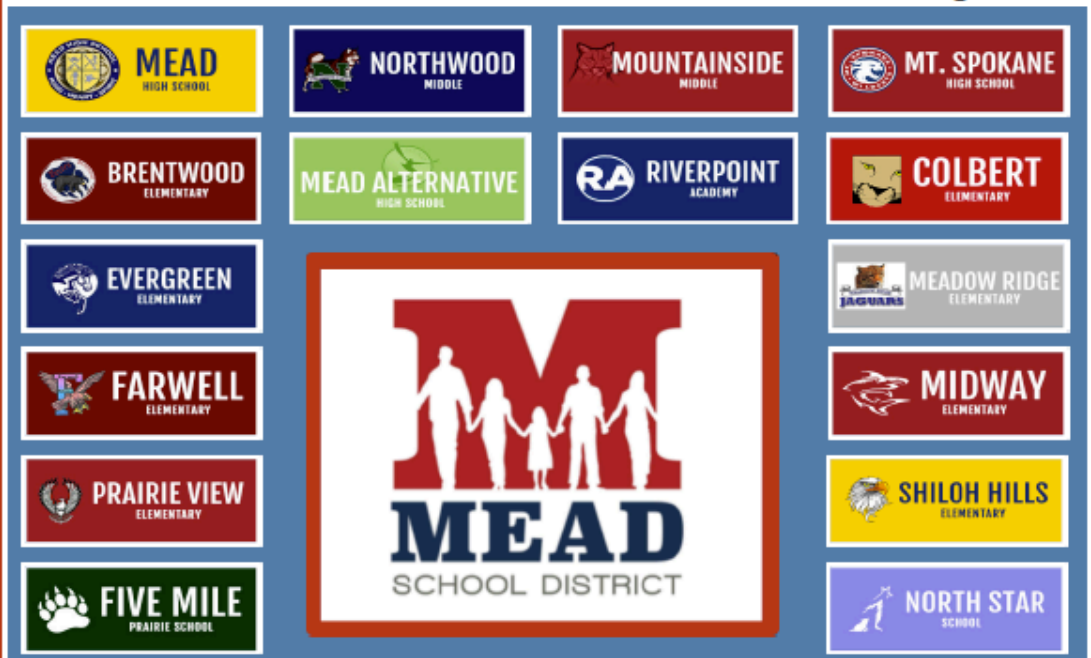


# MEAD

# MATTERS

August 2018



## Welcome to the 2018-2019 School Year

### Sixteen Schools Set to Welcome 10,500 Students

On Tuesday, September 4 we will open our doors for the 2018-2019 school year and welcome an estimated 10,500 students. Last year our beginning enrollment was 10,256, which increased throughout the year to a final headcount in June of 10,309 students.

The Mead School District has a long-standing tradition of providing the highest quality learning experience for each and every student. This year will be no exception. A few highlights for the coming school year include:

#### Midway Elementary Remodel

It has been a very busy summer at Midway. Work on the final phase of the renovation project started right after Spring Break and we are pleased to report the entire project is now 100%

complete and ready for the start of school. We invite you to visit the new facility on Thursday, September 27. There will be an Open House from 6-7:30 pm with a formal Dedication Ceremony at 6:30 pm in the gym.

#### New Curriculum

Following nearly two years of study, including piloting of materials, the school board has approved, and the district has purchased the following curriculum for implementation this fall:

- K-4 English Language Arts Benchmark Advance
- 6-8 Mathematics Carnegie Learning's Middle School Math Solutions
- High School Biology Pearson's Miller & Levine Biology

#### 2018 Bond Projects Fast-Tracked

Since receiving approval from voters in February to build a new elementary

school, new middle school, new transportation facility, new maintenance facility and a sports/performing arts complex, our business and facilities departments have been hard at work selling bonds and working with architects on the schematic design for each project. We anticipate the elementary school, middle school and performing arts-athletic venue/stadium will open in the fall of 2020. (Additional details on P3.)

Again, welcome to the 2018-2019 school year. We thank the Mead community for its ongoing support.

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**First Day of School Grades 1-12: Tuesday, September 4**

**First Day of School Kindergarten: Friday, September 7**

## Mead Welcomes New Administrators



Brett Hale, Andrea Staton, Erin O'Connor, Kellie Timberlake, Lisa Horn, Troy Hughes & AJ Blumel

The Mead School District is pleased to welcome the following outstanding educators to its administrative team:

**Brett Hale** – Mt. Spokane Assistant Principal. Mr. Hale replaces Brenda Goehring who has moved to Prairie View Elementary. He comes to Mt. Spokane from Rogers High School (Spokane) where he served as a teacher, PA and most recently an Assistant Principal.

**Andrea Staton** – Special Services Director. For the past two years Andrea has served as Assistant Director of Student Support Services in the Cheney School District.

**Erin O'Connor** – Farwell Principal Assistant. Ms. O'Connor joined the Mead SD in the fall of 2003. For the past several years she has taught kindergarten at Colbert Elementary.

**Kellie Timberlake** – Midway Principal Assistant. Kellie joined the Mead SD in the fall of 2007. She comes from Colbert Elementary where she has taught Special Education and LAP.

**Lisa Horn** – Colbert Principal Assistant. Ms. Horn comes to the Mead SD from Auburn SD where she served as a District Instructional Specialist.

**Troy Hughes** – Northwood Principal. Mr. Hughes, a 1995 graduate of Mead High, started his career as an English teacher at Lakeside High School in the Nine Mile Falls School District in the fall of 2001. Since 2013 he served as an Assistant Principal at Lakeside.

**AJ Blumel** – Learning Services Assistant Director. AJ, who just completed his admin internship, joined the Mead SD in the fall of 2014 as a Social Studies teacher at Mead High.



## 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. One of those individuals is Transportation Department Director Brian Liberg who oversees all aspects of a department that includes 105 buses that travel an average of 1.2 million miles annually and a staff of 115 employees (bus drivers, bus assistants, mechanics & office staff). We asked Brian a few questions about his life and work.

#### What is your family background?

I was born and raised in Spokane, graduating from West Valley High School in 1987 and the University of Idaho in 1991 with a degree in business. My wife and I live near Felt's Field in the Spokane Valley with our three children.



#### Tell us about your career path. How did that lead you to the Mead School District?

Prior to coming to the Mead School District I held a variety of business and human resource positions including ten years with the West Valley School District overseeing both the Nutrition Services and Transportation departments.

#### What are a few of the biggest changes the Transportation Department has undergone in your three-year tenure?

We have been very intentional about updating our fleet. In 2015 we had 42 pre-2000 buses – today that number is just three. We have made major strides in improving our maintenance program and, with the assistance of new routing software, have established better and more efficient bus routes. Next on our list is acquiring a new GPS system that will allow parents to track the location of their child's bus at any given time.

#### What do you like about your job and what is most challenging?

I work with great people who are extremely dedicated to providing the very best service to the Mead community and its students. Currently our biggest challenge is finding and retaining bus drivers. If you are looking for a great part-time, flexible position, please consider joining our team!

#### What about your "behind the scenes" job might surprise people?

In the winter months, when it has snowed throughout the evening, my assistant director and I are out driving school bus routes before 3 a.m. to assess whether the district should consider a late start or cancel school for the entire day.



### 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Mead SD "Show & Shine" Car Show

Saturday, September 8

9 am – 1 pm

Mt. Spokane High School

6015 E. Mt. Spokane Park Drive, Mead, WA



## Architect's Schematic Designs



Five Mile Prairie Middle School



Performing Arts-Athletic Venue/Stadium

### Five Mile Middle School & Market Street Campus Projects

ALSC, the architectural firm selected to design the four Market Street Projects (new transportation facility, new maintenance facility, sports/performing arts complex and new elementary school) and the new middle school located on Five Mile Prairie, has been working with our Facilities & Planning Department on schematic designs. At this time the design process is in the preliminary phase.

As indicated in the paragraph above, the Market Street campus is being expanded to include the new elementary school. Our original plan was to acquire a 20-acre site centrally located in the district but nothing was available. Therefore, the decision was made to build the new elementary school and the sports/performing arts complex on the old Mead Middle School site. This location will help the district accommodate increases in student enrollment expected because of predicted residential growth in and around the town of Mead now that Costco has moved further north.

On July 25<sup>th</sup> the Mead School District Board of Directors awarded the General Contractor/Construction Manager (GCCM) contract for the Five Mile Middle School to Graham Construction. At this same meeting the General Contractor/Construction Manager (GCCM) contract for the four Market Street Campus Projects was awarded to Garco Construction of Spokane. The selection of these local companies was based on a combination of interview score and cost.

### Design Open Houses

*You're Invited!*

**5-Mile Middle School**  
Tuesday, Sept. 18, 5-7 pm  
Prairie View Elementary  
2606 W. Johannsen Rd.  
Traffic Meeting @ 6:30 pm

**Market Street Projects**  
Thursday, Sept. 20, 5-7 pm  
Northwood Middle School  
12908 N. Pittsburg  
Traffic Meeting @ 6:30 pm



### Boundary Review Planning Committee

In the fall of 2020 the Mead School District will open a new middle school and a new elementary school. This means current elementary, middle and high school boundaries must be reviewed and revised. To address this need, the school board has authorized the formation of a committee to review current school boundaries, study enrollment projections and hold community meetings prior to making a recommendation to the Board of Directors in the spring of 2019.

If you would like to be considered please email [jolene.andres@mead354.org](mailto:jolene.andres@mead354.org).

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

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### 2018-2019 School Calendar

Sept. 4	First Day of School - Grades 1-12
Sept. 7	First Day of School - Kindergarten
Oct. 12	Learning Improvement Day - No School
Oct. 17	Elementary Conferences - Early Release
Oct. 18-19	Elementary Conferences - Non-Student Days
Nov. 12	Veteran's Day - No School
Nov. 22-23	Thanksgiving Break - No School
Dec. 24	Winter Break Begins
Jan. 7	School Resumes
Jan. 21	Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School
Jan. 25	1 <sup>st</sup> Semester Ends - Secondary Early Release
Feb. 1	Elementary School Early Release
Feb. 13	Elementary Conferences - Early Release
Feb. 14-15	Elementary Conferences - Non-Student Days
Feb. 18	President's Day - No School
March 15	Snow Make-Up Day (if needed)
April 1-5	Spring Break
May 27	Memorial Day
June 13	Last Day of School - Early Release

### Welcome to "Our" New School Year A Message from Superintendent Tom Rockefeller



I extend a sincere "welcome" to our returning and new students. The Mead School District Board of Directors, our teachers, administrators and staff are looking forward to another great year. Collectively we are committed to providing an excellent educational opportunity for all of our students.

This year we will continue focusing on improving our learning programs. We are introducing three new curricula this fall and will take this upcoming school year to pilot and study future adoptions.

In addition to working on boundary changes that will be necessary with the opening of two new schools, a primary focus this year will be working on plans to facilitate the transition to the 6-8 grade middle school model in the fall of 2020.

Regarding voter approved construction projects, the Midway renovation is complete and work is well underway on the Shiloh Hills project. The Shiloh Hills renovation will be completed next summer in time for the start of the 19/20 school year. As reported on page 1, we are fast-tracking, before costs escalate, the five major projects approved by voters in February, with an anticipated completion date on or before the start of school in the fall of 2020.

As I do each year, I encourage you to take advantage of the many opportunities available to become involved with our schools. Being a classroom volunteer offers many benefits to both the student and the volunteer. Please plan to attend a music concert or a play, a cross-country meet or a volleyball match. I am confident you will discover connecting with our students and staff very rewarding and enjoyable. A major reason the Mead School District is a well respected, quality public school district is because of the high value the community places on education.

## Fall Craft Fairs

**Mt. Spokane Band Craft Fair**  
 Saturday, October 13, 9 am - 5 pm  
 Sunday, October 14, 11 am - 4 pm

**Mead High Band Craft Fair**  
 Saturday, November 10, 9 am - 5 pm  
 Sunday, November 11, 10 am - 4 pm



## BATTLE OF THE BELL & CAT FIGHT VOLLEYBALL

Mead High vs Mt. Spokane Football Game  
 Friday, October 5 - 7 p.m. - Albi

Beginning Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> tickets may be purchased in advance at any of our schools - \$5 students, \$7 adults.

Mt. Spokane @ Mead High School  
 Thursday, October 4 - 7 p.m.

See two of the state's consistently top teams battle in this annual district classic.