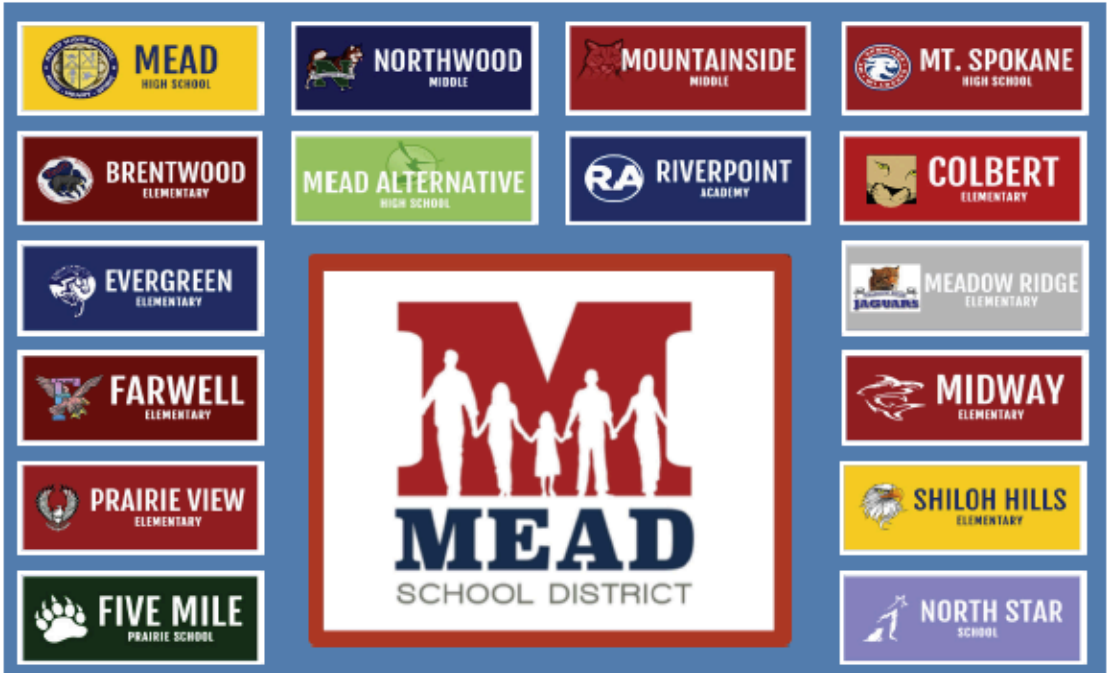


MEAD

MATTERS

August 2017



Welcome to the 2017-2018 School Year

Sixteen Schools Set to Welcome 10,000+ Students

On Tuesday, September 5, we will open our doors for the 2017-2018 school year and welcome more than 10,000 students. We ended last year with an enrollment of 10,009 students. Demographic indicators point to the strong possibility of an increase of 200-300 students this year based on single and multi-family home construction taking place in north Spokane. 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 year include:

New Curriculum

Following a year of study, including piloting of materials, the school board

has approved and the district has purchased new English Language Arts curriculum for students in grades 9-12, a new high school chemistry text and STEMscopes as the science curriculum for our K-6 grade students. These three course adoptions represent a \$920,000 investment in innovative teaching materials, professional development and technology resources that will positively impact student learning.

All-Day Kindergarten District Wide

Kindergarten will be an all-day program at all district elementary schools this year. The first day for our kindergarteners is Friday, September 8. September 5-7 are set aside by the state for teachers to meet for 30 minutes, one-on-one, with students and their parents. This early family connection opportunity is very important in helping build a strong education partnership between school and home.

Inclement Weather 2-Hour Late Start

With the implementation of all-day kindergarten throughout the district we are now able to add the option of a two-hour late start, rather than always cancelling school for the entire day in bad weather situations. A two-hour late start is a day that does not need to be made up. Additional information on delays and closures is available on district and school websites.

Again, welcome to the 2017-2018 school year. We thank the Mead community for its ongoing support.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

STEM Academy Recap	2
Construction Update	3
Superintendent's Message	4



First Day of School Grades 1-12: Tuesday, September 5
First Day of School Kindergarten: Friday, September 8

Mead Welcomes New Administrators



Josh VanCleaf, Ray Picicci, Alicia Eckman,
Gregg Hare & Chris Backman

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

Josh VanCleaf – Evergreen Elementary Principal Assistant. Mr. VanCleaf joined the Mead SD in the fall of 2015 as a LAP teacher at Evergreen.

Ray Picicci – Mead High Principal Assistant. Mr. Picicci, a Mead High graduate, was the Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction at Cheney High School for the past ten years.

Alicia Eckman – Prairie View (.6) & Meadow Ridge (.4) Principal Assistant. Ms. Eckman also joined the Mead SD in the fall of 2015. For the past two years she has taught 5th grade at Prairie View.

Gregg Hare – Mountainside Principal. Mr. Hare replaces Craig Busch who retired following a 37-year career with the Mead SD. For the past two years Mr. Hare was an administrator at Cheney High School.

Chris Backman – Meadow Ridge Principal. Replacing Shawn Worstell who retired, Mr. Backman comes to Mead from University Place School District on the west side of the state where he was the principal at Evergreen Primary School for the past four years.

Fall Craft Fairs

Mt. Spokane Band Craft Fair

October 14, 9 am – 5 pm
October 15, 11 am – 4 pm

Mead HS Band Craft Fair

November 11, 9 am – 5 pm
November 12, 10 am – 4 pm



Summer Academy Recap

“Camp was constantly interesting.”
“There was never a dull moment!”

During the last three weeks in July, 240 Mead School District students participated in our annual STEM Academy at Shiloh Hills Elementary where they explored a variety of STEM related topics. Offerings included: Space Camp, Tinkering Camp, Makers & Machines, Coding & Gaming, River Camp, CSI Forensics and The Operating Room.

100% of parents who completed the exit survey responded “YES” when asked if the camp made learning fun. Kids and parents loved the “interactive and positive environment.” Several parents said their child came home every day excited about what they learned AND wanted to talk about it! Thanks to Camp Director Dave Gamon and the entire STEM Academy staff for providing this exceptional learning opportunity for Mead students.

Throughout the upcoming school year the Mead School District will once again sponsor STEM Forward events including our annual STEM Night on January 17. When finalized, event specifics will be shared online and in upcoming newsletters.



Mead & Mt. Spokane High Schools Pilot Bite2Go XL Program

1 out of 4 Local Children Struggles with Hunger

For several years the Bite2Go program, in partnership with local churches, businesses and community groups, has provided weekend meals for needy students in our elementary schools. This past year the Mead High and Mt. Spokane communities, wanting to support vulnerable students at the high school level, piloted the Bite2GoXL program. Building on last year’s success, the hope is to increase the number of high school students served this year. To learn more or make an on-line donation please visit the At the Core website (www.lifeatthecore.org).

Northwood & Midway Elementary

**WORK
IN PROGRESS**



New Northwood East View
Polished Concrete Floor



Midway
Ground Breaking
Ceremony

Midway & Northwood Construction News

The Midway modernization project is underway. A Ground Breaking Ceremony was hosted by Principal Josh Westermann on June 2nd and attended by the entire student body wearing yellow construction hats. Superintendent Tom Rockefeller and the Mead School District Board of Directors also participated. Temporary walls separating the construction zone from the rest of the school are in place, demolition of the north and east wings is finished and construction on the new multi-purpose room is underway. The Midway renovation will be completed over the course of 15 months in phases. The building has been divided into three sections and will be remodeled one section at a time. Displaced students will be housed in portable classrooms located on site.

Work on the new Northwood is progressing very quickly. On any given day you will find 100-150 workers on site. The project is on schedule with students projected to be in the new building by January. If traveling on Farwell Road is not part of your regular routine we invite you to take a detour and check out the exterior of the building. The two-story design is not only extremely functional but also blends beautifully with the current Northwood building and Farwell Elementary School located on the same campus.

Each classroom will enjoy natural light via large windows. The new school will have long lasting and easy to maintain polished concrete floors instead of carpet or tile in hallways and the commons/cafeteria.



Single Points of Entry @ Six Locations

The construction of single points of entry at Mt. Spokane, Mead High, Farwell, Meadow Ridge, Colbert and Mountainside were completed over the summer. Evergreen and Brentwood were upgraded last year. This safety upgrade was approved by voters as part of the February 2015 Bond. The new Northwood includes a single point of entry and renovation plans at Midway and Shiloh Hills incorporate this security measure.

More Summer Projects



Here is a very small sampling of additional projects scheduled and completed this past summer by our maintenance department. It's amazing what these dedicated professionals have accomplished in just 64 summer work days!

- **PAVING and ASPHALT REPAIR** at Evergreen, Brentwood and Mt. Spokane.
- **FIELD REJUVINATION** . . . 2,000 lbs. of grass seed PLUS 820,000 lbs. of top dressing - like what golf courses use - applied to 15 separate playing fields at Mead High, Mt. Spokane, Mountainside and Northwood.

Do you know the Mead School District maintains 420 acres of playing fields that are available, free of charge, to north Spokane youth sports programs?

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

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.

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2017-2018
 School Calendar

Sept. 5	First Day of School - Grades 1-12
Sept. 8	First Day of School - Kindergarten
Oct. 13	Learning Improvement Day - No School
Oct. 18	Elementary Conferences - Early Release
Oct. 19-20	Elementary Conferences - Non-Student Days
Nov. 10	Veteran's Day - No School
Nov. 23-24	Thanksgiving Break - No School
Dec. 21	Winter Break Begins
Jan. 2	School Resumes
Jan. 15	Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School
Jan. 26	1 st Semester Ends - Secondary Early Release
Feb. 2	Elementary School Early Release
Feb. 14	Elementary Conferences - Early Release
Feb. 15-16	Elementary Conferences - Non-Student Days
Feb. 19	President's Day - No School
March 16	Snow Make-Up Day (if needed)
April 2-6	Spring Break
May 25	Snow Make-Up Day (if needed)
May 28	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.

As this year progresses we will be providing information on recent legislation particularly related to how the state funds education and what these fiscal changes mean for us locally. In the next few years we will see a reduction in our local school taxes as rates are equalized across the state. This will mean a decrease in school taxes for most school districts, including ours, down the road.

Regarding voter approved construction projects, we are well underway rebuilding Northwood and modernizing Midway. The Shiloh Hills remodel will begin this coming spring.

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.



Mead School District
 7th Annual
 "Show & Shine"
 Car Show

Saturday, September 9, 2017
 9 am - 1 pm
 Mt. Spokane High School



BATTLE OF THE BELL & CATMANIA VOLLEYBALL

Mead High vs Mt. Spokane Football Game
 Friday, October 6 - 7:30 p.m. - Albi

Beginning Sept. 11th tickets may be purchased in advance at any of our schools - \$5 students, \$7 adults.

Mead High @ Mt. Spokane High School
 Thursday, October 5 - 7 p.m.

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