



## “This is Mead” Motivational Video Series

### *Creating a Momentum People Want to be Part Of*

Yes, the Mead School District provides outstanding learning and extra-curricular opportunities for students. But what motivates Mead’s teachers, administrators, school board and involved community members to work hard and do their best for students?

To discover these motives, the district teamed with Ferguson Films on a 13-part video series – *This is Mead*. The videos range in length from 30 seconds to four minutes and are focused on a variety of school programs and activities. Each beautifully captures the passion, dedication and motivation of nearly 30 individuals and highlights many of the things the district has done and is currently doing to make Mead what it is – an excellent school district.

We interviewed Mead personnel and involved residents and asked questions like . . . *How are you connected to the Mead School District? What makes the Mead School District special? What do you want for your students?*

Here are a few of the many inspiring comments. Notice the motivations of Prairie View 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher Rebecca Danica, Northwood science teacher Dave Gamon and Mt. Spokane social studies teacher Luke Thomas.

#### **Rebecca Danica –**

*More than anything I want my students to become people of character. I want them to stand up for each other and look out for each other and have compassion for each other. I think that’s the basis for anything we do in life.*

#### **Dave Gamon –**

*It’s not what you know it’s what you do with what you know and I want them to do something powerful with what they*

*know so they can engage in the world around them and affect change.*

#### **Luke Thomas –**

*I hope at the end of the day that kids will walk with integrity because they saw me walk with integrity. I just want to set them up to be successful.*

We extend our thanks to the many individuals who graciously participated in this project and invite you to watch the entire *This is Mead* playlist posted on the district homepage ([mead354.org](http://mead354.org)) and on our YouTube channel.

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## Mead School District Board of Directors



Ron Farley, Board President  
Director District #4



Carmen Green, Board Vice-President  
Director District #5



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Director District #2



Bob Olson  
Director District #3



Chad Burchard  
Director District #1



# Board of Directors Letter to the Community

In a matter of days the Mead community will have the opportunity to vote on two critical ballot measures. The first is the renewal of our Enrichment Levy. The second is a Capital Facilities Improvement Bond. Both ballot measures are, in our opinion, vitally important to the continuing success of the Mead School District.

Our purpose in writing is to explain: (1) How the proposed levy and bond fit into the district's current and long-range vision. (2) The cost to taxpayers. (3) The Mead community's expected return on this investment.

## Vision . . .

A key function of school boards is to envision the future of a district's educational program. This includes formulating goals, defining outcomes and setting the course for the district.

**TODAY:** Speaking specifically about Mead School District facilities we have identified, based on recommendations from the Facilities Planning Committee, several significant areas of need. Identified projects, which are included in the February 13, 2018, Bond Ballot Measure, include the following Major Projects plus a host of Miscellaneous Projects:

- NEW Middle School (grades 6-8)
- NEW Elementary School (grades K-5)
- NEW Transportation Co-Op Facility
- NEW Maintenance Facility
- TRANSFORMATION of the old Mead Middle School Site into a NEW District Performing Arts & Athletic Venue/Stadium, FUTURE Sports Fields (softball, baseball, soccer) and FUTURE Elementary School Site

**LOOKING FORWARD:** To plan for predicted growth the Mead School District has developed a 25-Year Facilities Plan (posted on our website). Beyond the proposed new middle school and new elementary school, the district anticipates needing five additional elementary schools, a fourth middle school and a third high school in the next 25 years.

**In the past 10 years the Mead School District has grown by 733 students and this year it's grown by 300+ students! And growth over the next 10 years is predicted to be nearly 3,000 students!**

## Cost . . .

With the new way Washington State is funding education if BOTH the bond and levy are approved the amount people pay in school taxes will actually go down.

**LEVY:** The proposed levy renews existing programs for three years (2019, 2020 & 2021). It is not a new tax. The current levy rate is \$4.01. Under the new state school funding formula the renewal levy rate drops to \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

**BOND:** The cost for all proposed bond projects is \$114.5 million. If approved, the total bond tax rate for Mead taxpayers will be \$2.32 per \$1,000 of assessed value - \$1.27 existing bonds plus \$1.05 new bonds.

Current		Proposed	
2 0 1 7	State	2 0 1 9	State
	Bond		Bond
	Levy		Levy
	\$7.28		\$6.64
Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value			

## Investment Return . . .

**PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE:** We are each long-time residents of the Mead School District. Our own children have graduated or will graduate from Mead Schools. We know first hand the outstanding learning and extra-curricular 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 and long-term dividends for the entire community.

# #FutureReadyCenters



Mt. Spokane Counselor Josh Cowart (center) with De'Onte Collins & Caleb Wendle

## *A Choice of Vocation is an Expression of Personality.* John Holland

The Mead School District is piloting a new program this year at Mt. Spokane and Mead High. Our College & Career Centers have been transformed into Future Ready Centers. In addition to a new name each Future Ready Center includes the addition of a full-time counselor. One aspect of the counselor's job is to personally reach out to every member of the senior class before the end of 1<sup>st</sup> semester and engage in a meaningful, one-on-one conversation about post high school plans.

Josh Cowart is the Future Ready Counselor at Mt. Spokane High School. Realizing the importance of each individual pursuing a vocation that fits his or her personality, Josh spends time with each senior asking:

- What are you passionate about?
- What are you doing next?
- What are you good at?
- How can I help you?

De'Onte Collins and Caleb Wendle are both seniors at Mt. Spokane. When asked what he wants to do after high school De'Onte replied, "I don't know." He likes cars, drawing and architecture, and is interested in mechanical engineering, but had no idea how to pursue those interests. Mr. Cowart helped facilitate a path for De'Onte to follow. De'Onte has applied to and been accepted into an SFCC mechanical engineering program and has completed the financial aid paperwork to make this happen. "Josh didn't just meet with me, he followed up and helped me develop a plan for next year. Josh is easy to talk with and makes you feel welcome. He is one of those guys who won't judge you about what you want to be."

Caleb Wendle is interested in becoming a firefighter. Not personally knowing what is required to become a firefighter, Josh arranged a visit to Fire Station 92 where Caleb and other interested students had the opportunity to watch firefighters in action and ask questions. With Josh's help Caleb now has a solid strategy in place to pursue his dream of becoming a firefighter. "It feels good to have a plan for next year and I know if I apply myself to this plan I will be okay."

Talking about the focus of our new Future Ready Centers Josh explains, "The Mead School District has excellent graduation rates but our high schools and counselors don't just want kids to graduate. We want to prepare them to transition to the next step with a solid plan that fits each individual's talents, gifts and passions. We don't want kids to leave us without a plan. We do not help students launch if we have not helped them plan for what's next."

## NEW Command Center Bus



The Mead School District recently purchased a used short bus that has been transformed into an emergency Command Center Bus.

While we hope to never be in a situation where we need to use this Command Center Bus, it is available and equipped with Internet access and other items that will enhance district response effectiveness in an emergency. The bus is not intended to transport students but is designed to serve as a mobile headquarters for members of the district's Emergency Response Team.



**2018-2019  
Registration  
Opens  
March 1, 2018**

Elementary schools will begin accepting kindergarten and new student registrations for the upcoming 2018-2019 school year beginning March 1, 2018.

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

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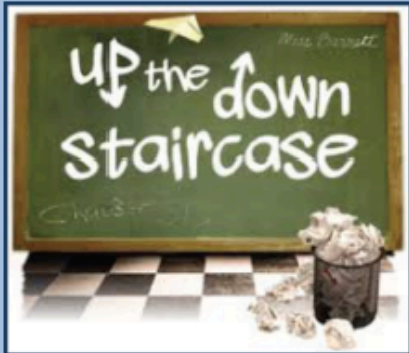
Questions or concerns?  
509-465-6014  
[www.mead354.org](http://www.mead354.org)

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: Jared Hoadley, Executive Director of Student Services and Activities - 509-465-6008 or [jared.hoadley@mead354.org](mailto:jared.hoadley@mead354.org).

ECR WSS  
Postal Customer

## Mead School District Upcoming Drama Productions

Mead High School Theatre Arts  
Department Proudly Presents



February 21, 22, 23, 28 & March 1, 2  
Mead HS Theatre @ 7 pm  
\$8 adults; \$6 seniors/students

# SAVE THE DATE

Mt. Spokane High School  
Theatre Arts Department  
Spring Musical Production

April 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21  
Mt. Spokane HS Theatre @ 7 pm  
\$10 adults; \$7 seniors/students

### Community Investment A Message from Superintendent Tom Rockefeller



As taxpayers we all seek top value for our investment in the community. I am thankful the Mead community acknowledges the value provided by the Mead School District and has a long history of positive support for our learning programs and school facilities. Mead is known statewide as a school district that is highly effective in student achievement while maintaining financial efficiency. I firmly believe a strong school district is an important component of a healthy, robust community!

I invite you to read the *Board of Directors Letter to the Community* located on page 2 of this publication. It exemplifies a continued focus on quality learning, effective teaching and productive achievement for our students. As a growing district, with over 300 new students this year alone, the Board and administration are keenly focused on today's work, as well as the needs and challenges of tomorrow.

One example of future planning was the hiring of Davis Demographics last year to perform a professional demographics study. This report correctly predicted an increase of 300+ students this year and credibly projects an increase of nearly 3,000 students in the next ten years. To address this expected growth the district is asking voters to consider a Facilities Improvement Bond that will build a new middle school and new elementary school providing 65 new classrooms.

Thank you for supporting the Mead School District. Teachers, staff and administrators work very hard to provide all of our students with a quality learning experience. I personally encourage you to vote in the upcoming February 13, 2018, special election. If you have questions regarding our Bond and Levy ballot measures please feel free to call my office - 509.465.6014 or visit [mead354.org](http://mead354.org).

## Elementary Parent Teacher Conferences

### February 14-16

(Half Day Feb. 14 . . . No School Feb. 15 & 16)

Brentwood, Colbert, Evergreen, Farwell, Midway,  
Meadow Ridge, Prairie View & Shiloh Hills

**YOUR  
Voter  
Pull-Out  
Guide**

**Mead School District  
February 13, 2018  
Two Ballot Measures**



*Renewal*

**Enrichment Levy**

*Levies are for Learning!*

**Facilities Bond**

*Bonds are for Buildings!*

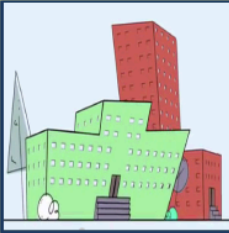
**Your Ballot Arrives  
January 26**

**Vote By  
February 13**

# BOND PROJECTS

The proposed \$114.5 million BOND will fund the following projects and will cost the average homeowner \$19.25 per month (\$220,000 assessed value).

## Flagship Projects



**NEW Middle School** (grades 6-8) – Built on property the district owns on Five Mile Prairie.

**NEW Elementary School** (grades Kindergarten-5) – Location to be determined.

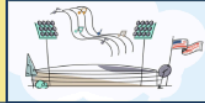
**ADDRESSING** predicted growth of nearly 3,000 students in the next 10 years and **CREATING** 65 additional classrooms.



**NEW Transportation Department Co-Op & NEW Maintenance Facility** – Both built on property the Mead School District owns on Market across the street from the old Mead Middle School Site.



**TRANSFORMATION** of the old Mead Middle School Site into a **NEW District Performing Arts & Athletic Venue**, **FUTURE Sports Fields** (softball, baseball, soccer) and **FUTURE Elementary School Site** – This outdoor, 4,500 seat stadium will serve as the location for Mt. Spokane and Mead High home football games and soccer matches **PLUS** provide our marching band programs with performance and practice facilities.



## PLUS a Host of Miscellaneous Projects

For Additional Information Visit . . . [mead354.org](http://mead354.org)

## Renewal Enrichment Levy

*Levies are for Learning!*



### What it Funds

- athletics
- drama
- clubs
- music
- debate
- STEM



## How Much Will the Bond & Levy Cost?

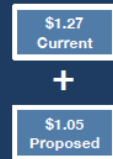
that's cool

With the new way Washington State is funding education if BOTH the bond & levy are approved the amount people pay in school taxes will actually go down. That's cool . . . Mead gets new schools and folks see a smaller tax bill.

### Enrichment Levy



### Facilities Bond



Current		Proposed	
2	State	2	State
0	Bond	0	Bond
1	Levy	1	Levy
7		9	
\$7.28		\$8.64	

Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value

**Your ballot arrives January 26!**

**Vote By February 13**

## **Bond & Levy Community Information Meetings**

- **January 24, 6:30 pm**  
Farwell Elementary, 13005 N. Crestline
- **January 31, 6:30 pm**  
Northwood Middle School, 13120 N. Pittsburg

### **Who Funds Us**

- 81% State Government
- 13% Local Taxes
- 6% Federal Government

### **Where the Budget Goes**

- 70% Teaching
- 8% Maintenance
- 6% Building Administration
- 5% Transportation
- 5% Central Administration
- 3% Food Services
- 3% Other



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Superintendent  
Tom Rockefeller

**For Additional Information Visit:  
[www.mead354.org](http://www.mead354.org)**