep an eye out for the Sign-up Genius to schedule your children's conferences.

Mr. Ohlson, Principal  
Mr. Puls, Dean

## HFN

Horizons Family Network is a group of Horizons families and staff that come together for the common goal to support students, staff, teachers and school needs.

**Next Meeting:** November 10, 6:00 pm

**Email:**

Horizonsfamilynetworkpto@gmail.com

## Upcoming Events

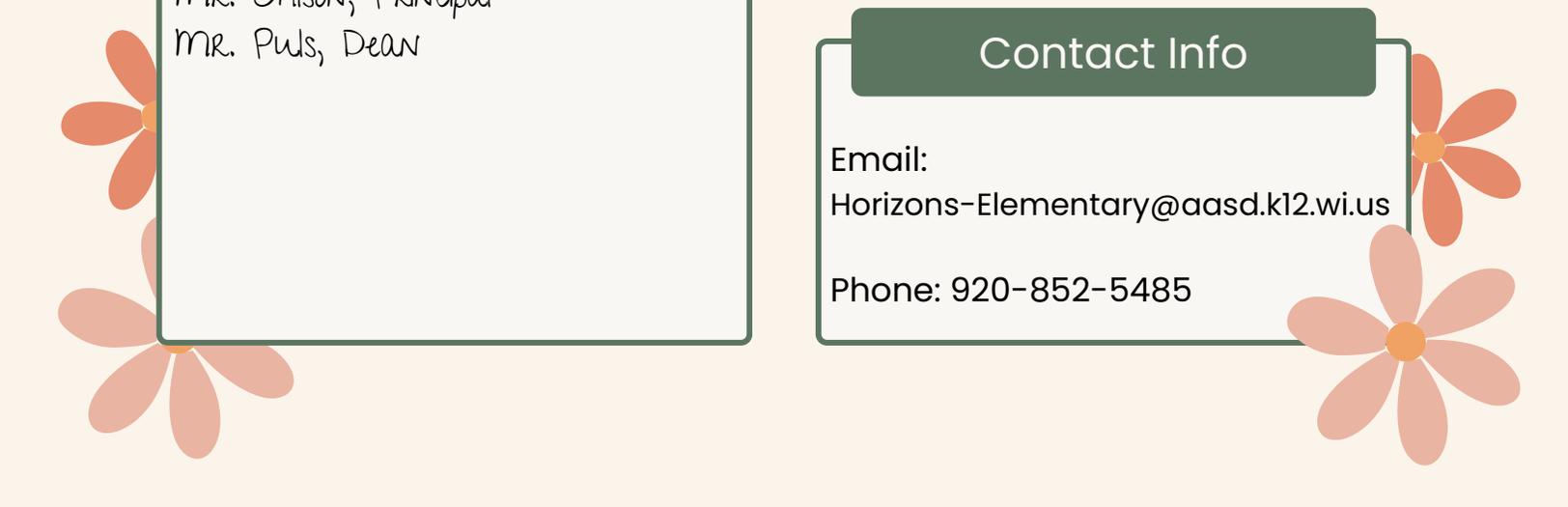
- Sept 29 No School
- Oct 13, 16 Conferences
- Oct 14 Spot Vision
- Oct 21 Picture Retake

## Contact Info

Email:

Horizons-Elementary@aasd.k12.wi.us

Phone: 920-852-5485





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September 2025

## Noticias del director/decano

Hola familias:

Les expresamos nuestro más sincero agradecimiento por su continua colaboración y apoyo a nuestra comunidad escolar. Su participación es fundamental para que nuestros estudiantes prosperen y creen un ambiente de aprendizaje positivo.

Con las conferencias a la vuelta de la esquina (13 y 16 de octubre), estén atentos a la sección "Genial de Registro" para programar las conferencias de sus hijos.

Sr. Ohlson, Director  
Sr. Puls, Decano

## HFN

Horizons Family Network es un grupo de familias y personal que se unen con el objetivo común de apoyar a los estudiantes, el personal, los maestros y las necesidades escolares.

**Next Meeting:** 10 de noviembre 18:00 horas

**Email:**

[Horizonsfamilynetworkpto@gmail.com](mailto:Horizonsfamilynetworkpto@gmail.com)

## Próximos eventos

- 29 de septiembre No hay clases
- Conferencias del 13 y 16 de octubre
- 14 de octubre Spot Vision
- 21 de octubre Nueva toma de fotografías

## Contact Info

Email:

[Horizons-Elementary@aasd.k12.wi.us](mailto:Horizons-Elementary@aasd.k12.wi.us)

Phone: 920-852-5485



## HORIZON APPAREL SALE!



Follow the link to access the school apparel store.

<https://horizonselementary25.itemorder.com/shop/product/52480951/>

Orders need to be placed by September 28th and will arrive by the end of October.



## VENTA DE ROPA DE HORIZONS!



Siga el enlace a la tienda de ropa de la escuela.

<https://horizonselementary25.itemorder.com/shop/product/52480951/>

Los pedidos deben hacerse antes del 28 de septiembre y llegarán a finales de octubre.



AGES  
5-13

**\$20**  
AFTER 9/26  
\$25

# FOX VALLEY TOUGH KID Challenge

Brought to you by



**OCTOBER 4TH**  
9 A.M. - 1 P.M.



**REGISTER ONLINE:**  
[EVENTBRITE.COM](http://EVENTBRITE.COM)

**HIGHLANDS ELEMENTARY**  
**2037 N ELINOR ST.**



FOX VALLEY TOUGH KID CHALLENGE (TKC) IS AN OBSTACLE COURSE EVENT FEATURING KID-FRIENDLY, YET CHALLENGING OBSTACLES THAT BENEFITS THE APPLETON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

THE 1.55-MILE COURSE AND 30 OBSTACLES CHALLENGE THE AGILITY AND STRENGTH OF OUR PARTICIPANTS. RUN. JUMP. CLIMB. CRAWL. HAVE FUN.





Attention Horizons Families - We need your help!

We are planning on starting a Lego Club for interested 4th and 5th grade students. We are in need of Legos. If you have Lego sets that you are willing to donate, please bring them to school. The Lego sets can have directions or not. As long as we know the name of the Lego set, we can look up the directions. If you have a set that you are willing to donate, either send it along with your child to school or drop it off in the office. Please have your child deliver the sets to Mrs. Otto's office or their classroom teacher can get it to me. We are excited to offer this new experience to our 4th and 5th grade students. More details will be given to students in October to sign up for the Club.

Thank you,

Mrs. Otto, School Counselor

Mrs. Miller, STEM Teacher





Atención familias de Horizons: ¡Necesitamos su ayuda!

Estamos planeando crear un Club de Lego para estudiantes de 4.º y 5.º grado interesados. Necesitamos Legos. Si tienen sets de Lego que estén dispuestos a donar, por favor, tráiganlos a la escuela. Los sets pueden tener instrucciones o no. Siempre que sepamos el nombre del set, podemos buscar las instrucciones. Si tienen un set que estén dispuestos a donar, pueden enviarlo con su hijo/a a la escuela o dejarlo en la oficina. Por favor, pídanle a su hijo/a que entregue los sets en la oficina de la Sra. Otto o su maestro/a puede entregármelos. Nos entusiasma ofrecer esta nueva experiencia a nuestros estudiantes de 4.º y 5.º grado. Les daremos más detalles en octubre para que se inscriban en el Club.

Gracias,

Sra. Otto, Consejera Escolar

Sra. Miller, Maestra de STEM





## 5K-3 Literacy Screener for Families

Fall 2025

A Wisconsin education law, called Act 20, requires all students in 5K–3rd grade to take a literacy screener at three different points during the year. A **screener** is a short check of your child’s reading skills that helps teachers see how your child is growing as a reader and plan instruction to meet your child’s individual needs. If your child is identified from the screener as needing additional support, a personal reading plan will be created for your child and shared with you.

The state literacy screener is called *aimswEBPLUS*, and soon, your child’s teacher will begin administering the screener.

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### What literacy skills will my child be checked on?

The screener looks at the building blocks of reading. A full list of skills by grade level is included on the back of this letter. Depending on your child’s grade, the check may include:

- Knowing letters and the sounds they make
  - Hearing and working with sounds in words (phonemic awareness)
  - Sounding out and reading words (decoding)
  - Understanding word meanings (vocabulary)
- 

### When will the literacy screener happen?

The aimswEBPLUS literacy screener will be given three times each year: **fall, winter, and spring**.

- Our fall screening window will occur Sept. 30- Oct. 14.
- all 5K-3 students will be screened again in **January** and in **April**.
- You’ll receive results at your fall and spring conferences, and at the end of year.

The Kindergarten/Grade One screener is done one-on-one with each child, giving teachers helpful information about your child’s reading progress. The Second and Third Grade Screener is done one-on-one as well as whole group.

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### Do I need to prepare my child?

No preparation is needed. The law requires all students participate and may not opt out of testing. These checks are short and child-friendly. For example:

- **Kindergarten and 1st grade** students may point to pictures that match words the teacher says.
  - **2nd and 3rd grade** students may read a short passage out loud for one minute.
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Questions? If you’d like more information, please reach out to your child’s teacher, principal, or the Director of Elementary Education: [willercarrie@asds.k12.wi.us](mailto:willercarrie@asds.k12.wi.us). Together, we are excited to support your child’s reading growth this year!



## 5K-3 Literacy Screener

### What early literacy skills will be measured?

- **Alphabet knowledge:** Knowing the names of printed letters.
- **Letter sound knowledge:** Knowing the sounds of printed letters.
- **Phonemic awareness:** Hearing, saying, and manipulating individual sounds in spoken words.
- **Decoding skills:** Connecting sounds to written letters to read printed words.
- **Oral vocabulary:** Understanding the meanings of words when speaking or listening.

The *aimswebPlus* literacy screeners that measure the skills above are based on a student's grade level. You can learn more about these assessments below:

Assessment	Grade	What Your Child Will Do	Time
Letter Naming	5K-1st Grade	Say the names of letters they see on a page	1 min
Letter Sounds	4K-1st Grade	Say the sounds of letters, syllables, or simple words	1 min
Beginning Sounds	4K-5K	Point to a picture that starts with a sound the teacher says, or say the beginning sound of a word	2-3 min
Breaking Words into Sounds	5K- 1st Grade	Hear a word and say each sound in it (e.g., "cat" → /c/ /a/ /t/)	2-3 min
Vocabulary with Pictures	5K-1st Grade	Match a word the teachers says to the correct picture	2-4 min
Vocabulary	2nd-3rd Grade	On a computer, choose the meaning of a word from several options Read two short stories aloud to the teacher	4-7 min (not timed)
Reading Out Loud	1st-3rd Grade		2 min each



Dear Families,

As we prepare to begin the new school year, the Appleton Parking Utility would like to emphasize the importance of following the legal parking practices during student drop-off and pick-up times. All our zones are marked as one of the following: loading zones, no-parking areas, and parking areas.

**Loading Zones:** The adult **MUST** stay in the car. This is for active loading/unloading only. This is for kindergarten drop-off and pick-up. We have adults outside who will help your child get into the car. Parking and leaving your car in a Loading/Unloading zone will result in a ticket.

**No Parking Areas:** There is **NO** parking at any time in this zone. Please pay close attention to the crosswalks. You cannot have your car parked on a crosswalk, even if you are inside of the car. There is no waiting, loading, or unloading in a No Parking area.

## Parking

We have lots of street parking along Woodlands Park. School staff monitor this area after school. Families can park and meet their child on the playground, or students can walk along the sidewalk until they spot their child.

Additionally, the information available on the Appleton Area School District (AASD) website is well-organized, appreciated, and serves as a valuable resource for families:

<https://www.aasd.k12.wi.us/families/family-resources/school-safety-preparedness/traffic-parking-around-our-schools>

Thank you for your continued support in creating a safe and orderly environment for all.



Queridas familias,

Al prepararnos para el inicio del nuevo año escolar, el Servicio de Estacionamiento de Appleton desea enfatizar la importancia de seguir las normas legales de estacionamiento durante la entrada y salida de estudiantes. Todas nuestras zonas están marcadas como: zonas de carga, zonas de no estacionamiento y zonas de estacionamiento.

**Zonas de carga y descarga:** El adulto DEBE permanecer en el coche. Esto es solo para subir y bajar del coche. Es para dejar y recoger a los niños del kínder. Hay adultos afuera que ayudarán a su hijo a subir al coche. Estacionar y dejar el coche en una zona de carga y descarga resultará en una multa.

**Zonas de Prohibido Estacionar:** No se permite estacionar en ningún momento en esta zona. Preste mucha atención a los cruces peatonales. No puede estacionar su auto en un cruce peatonal, ni siquiera dentro del vehículo. No se permite esperar, subir ni bajar pasajeros en una zona de Prohibido Estacionar.

### Estacionamiento

Disponemos de amplio estacionamiento en la calle a lo largo de Woodlands Park. El personal escolar supervisa esta área después de clases. Las familias pueden estacionar y esperar a sus hijos en el patio de recreo, o los estudiantes pueden caminar por la acera hasta encontrarlos.

Además, la información disponible en el sitio web del Distrito Escolar del Área de Appleton (AASD) está bien organizada, es muy apreciada y constituye un recurso valioso para las familias:

<https://www.aasd.k12.wi.us/families/family-resources/school-safety-preparedness/traffic-parking-around-our-schools>

Gracias por su continuo apoyo para crear un entorno seguro y ordenado para todos.

# HELP US BUILD A STRONGER SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

Are you interested in supporting our school through the **Horizons Family Network**?

How'd you like to volunteer?



We'd love to learn how you'd like to help, whether is volunteering at events, donating items, or sharing unique skills.

**Please take a few minutes to complete our Time & Talent Survey by scanning the QR code.**

Thank you for being part of our amazing school family!



# Bright Smiles. Bright Futures.

*Empowering Youth Through Better Oral Health Care*

## FREE Quality Dental Care for Students

The **Robert Glass Focus on the Children** program at Tri-County Dental provides **FREE** dental care to **qualified students** right at their school through our mobile clinic.

## Set Your Child on the Path to Success

Regular dental care can help kids stay healthy, confident, and ready to learn. The Robert Glass Focus on the Children program provides the following care:

- **Hygiene Appointment** – Screening, cleaning, fluoride varnish, SDF, and sealants as needed
- **Dental Exam** – X-rays, fluoride varnish, and a professional exam
- **Restorative Care** – e.g. filling cavities (may be done at TCD clinic or mobile unit)

## How It Works

We partner with schools in **Appleton, Brillion, Neenah, Oshkosh,** and **Seymour** to bring **FREE** dental care to qualified students that have registered for the program.

If your child qualifies for the free or reduced lunch program and does not have private dental insurance or another dental home, they automatically qualify.

## Don't Let Their Smiles Fade and Register Today!

Complete the registration by scanning the QR code to register your student now or visit our website at [www.tricountydental.org](http://www.tricountydental.org).



## Questions/More info?

Contact Nkaoxue Summers, Tri-County Dental Outreach Care Coordinator at [nsummers@tricountydental.org](mailto:nsummers@tricountydental.org) or 920.882.5500 x 107.



9 Tri-Park Way | Appleton, WI 54914 | 920.882.5500



# Sonrisas Brillantes. Futuros Brillantes.

*Empoderando a la juventud a través de una  
mejor atención de salud bucal*

## Atención Dental GRATUITA y de Calidad para Estudiantes

El programa **Robert Glass Focus on the Children** de Tri-County Dental brinda atención dental **GRATUITA** a los estudiantes que califican, directamente en su escuela, a través de nuestra clínica móvil.

## Ponga a su hijo(a) en el camino hacia el éxito

La atención dental regular puede ayudar a los niños a mantenerse saludables, seguros de sí mismos y listos para aprender. El programa Robert Glass Focus on the Children ofrece la siguiente atención:

- **Cita de Higiene** – Evaluación, limpieza, barniz de flúor, fluoruro diaminado de plata (SDF) y selladores según sea necesario
- **Examen Dental** – Radiografías, barniz de flúor y un examen profesional
- **Cuidado Restaurativo** – por ejemplo, empastes de caries (pueden realizarse en la clínica de TCD o en la unidad móvil)

## Cómo Funciona

Nos asociamos con escuelas en **Appleton, Brillion, Neenah, Oshkosh** y **Seymour** para brindar atención dental **GRATUITA** a los estudiantes que califican y que se han inscrito en el programa.

Si su hijo(a) califica para el programa de almuerzo gratuito o reducido y no tiene seguro dental privado ni otro proveedor dental, califica automáticamente.

## ¡No deje que sus sonrisas se desvanezcan, inscribálos ahora!

**Complete la inscripción escaneando el código QR** para registrar a su estudiante hoy o visite nuestro sitio web en [www.tricountydental.org](http://www.tricountydental.org).

### ¿Preguntas/Más información?

Comuníquese con **Nkaoxue Summers**, Coordinadora de Atención Comunitaria de Tri-County Dental en [nsummers@tricountydental.org](mailto:nsummers@tricountydental.org) o 920.882.5500 x 107.



9 Tri-Park Way | Appleton, WI 54914 | 920.882.5500



Success for  
Every Student,  
Every Day



**Project ADAM**  
SAVES LIVES

## Heart Safe School Designation Letter to School Community

Dear Community,

Horizons Elementary School is pleased to inform you that we have joined a community effort to implement a sustainable and comprehensive CPR and AED program. This decision is the result of our wish to make our buildings safe for our students, visitors and employees.

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) occurs when the heart suddenly and unexpectedly stops beating, cutting off blood flow to the brain and other vital organs. SCA is fatal if not treated immediately. Having access to an AED as well as having a written plan and a team of CPR/AED-trained staff ready to act in an emergency can save the life of someone suffering a SCA during those critical first few minutes. Through our cooperative efforts with **Project ADAM** and **Children's Hospital of Wisconsin**, we have joined hundreds of schools throughout the state of Wisconsin and beyond in preparing our school for a life-threatening emergency. This program enables us to offer any person who may experience a Sudden Cardiac Arrest during regular school hours, the best chance for survival.

Horizons currently has an AED in the building. The AED is stored in a wall cabinet. When the cabinet door is opened, a loud alarm will sound. This alerts everyone that there is a potential emergency. Our school has a maintenance plan in place for the units. The AEDs are designed to work effectively unless they are tampered with. Additionally, the AED will not shock a person unless it detects a shockable rhythm (ventricular fibrillation).

Staff has been trained to assist with an emergency during regular school hours. After school hours and during the summer, this is a Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) program. If you suspect someone is experiencing a Sudden Cardiac Arrest, please feel free to use the equipment at our school. Good Samaritan laws protect the layperson in a life-saving attempt, although we recommend becoming trained in CPR/AED use as an investment in your health and the health of others. Our local Emergency Medical Services and AASD Medical Director are aware of our procedures for the program.

*"Project ADAM is a national, non-profit organization committed to saving lives through advocacy, education, preparedness and collaboration to prevent sudden cardiac death. Our affiliate programs improve the cardiac chain of survival in schools and communities in memory of Adam Lemel, a 17-year-old Whitefish Bay, WI, high school student who collapsed and died while playing basketball at school."*

Many thanks for your participation in this important Heart Safe initiative in our school. To see our school on the Project ADAM map, visit [www.projectadamwi.com](http://www.projectadamwi.com).

Sincerely,

AASD District Nursing Staff