



## New Northwood Groundbreaking Ceremony

### Students, Staff & Community Gather to Celebrate

On Tuesday, March 22, the groundbreaking ceremony for the “new” Northwood Middle School took place in the current Northwood gym before a capacity crowd that included the Mead School District Board of Directors, the entire Northwood student body and staff, as well as invited guests from Garco Construction, ALSC Architects and OAC, the project management company overseeing the Northwood replacement project.

The event was hosted by Northwood Principal Dave Stenersen and included 8<sup>th</sup> grader Kaitlyn Ward singing the

National Anthem, remarks from Superintendent Tom Rockefeller and Board President Ron Farley, special music performed by the Northwood band, plus comments from teacher Dave Barnes who has been on staff at Northwood since 1978.

For their help in passing the February 2015 Facilities Improvement Bond, special thanks were extended to Chad Burchard, Kevin Bacon and Martin Kolodrub who co-chaired the Citizen’s Advisory Committee. Mr. Stenersen also acknowledged and thanked former Northwood principals John Keith and Joanne Rehberg who were both in attendance to celebrate the start of construction on the new facility.

A link to the Northwood Design Development Report is posted on the district’s homepage ([mead354.org](http://mead354.org)). This design is the result of one year of planning involving ALSC, OAC, Garco Construction, district personnel and the Northwood staff, plus two design Open Houses where the community was invited to provide input.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Celebrating the Class of 2016	2
Community Block Party	3
Summer Programs	4



Retired Northwood Principal John Keith



Retired Northwood Principal Joanne Rehberg



**2015**  
**Washington**  
**Achievement**  
**Award Winner**

Congratulations to the students and staff of Brentwood Elementary and Mountainside Middle School. Both schools have earned a 2015 Washington Achievement Award in the "High Progress" category.

They are two out of 27 schools located in our local ESD 101 region to be honored. Statewide 258 schools earned this award based on last spring's state assessment scores.



**Five Mile**  
**Prairie Earns**  
**Bronze**  
**Rating**

U.S. News & World Report has released their 2016 rankings of the Nation's Best High Schools and Five Mile Prairie (Mead's parent partnership program), for the second consecutive year, has earned a Bronze Medal.



Congratulations to Mt. Spokane High School students, teachers and staff. Once again they have been named one of America's most challenging high schools in Washington State by the Washington Post. (Mt. Spokane also made the Washington Post list last year.)

## Celebrating the Class of 2016



Congratulations and best wishes to the Mead School District Class of 2016! Starting June 7<sup>th</sup> with the North Star commencement exercises and ending on June 11<sup>th</sup> with the Riverpoint Academy graduation, more than 900 Mead School District seniors will graduate from one of our six secondary learning programs. The public is invited to join us at the following celebrations:

- June 7 – Northstar - 6 pm (14617 N. Newport Highway)
- June 9 – Five Mile Prairie - 5:30 pm (Mead High Theatre)
- June 9 – M.E.A.D. - 7 pm (Mead High Theatre)
- June 10 – Mt. Spokane - 5 pm (GU – McCarthy Athletic Center)
- June 10 – Mead High - 8 pm (GU – McCarthy Athletic Center)
- June 11 – Riverpoint Academy - 11 am (Whitworth – Cowles Auditorium)

### Class of 2016 Valedictorians (4.0 GPA)

#### Mead High School

Marco Ammatelli	Jacob Jones
James Baird	Jason Kissinger
Angela Basinger	Kevin Kissinger
Blaine Beeman	Keely Liles
Thomas Beeson	Andrew Markley
Heidi Bonkemeyer	Grant Miller
Samantha Briehner	Maya Newman
Olivia Delger	Lucas Parker
Kaitlyn Engen	Alexandrea Peterson
Haley Erni	Daniel Roberts
Megan Fraser	Julia Roth
Michael Galeotti	Evan Sanford
Laurel Gilliam	Analisa Schmidt
James Greiner	Tyler Wetzal
Sydney Hellman	Koby Wilburn
Tristan Hildahl	Rachael Zeiger
Katherine Hoch	

#### Mt. Spokane High School

Kaylen Carlson	Andrew Hoover
Michael Cooper	David Hsu
Victoria Dart	Rachel Liljenquist
Sarah Forester	Isabel Madill
Rylee Goff	Ileisa Oleson
Kathryn Grossmann	Madaleine Osmun
Nicolle Hamm	Sarah Parada
Emily Hanson	Rachel Pilgeram
Tony Hazel	Devin Savage
Alec Hoover	Bethany Walton

#### Five Mile Prairie School

Yelizaveta (Liza) Skoromnaya

#### Riverpoint Academy

Rianne Ellingwood	Ashley Sanders
Annette Larson	Dylan Stout
Liam Maddox	



## Celebrate STEM+ Education

**Tuesday, May 24, 2016**  
**Mead High School, 6-9 pm**

Parents, students and community members are invited to come learn about the unique STEM+ education opportunities taking place in the Mead School District. Students, teachers and business community members will showcase their innovative work in the areas of Biomedical Science, Engineering and Entrepreneurship.

# Mt. Spokane Community



Betra Anok (front) & Koloyyna Aikau

## 2,000+ Students, Parents, Grandparents & Community Members Attended

To celebrate and bring together the entire Mt. Spokane High School community (Colbert, Meadow Ridge, Midway, Shiloh Hills and Mountainside), Mt. Spokane hosted a self-styled Block Party on the evening of May 4. Reflecting on the event, Principal Darren Nelson said, "Thank you hardly seems adequate when thinking about expressing my gratitude for the incredible community gathering that took place. While expectations for our first Block Party were few, the number of families who came to celebrate our community spoke volumes."

Those who attended enjoyed a free spaghetti dinner served by administrators from Mt. Spokane feeder schools and organized by Kim Elkins, Director of Nutrition Services. Other activities included a dunk tank, face painting, a dance routine performed by students from the Marshallese Islands and music in the Courtyard courtesy of the Mt. Spokane Pep Band. Student work from all schools was on display in the gym.



## Thank You Director O'Connor

Maureen O'Connor, who has served on the Mead School District Board of Directors since 2005 representing Director District #1, resigned her position effective March 31, 2016. In her tenure on the board, Director O'Connor was a very strong advocate for Mead students. We extend district-wide thanks to Director O'Connor for her integrity, strong leadership and commitment to education.

The opening created by this resignation has been advertised and four individuals have expressed interest in filling the vacancy. The Board will interview the candidates and appoint a replacement before the end of June to serve until the next school board election (November 2017).



New for  
the 2016-2017  
School Year



English Language Arts  
Curriculum Adoption  
Grades 5-8

For the past year, a committee comprised of classroom teachers and administrators has been reviewing and piloting new reading curriculum for students in grades 5-8. This process included an Open House where the community was able to examine the recommended materials.

The School Board, on May 9, approved the adoption of the recommended curriculum for grades 5-8. New reading materials were adopted for grades K-4 within the past few years.



Brentwood will join Shiloh Hills and Evergreen as Mead School District elementary schools receiving federal Title dollars next year. Shiloh Hills and Evergreen already offer all-day kindergarten. Adding all-day kindergarten at Brentwood will provide consistency at all district Title schools. Title monies are used to provide extra support to students in reading, writing and math.



Prairie View 6<sup>th</sup>  
Graders Housed  
at Northwood



Next year, Prairie View 6<sup>th</sup> graders will be housed in unused portable classrooms located on the Northwood Middle School campus. Before making this decision, the district conducted a thorough feasibility study and hosted two parent meetings.

This move creates space at Prairie View for approximately 100 students and will significantly reduce and/or eliminate the need to shuttle overflow 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders to other district elementary schools next year. It additionally provides the opportunity to initiate, with a small number of students, the transition to a 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade middle school model, which the district hopes to move to over the next five years.

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

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Spokane, WA  
Permit No. 622



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



Engage - Enrich - Inspire

Open to Current  
5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

Session 1 - July 11-14

Session 2 - July 18-21

Session 3 - July 25-28

To Learn More Visit [www.mead354.org](http://www.mead354.org)

## Summer Sports Camps



To Learn More Visit [www.mead354.org](http://www.mead354.org)

## Looking Toward Summer A Message from Superintendent Tom Rockefeller



Spring and summer are critical times in the growth and development of students. They are finishing one year of learning in preparation for the upcoming school year. Although summer is a time for relaxation and renewal, it is also important students continue to use their learned skills and knowledge. Here are some practical strategies for parents and students as we move toward summer:

- **Promote Literacy.** Visit your local library or bookstore. Take time to read together or set aside regular personal reading time. Help students set a summer reading goal or suggest they research a topic that interests them.
- **Promote STEM Learning.** Many school districts offer STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) related summer camps and learning activities. Check out the STEM Camp Mead is offering this summer or search local web sites for information on other STEM opportunities.
- **Promote the Arts.** Look into participating in both visual and performing arts activities. Investigate art and music camps to enhance student interests and skills. Plan to attend summer concerts or visit museums.
- **Promote Health, Fitness & Athletics.** It is extremely important that children of all ages are physically active. Both Mead High and Mt. Spokane offer summer camps in a variety of sports. Take the time to go hiking, swimming and biking. Our region offers a wide range of outdoor activities.

As we near the conclusion of this school year, I wish each of you a relaxing and enjoyable summer. Remember to keep your children involved by promoting ongoing learning and physical activity.



KID'S  
KITCHEN



## Culinary Arts Camp

July 18-22, 2016  
Mt. Spokane High School  
9 am - 1 pm

Current 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Boys & Girls

Cost & Registration Info  
[www.mead354.org](http://www.mead354.org)



Summer  
School  
2016

June 20 - July 22 @ Mead High

Credit retrieval classes in English, history, science and math, as well as a number of enrichment courses, will be offered.

To Learn More Visit [www.mead354.org](http://www.mead354.org)