

# MEAD

# MATTERS

November 2017



## Animator Mitch Davis – Mead High Class of 06’

*It's been a great experience to come full circle and work with Mead on a professional level.*

On February 13, 2018, the Mead School District will be asking voters to consider a Facilities Improvement Bond that will build a new elementary school, new middle school, new transportation co-op, new maintenance facility and transform the old Mead Middle School site into a new district performing arts and athletic venue, future sports fields and future elementary school site.

Understanding the importance of social media in sharing information (research shows 60% of people get their news from Facebook), the district asked Mitch Davis Media to create a short, animated video that explains the upcoming bond and facility needs of the Mead School District. What the district didn't know about Mitch Davis when they hired him is that he is one of ours.

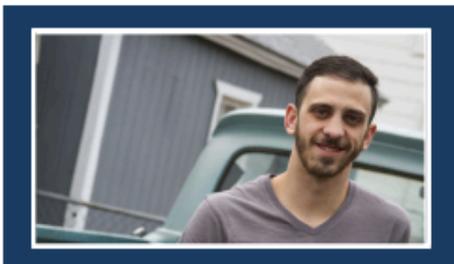
Mitch graduated from Mead High in '06 where he was introduced to graphic design in an art class. After high school he studied design for three years before joining Seven2 Interactive as a member of their animation team. Mitch Davis Media was founded in 2014.

Mitch, an outstanding artist and animator, took our script and breathed life into Wally, a fictional elementary school student. Wally calls attention to a moving truck bringing another family to the Mead School District. Wally explains, "It's a tradition to settle down here. My grandparents attended Mead schools and so did their kids. And my family moved back to Mead from California just last year." Wally reports the predicted growth of nearly 3,000 students in the next ten years and shares how the district plans to address this growth.

Wally highlights Mead's great track record stating, "With their last bond the district completed all promised projects

on or under budget. That's why people love the Mead School District – they don't let you down." Wally concludes the video by reminding voters, "With the new way Washington State is funding education, if BOTH the bond and levy are approved the amount my parents pay in school taxes will actually go down. That's cool . . . Mead gets new schools and my folks see a smaller tax bill."

Reflecting on this project Mitch shared, "It's been a great experience to come full circle and work with Mead on a professional level." To watch this fun, creative animation visit [mead354.org](http://mead354.org).



**For Information on the February 13, 2018  
Bond & Levy Ballot Measures Visit [mead354.org](http://mead354.org)**

**Mead High  
Slow Pitch Softball  
State Champions**



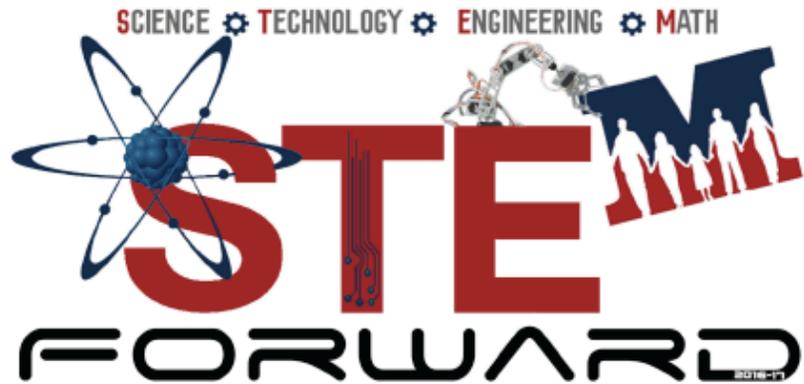
Congratulations to the Mead High Slow Pitch Softball Team and coaches Tiffany Casedy and Matt Melka on capturing the first ever Slow Pitch Softball State Championship. The Panthers defeated Central Valley in the title game 10-0.

**Bus Drivers Help  
Homeless Students**



Earlier this month Mead School District bus drivers gathered following their morning routes to present a \$500 check to our Student Services Coordinator Kelly Schultz who oversees a federally mandated assistance program serving homeless students. This donation will be used to purchase emergency winter clothing items such as boots, coats, hats and gloves.

**Six Upcoming STEM Events**



**Envision Your Future in STEM**

- **Event #1: Medical Mystery Night** (grades 5-8)  
Friday, December 1 @ WSU Spokane Health Sciences, 6-8 pm
- **Event #2: Mead STEM Night**  
Wednesday, January 17 @ Mead High School, 5:15-8 pm  
Featured Speaker: Brightworks Founder Gever Tully
- **Event #3: Mead Bridge Building Competition** (grades 3-12)  
Saturday, February 10 @ Mt. Spokane High School, Finals: 11 am
- **Event #4: Mead Tinker Faire** (grades 7-8)  
Thursday, February 15 @ Riverpoint Academy, 6-8 pm
- **Event #5: Mead Robotics Competition** (grades 7-12)  
Saturday, February 24 @ Mt. Spokane High School, Finals: 12:30 pm
- **Event #6: STEMplosion** (grades 7-12)  
Friday, March 16 @ Whitworth University, 6-8 pm

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

**February 2018 Bond & Levy  
Community Information Meetings**



**Wednesday, January 24  
6:30 pm**

**Farwell Elementary  
13005 N. Crestline**

**Wednesday, January 31  
6:30 pm**

**Northwood Middle School  
13120 N. Pittsburg**

# Northwood & Midway Construction Update



Northwood 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Heat Recovery Room



Northwood Teacher Work Room



Northwood Boiler Room

## NEW Northwood & Midway Renovation Phase III Scheduled for Completion January 2, 2018

Barring unforeseen construction delays, we are pleased to report the New Northwood and third phase of the Midway renovation (North and East wings) will be ready for occupancy following Winter Break. Construction workers at both sites are working very hard – in some cases seven days a week - to meet a January 2 occupancy date.

At Northwood cabinetry is being installed throughout the building and work continues on the building's technology infrastructure. The Northwood building design incorporates the following state-of-the-art energy saving features:

- LED lights throughout the entire building and site.
- High efficiency condensing boilers and Dedicated Outside Air System (DOAS) that includes full heat and cooling recovery.
- Occupancy Sensors in all classrooms that automatically turn off lights after 15 minutes of no motion or sound.
- Light Sensors that actually dim and brighten classroom lights depending on the amount of natural light available.

The newly remodeled Midway gym was completed on November 6. The East wing (nine classrooms) and the North wing (kitchen, music room and new multi-purpose room) are scheduled for occupancy on January 2. Phase IV, scheduled for completion in April, will begin after Winter Break and includes the South wing consisting of nine classrooms, main entry and administration offices.



Midway Elementary New Gym Floor



Midway Elementary New Multi-Purpose Room



13120 N. Pittsburgh, Spokane, WA 99208

## NEW NORTHWOOD

### Community Open House & Dedication Ceremony

Saturday, January 20

10 am – 12:30 pm

Dedication Ceremony 10:30 am

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

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To address predicted growth of nearly 3,000 students in the next ten years, the February 2018 Facilities Improvement Bond includes a NEW Middle School and a NEW Elementary School.

These two new buildings will provide 65 additional classrooms.



For a Complete Listing of  
 Holiday Choir, Band &  
 Orchestra Concerts  
 Visit [mead354.org](http://mead354.org)

*New State School Funding Formula*  
 A Message from  
 Superintendent Tom Rockefeller



The Mead School District will be asking voters to consider two ballot measures in February – the renewal of our local Enrichment Levy and a Facilities Improvement Bond. With the new way Washington State is funding education, if both the bond and levy are approved Mead patrons will actually pay less in school taxes than they are currently paying. Let me briefly explain how that is possible.

In June of 2017 the Washington State Legislature, responding to a directive from the state supreme court, restructured how public education is funded. For years the state provided the Mead School District with approximately 72% of its budget and the Mead community, by approving school levies, has covered 22%. Beginning in 2018 (transition year) and continuing into 2019 (the first collection year of our renewal Enrichment Levy) the percentages change. In 2019 the state will provide 81% and our local levy will cover 13%. Federal funds provide the remaining 6%.

To help generate the revenue needed to expand the funds provided by the state, the legislature approved an increase in the state school property tax. Mead School District property owners currently pay a state school tax of \$2.00 per \$1,000 of assessed value. That is projected to increase to \$2.82. To offset the increase, beginning in 2019, the legislature reduced the amount all school districts can ask local voters to approve via levies to \$1.50. The levy Mead voters approved in February 2015 for collection in 2016, 2017 & 2018 has a rate of \$4.01. The proposed renewal Enrichment Levy rate for 2019, 2020 & 2021 is \$1.50 ... a reduction of \$2.51.

The following table shows the current (2017) and proposed (2019) school tax rates (levy, bond & state). It also shows the projected rate for 2018. Note: 2017 and 2018 levy and bond rates are identical - Mead voters approved both in February 2015. If approved on February 13, 2018, the new levy rate of \$1.50 and bond rate of \$2.32 will start in the 2019 calendar year.

	Current 2017	2018	Proposed 2019
Levy	\$4.01	\$4.01	\$1.50
Bond	\$1.27	\$1.27	\$2.32
State	\$2.00	\$2.82	\$2.82
Total	\$7.28	\$8.10	\$6.64

In closing, I want to express my thanks and appreciation to the Mead community for its support of our schools. I am a strong advocate of public education and believe the learning programs, co-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities available to Mead students are second to none. As always, if you have questions or concerns please feel free to contact my office.