



Science, Technology, Engineering & Math

Mead + Community Partners = Enhanced STEM Learning Opportunities for Students

It started four years ago during a brainstorming session between CTE Director Doug Edmonson and Northwood science teacher Dave Gamon. The conversation quickly moved from the theoretical to, "Let's do it . . . Let's reach out and partner with higher education and local industries and build engaging, meaningful learning opportunities for Mead students around STEM." That's the short story of how our **STEM Forward** events, now entering their fourth year, were born.

STEM Forward, at its core, provides real world opportunities for students. Each event is designed to tap into a student's curiosity and engage his or her desire to "figure it out." Our community partners have helped us expand STEM pathways for students.

Whitworth + NASA Grant + Mead Education Foundation Grant = Near Space Experiments

To date middle schoolers have partnered with Professor John Larkin and Whitworth physics students to conduct twelve "Near Space" balloon launches. The pre-launch design process includes brainstorming potential experiment ideas, researching those ideas, deciding on a hypothesis to test, assembling sensors in a pod and, finally, testing the pod. Following the launch and balloon recovery, our students collaborate with Whitworth University students to analyze experiment data and reflect on the process and their hypothesis.

WSU Health Sciences Department + STCU = Medical Mystery Night

Working with WSU students and faculty, *Medical Mystery Night* is an opportunity for 150 students to go to the WSU Riverpoint Campus on a Friday night and solve a mystery around a

medical issue. Teams of students work collaboratively and must think critically as they investigate a presenting medical problem. The event includes a Financial Literacy presentation for parents and pizza, all provided by STCU.

A complete list of **2020 STEM Forward** events is posted on the district's homepage (www.mead354.org). There you will also find the most recent addition to our *Who We Are* video series titled, *Science, Technology, Engineering & Math*. This video highlights our community partners and their positive impact on student learning.

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Mead School District Board of Directors



Carmen Green, Board President
Director District #5



Chad Burchard, Board Vice-President
Director District #1



Denny Denholm
Director District #2



Bob Olson
Director District #3



Dorcas Wylder
Director District #4



Board of Directors Letter to the Community

In a matter of days the Mead community will have the opportunity to vote on a two-year Supplemental Levy. This ballot measure is, in our opinion, very important to the continuing success of the Mead School District.

Our purpose in writing is to explain **WHAT** the levy will pay for and **WHY** we unanimously voted to bring this ballot measure to voters.

WHAT . . .

In addition to **ADDING** safety & security personnel as recommended by the Safety Task Force, **MAINTAINING** nurses to care for medically fragile students, **BRINGING BACK** building supervision para-educators lost in recent budget cuts and **EXPANDING** learning opportunities for non-traditional students, supplemental levy dollars will help cover:

- **OTHER PROGRAM COSTS:** There are many other programs the district offers where staffing levels exceed that provided by the state in their prototypical school funding model. Examples include our English Language Learner program, special education, counselors and summer school.
- **NEW SCHOOL NON-TEACHER COSTS:** Opening two new schools and a stadium in the Fall of 2020, and a potential third school in the Fall of 2021, includes costs not covered by the state. Examples are school administration, office staff, custodians, cooks, school maintenance, utilities, insurance, etc.

WHY . . .

Starting in the 2018/19 school year Washington instituted a new funding model for public schools to comply with the Supreme Court "McCleary" decision that requires the state to "fully fund" education. For Mead this model increased the amount of money received from the state, while at the same time substantially decreasing the permissible local levy tax rate (from \$4.01 to \$1.50) and, therefore, the amount of local levy money available (approximately \$11 million less).

During the 2019 legislative session law makers realized restricting levy rates to \$1.50, coupled with OSPI publicly stating new state monies were for salaries, had the unintended consequence of contributing to budget shortfalls for many school districts. To remedy this situation they raised the local levy rate voters can approve to \$2.50. They also provided "hold harmless" funds for many school districts. Spokane received \$5.1 million, Central Valley \$686,000, East Valley \$4 million and West Valley \$1.2 million. The Mead School District received NO hold harmless funds.

With this new legislation in place in July we approved placing a two-year Supplemental Levy on the November 5th ballot. This levy will cost the average homeowner \$20/month (\$240,000 assessed value) and raise \$7.1 million in 2020 and \$7.5 million in 2021.

Considering the community's long-standing support of Mead Schools, we believe patrons should be given the opportunity to vote on providing additional enrichment services for students.

INVESTMENT RETURN . . .

PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE: We are each long-time residents of the Mead School District. Our children have graduated or will graduate from Mead Schools. We know first hand the outstanding learning opportunities Mead provides for all students. This is possible because of strong community support. Thank you for your ongoing investment in the education of Mead School District students. We collectively believe a vibrant school district pays key short-term and long-term dividends for the entire community.



Behind the Scenes

Working Together to Equip Students, Inspire Problem Solvers & Create Leaders

Behind the scenes in the Mead School District you will find a number of folks whose work is essential to helping make our school district a great place for kids to learn and grow. Our nurses, who are all licensed professionals, fall into that category. Together they handle all things health related for a student population of nearly 10,700 students. We talked with Ruth Erb (lead secondary nurse) and Carrie Dinwoodie (lead elementary nurse) and asked them a few questions about the Mead School District Nursing Services Department.



Back Row: Karlee Passey, Sara Hurd, Billie Zundel, Leslyn Williams, JoLena Speer, Stacey Allore, Stephanie Johnson
Front Row: Tracy Emch, Hettie Bigley, Gret Jordan, Ruth Erb, Allison Cowart, Kristen Palpant, Carrie Dinwoodie
Not Pictured: Angie Neumiller, Jennifer Dikes, Sarah Collins, Gena Johnson, Jennifer Edstrom

How many students visit the health room each day?

We average 478 visits, which equates to 40 students daily accessing the health room in each of our traditional school buildings.

How many students have a medical condition Health Care Plan?

Students with Health Care Plans are divided into the following three categories:

- **Chronic/Acute Health Conditions** – We oversee/manage 1331 Health Care Plans for students with chronic or acute health conditions. Nursing oversight allows them to attend school in spite of their varying medical situations.
- **Life Threatening Conditions** – Mead has 952 students with Health Care Plans that fall in this category. Life threatening conditions include diabetes, seizures, anaphylaxis and asthma.
- **Medically Complex Conditions** – The most severe of the three categories, the 42 students with medically complex conditions require immediate nursing intervention to help them breathe, stop seizing, administer rescue medication, etc.

Please summarize the work of School Nurses.

School nurses collaborate with families, doctors, health providers and school personnel to create an individualized plan for student success. All nursing duties comply with state law, OSPI and Department of Health guidelines. We partner with Spokane Regional Health Department and other community agencies to serve, educate and protect the health of all students, staff and community members. The primary goal of Mead nurses is to help keep students in school.

Dedication, Commitment & Longevity Honored



To honor Bob Olson for his 34 years (and counting) of service on the Mead School Board, we named a street after him. Our Facilities Department requested, and Spokane County agreed, to name the access road to Highland Middle School on Five Mile Prairie NORTH BOB OLSON LANE.

Cat Scramble 2019



Thanks to all who participated in this year's *Cat Scramble Golf Tournament & Silent Auction*. This community fundraiser brought in an impressive \$70,000 that will be divided equally between the Mt. Spokane and Mead High Athletic Booster Clubs. A list of all *Cat Scramble* sponsors is posted on the Mead School District homepage.



MEAD MATTERS
Mead School District #354
2323 E. Farwell Rd.
Mead, WA 99021

ECR WSS
Postal Customer

Non-Profit
Organization
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Spokane, WA
Permit No. 622



Questions or concerns?
509-465-6014
www.mead354.org

The Mead School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Grievances or concerns should be directed to: Dr. Janet Hoadley, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services and Activities - 509-465-6008 or jahodley@mead354.org

Mead School District Upcoming Drama Productions

Mead High School Theatre Arts &
Music Departments
Proudly Present the Musical



November 14-16 & 20-23
Mead HS Theatre 7 pm
\$12 adults - \$10 students

Mt. Spokane High School
Theatre Arts Department
Proudly Presents



November 14-16 & 21-23
Mt. Spokane HS Theatre 7 pm
\$8 adults - \$5 students/seniors

Open Invitation

A Message from
Superintendent Shawn Woodward



In my new role as Mead superintendent I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting and interacting with staff, students, parents and community members. Another favorite part of my job is visiting schools. It allows me to understand better the challenges and opportunities in front of us as we work together toward ensuring high levels of learning for all students. If you have an interest in touring any of our schools please reach out! I am confident after visiting you will find yourself hopeful and optimistic for the future.

On November 5th you will have the opportunity to vote on a Supplemental Levy ballot measure for the Mead School District. I invite you to read the *Letter to the Community* from the Board of Directors, located on page 2 of this publication, as well as the *Voter's Guide* insert. Additional information on the proposed Supplemental Levy is also available on our homepage (mead354.org) and includes a *Levy Overview*, as well as answers to our most *Frequently Asked Questions* regarding this ballot measure.

There will also be two upcoming Community Information Nights regarding the Supplemental Levy – October 23rd at Northwood Middle School (6:30 pm) and October 24th at Mountinside Middle School (6:30 pm). If you are unable to attend, but have questions, please give my office a call (509-465-6014) to schedule a time to meet with me personally.

I want to thank the community for its long-standing support of the Mead School District and personally encourage you to vote in the upcoming November 5, 2019, election.

Shiloh Hills Dedication Ceremony



Shiloh Hills 6th grader Ari Nash helping School Board President Carmen Green with the official Ribbon Cutting at the August 27th Shiloh Hills Dedication Ceremony.

YOUR Voter Pull-Out Guide

Mead School District
November 5, 2019
Ballot Measure




**Safety
Security
Wellness**

Supplemental Levy

Your Ballot Arrives
October 16

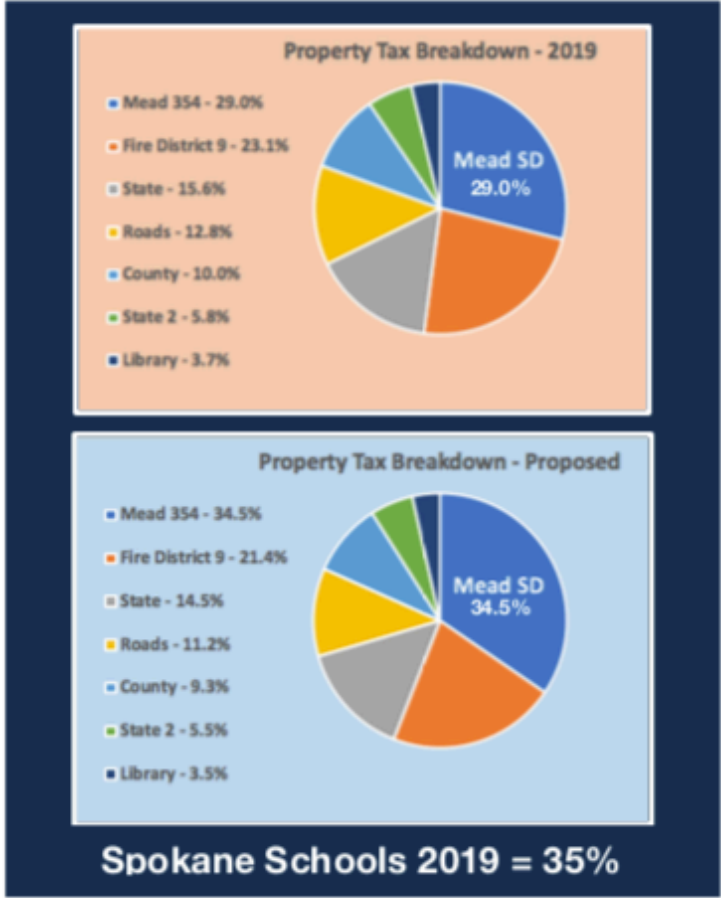
**Vote By
November 5**

Your ballot arrives October 16!

Vote By November 5

Supplemental Levy
Community Information Meetings

- **October 23, 6:30 pm**
Northwood Middle School, 12908 N. Pittsburg
- **October 24, 6:30 pm**
Mountainside Middle School, 4717 E. Day Mt. Spokane Rd.



2323 E. Farwell Rd.
Mead, WA 99021

509.465.6014

Superintendent
Shawn Woodward

**For Additional Information Visit:
www.mead354.org**



Supplemental Levy

The proposed two-year Supplemental Levy will generate \$7.1 million in 2020 and \$7.5 million in 2021. Average homeowner cost = \$20/month (\$240,000 assessed value).

Safety, Security & Wellness

ADD

Safety & Security Personnel

Based on recommendations from the Safety & Security Task Force, hire a Safety Director, a Threat Assessment Coordinator and up to five School Security Officers.

MAINTAIN

Nurses for Medically Fragile Students

Mead spends 10 times more money on nurses than what the state provides. This additional nursing staff allows medically fragile students to remain at their home schools.

BRING BACK

Building Supervision Para Educators

Reinstate supervision para educators reduced in recent budget cuts. The state's prototypical funding model provides only 8 hours per day of para support for each elementary school.

EXPAND

Non-Traditional Student Learning Opportunities

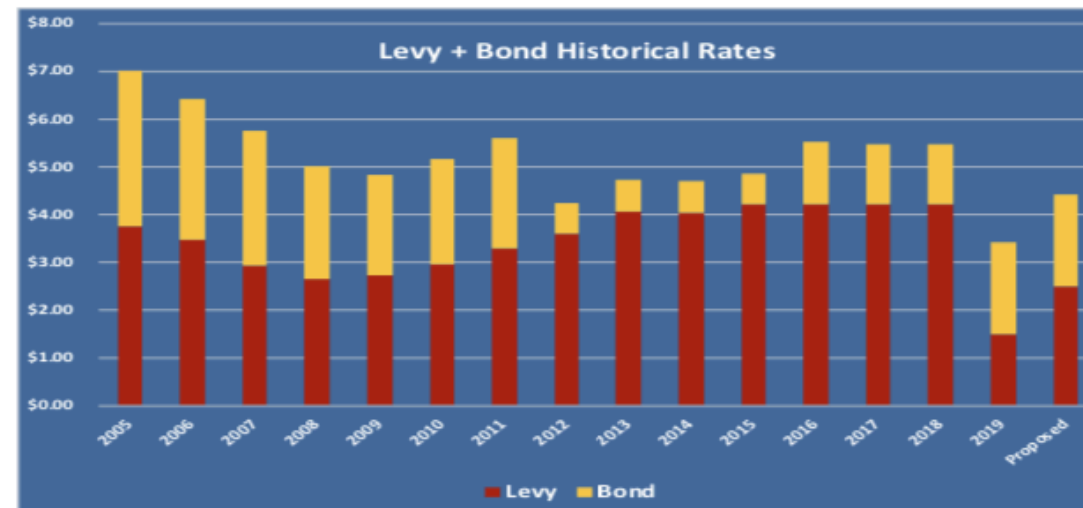
Convene a Task Force to make recommendations on how best to allocate a portion of Supplemental Levy funds to meet the learning and social-emotional needs of non-traditional students.

Levy, Bond & State School Taxes

	Pre-McCleary 2017	Current 2019	Proposed 2020 & 2021
Levy	\$4.01	\$1.50	\$2.50
Bond	\$1.27	\$1.93	\$1.93
State	\$2.00	\$2.82	\$2.82
Total	\$7.28	\$6.25	\$7.25

If the Supplemental Levy is approved, the combined total of school taxes paid by Mead patrons (Levy, Bond & State) will be essentially the same as in 2017 prior to the state's "McCleary Fix" legislation.

Mead Levy & Bond Historical Rates



The proposed combined Mead School District levy & bond tax rate (\$4.43) is \$1.08 LESS than the district's 15-year historical average (\$5.51).



Add



Maintain



Bring Back



Expand