Shawn Woodward – New Mead Superintendent

Vision Focused
Team Centered Leadership

The Mead School District Board of Directors is pleased to announce Shawn Woodward as their unanimous selection to be the district’s new superintendent replacing Tom Rockefeller, who is retiring at the end of the current school year. Mr. Woodward’s official start date is July 1, 2019.

In accepting the position Mr. Woodward expressed his sincere thanks for the opportunity and excitement to serve as Mead’s next superintendent. An extremely personable individual, Shawn is “super excited” and looks forward to beginning the process of building relationships with the entire community... students, staff, parents, business leaders, alumni, etc.

First on his agenda will be visiting with a broad, representative cross-section of the community to assess the current reality of the school district. What is going well? What do we need to pay attention to? Hearing about the hopes and dreams of Mead stakeholders will help shape a shared, unified vision of where we as a district want to be five, ten and fifteen years down the road.

Shawn comes to Mead from the Lake Pend Oreille School District in Sandpoint, Idaho, where he has been superintendent for the past seven years. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Washington State University and a Master of Education degree from City University. He earned his principal certification from Seattle Pacific University and his superintendent certification from Western Washington University.

Prior to becoming Lake Pend Oreille superintendent Mr. Woodward was assistant superintendent of the North Kitsap School District (Poulsbo, WA). He began his career in Port Orchard, where he taught for seven years. In 1999 he became a principal in the Burlington-Edison School District, serving at two different K-8 schools over nine years.

Shawn and his wife Michelle have three grown children. Their daughters Mikaela (linguistics major) and Rainey (elementary education) attend Western Washington University. Their son Sloan graduates from high school this month and will attend Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo in the fall, where he plans to study architecture. In their spare time the Woodward family loves to be outdoors, enjoying the Pacific Northwest.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE
Celebrating the Class of 2019 2
Thank You Dr. Rockefeller 3
School Board Message 4

Equipping Students – Inspiring Problem Solvers – Creating Leaders
State Champion

Congratulations to Mt. Spokane’s Mackenzie Weiland who won state for her drawing “Hiding in the Garden” at this year’s OSPI State Art Competition.

New Middle School & New Elementary School Names Approved

Highland Middle School

Creekside Elementary School

Thanks to all who participated in our “Help Us Name Our Schools” survey. The winning name for the new middle school is HIGHLAND and the name for the new elementary school is CREEKSIDEx More than 1,000 individuals voted. Both schools open in the fall of 2020.

Celebrating the Class of 2019

Congratulations and best wishes to the Mead School District Class of 2019! Starting June 4th with the North Star commencement exercises and ending on June 8th with the Riverpoint Academy graduation, nearly 900 Mead School District seniors will graduate from one of our six secondary learning programs. The public is invited to join us for one or all of the following celebrations:

- June 4 – North Star - 6 pm (North Spokane Dance Center)
- June 6 – Five Mile Prairie - 5:30 pm (Mead High Theatre)
- June 6 – M.E.A.D. - 7 pm (Mead High Theatre)
- June 7 – Mead High - 5 pm (GU – McCarthy Athletic Center)
- June 7 – Mt. Spokane - 8 pm (GU – McCarthy Athletic Center)
- June 8 – Riverpoint - 11 am (GU, Cataldo Hall, The Globe Room)

Class of 2019 Valedictorians (4.0 GPA)

Mead High School
Dylan Alcock
Morgan Bacon
Jacob Beckett
Teresa Berg
Amira Case
Lauren Champlin
Haley Correll
Kelsey DeWeese
Kaitlynn Driskel
Thea Earhart
Maddie Gandreau
Amanda Hegel
Elizabeth Holden
Katherine Hultquist
Brenna Judd
Conner Kautzman
Katharine Laurier
Janu Lee
Lauren Lorenz
Sydney Lyman
Taya McCarthy
Katherine McEuen
Jordan Meredith
Luke Miller
Zane Muhlski
Brenna Nendel
Thomas Newman
Megan Nguyen
Cameron Niska
Sara Pederson
Delaney Phillips
Jay Phillips
Alyssa Rolon
Dylan Schuler
Sophia Shawen
Rebecca Strach
Ciara Taylor
Lauren Tucker

Mt. Spokane High School
Nicholas Burnov
Emily Busch
Zachary Butler
Toryn Canty
Artyom Guryunov
Carly Hattenburg
Erik Kiefer
Sanford Leake IV
Caleb Mathl
Lauren McLeod
Hyak Milligan
Jeremy Nicks
Sophia Paolino
Alyssa Powell
Kaylie Pulliam
Sofia Poustovit
Dylan Ralston
Natalie Singleton
Gracelynly Stensland
Noah Weaver
Mackenzie Weiland
Myra "S" Wesley
Kristopher Wright

Riverpoint Academy
Aaron Botjas
Jenna Lawry
Julia Lawry

Five Mile Prairie School
Jonah Cwik
Jordan Gellerly
Ann Katsar
Ryan Holme

2019 Summer Sports Camps
To Learn More & Register Visit: www.mead354.org

2018-2019 All Sport Trophy

Following an incredible year for Mt. Spokane High School athletes, which included EIGHT GSL TITLES, the Wildcats are winners of the GSL All Sport Trophy for the first time in school history. This trophy has been presented annually since 1969 to the GSL school that accumulates the most points in all sports on the basis of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc. place finishes.
THANK YOU
Superintendent
Tom Rockefeller

Strong, Steady Leadership for 13 Years

It seems fitting Superintendent Tom Rockefeller is retiring, and members of the Mead School District Class of 2019 are graduating, at essentially the same time. Dr. Rockefeller joined Mead in July of 2006, the same year our graduating seniors started kindergarten. Both are now moving on to new chapters of life following 13 years with the Mead School District. Tom will be enjoying retirement with his wife Pera following a 41-year career in education and Mead graduates will be embarking on new, post-high school adventures.

Speaking on behalf of the Mead School District Board of Directors, Denny Denholm, who was Board Chair when Dr. Rockefeller was hired, says, “Tom has been an excellent superintendent. His strong, steady leadership style has been instrumental the past 13 years in maintaining and enhancing the district’s excellent reputation for providing outstanding learning and extra-curricular opportunities for all students. While we will miss Tom, we extend our collective thanks and wish him and Pera the very best as they transition into retirement.”

In his retirement letter Superintendent Rockefeller said, “This summer, when I walk away and retire from my dream job, I do so with confidence the Mead School District is well positioned to continue its tradition of providing the very best learning opportunities for all students. It has been an honor and privilege to serve the Mead community for the past 13 years.”

Old Mead Middle School Farewell Open House
Thursday, June 20th . . . 5-7 pm

To allow community members, who attended old Mead Middle School as students, the opportunity to tour the facility one last time before it is removed to make room for our new athletic-performing arts venue/stadium, the district is hosting a Farewell Open House on Thursday, June 20th from 5-7 pm.
Budget & Boundary

A Message from Mead School District Board of Directors

It has been a busy spring for the Mead School District. We celebrated the hiring of Shawn Woodward as our new superintendent, addressed a $12 million budget shortfall for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year and started the boundary adjustment process in preparation for opening two new schools in the fall of 2020.

Budget

It was no small task to approve reductions of nearly $12 million and at the same time impact the fewest students and programs possible. While all of the approved cuts were difficult, the decision to close both M.E.A.D. and Riverpoint Academy was particularly hard. To explore future innovative learning opportunities for all students the board will, in the fall, authorize a Task Force to study and recommend options for students who do not fit a traditional school setting. Implementation of recommendations will be dependent on funding.

Boundary

While our original plan was to have new attendance boundaries approved this month, a full year before the opening of Creekside and Highland, recently learning the district has qualified for “state match” funds of more than $20 million has caused us to pause the boundary change process. This money is available because of a recent revision to the state’s “unhoused students” funding formula. These funds, coupled with savings from other capital projects, are essentially enough money to build a 10th elementary school. Utilizing an aggressive design and construction timeline this new school could be ready for occupancy in the fall of 2021.

Prior to making the decision to move forward and build a 10th elementary school, which determines the approval of a nine or ten elementary school boundary change, the board must first:

- Confirm budget numbers to determine if the district can, from a staffing standpoint, finance the opening of another new school. The cost of non-teaching staff for new schools is approximately $500,000 and must be funded out of existing district monies.
- Verify fall enrollment numbers (October 1, 2019) to assure anticipated student growth is a reality.

Considering the very real possibility of building a 10th elementary school to open in the fall of 2021, the board is delaying the boundary discussion and decision until this coming fall, timeline as follows:

- Early November 2019 – Present a nine or ten elementary school boundary proposal, which also includes adjustments to middle and high school boundaries, to the community for feedback.
- January 1, 2020 – Finalize a decision on new elementary, middle and high school boundaries no later than January 1, 2020, eight months before the opening of school in September 2020.

We greatly appreciate your continued support as we work together to provide the best possible learning opportunities for Mead students.

Carmen Green (President), Chad Burchard (Vice-President), Bob Olson, Denny Denholm & Dorcas Wylder