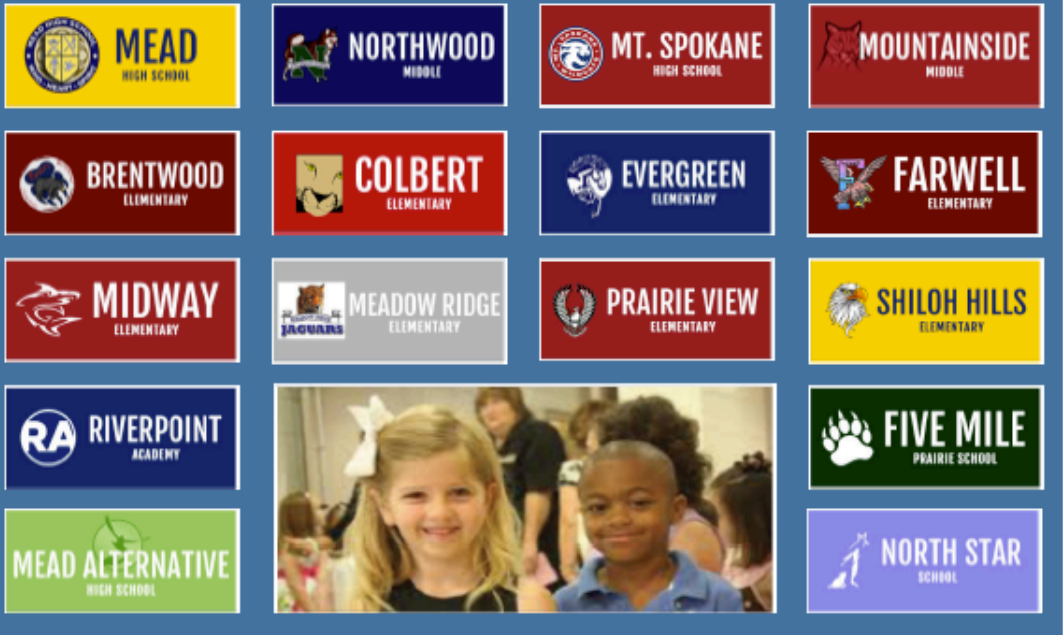


# MEAD

# MATTERS

September 2015



## Welcome to the 2015-2016 School Year

### Sixteen Schools Welcome 10,000 Students

On Tuesday, September 8, we welcomed nearly 10,000 students to our sixteen schools. 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.

#### All Day Kindergarten Expanded

This year we are excited to announce Evergreen Elementary has joined Shiloh Hills in offering all-day kindergarten.

#### Student Learning and Technology

We are implementing a new universal screener, *FAST*, to assess

student reading at our elementary schools. This screener will provide teachers with critical information to help improve fluency, comprehension and overall reading ability. Additionally, for all grade levels (K-12), a new data dashboard, *Illuminate*, is now available. The mission of *Illuminate* is to provide teachers with easy access to student data. We are excited to see the positive impact this new technology resource will have on student achievement.

#### Smarter Balanced Assessments

Last spring Mead School District students, for the first time, took the new *Smarter Balanced* tests in English Language Arts and Math. Our students,

grades 3-8, performed very well on these assessments, surpassing the state average by several percentage points at all grade levels. (State results available @ k12.wa.us.)

We very much appreciate the ongoing support of Mead patrons. You help position our students for success now and in the future. Thank you!

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

New Administrators	2
Summer Bond Projects	3
Kudos to District Mechanics	4



## BATTLE OF THE BELL

Mead vs Mt. Spokane Football Game  
Friday, October 9 – 7:30 p.m. - Albi

Beginning Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> tickets may be purchased in advance at any of our schools - \$5 students, \$7 adults.

## CATMANIA VOLLEYBALL

Mead @ Mt. Spokane High School  
Thursday, October 8 – 7 p.m.

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

## New Maintenance & Transportation Directors



Welcome to Travis Bown (L), our new Maintenance Director, and Brian Liberg (R) our new Director of Transportation.

Mr. Bown comes to us from Spokane Schools where he was a maintenance supervisor. Mr. Liberg was the transportation director for the West Valley School District before joining the Mead School District.



School Board Members  
Cammen Green & Bob Olson

## District Welcome Back Day 2015

Each year prior to the start of school the Mead School District holds a *Welcome Back Day* for all staff. This year's event took place at Mt. Spokane High School on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. The morning included a large group gathering that featured a very entertaining performance by the Mt. Spokane Marching Band. Teachers also had the opportunity to gather for grade level and content specific training.

## Equestrian Team

Mead students are invited to join the Mt. Spokane Equestrian Team affiliated with the Washington High School Equestrian Program. The Mt. Spokane team was started in 2009. To learn more contact Billie Malcolm - 220-2775.

## Fall Craft Fairs

### Mt. Spokane Band Craft Fair

October 10, 9 am – 5 pm  
October 11, 11 am – 4 pm

### Mead HS Band Craft Fair

November 14, 9 am – 5 pm  
November 15, 10 am – 4 pm

## Mead Welcomes New Administrators



Top left to right: Nick Edwards, Jeff Naslund & Josh Westermann  
Bottom left to right: Kathy Williams, Irene Gonzales & Teresa Laher  
Not Pictured: Coretta Hoffman & Juli Kistler

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

- **Teresa Laher – Principal, Mead High School**  
Ms. Laher comes to the Mead School District from Lind-Ritzville where she was the high school principal.
- **Dr. Irene Gonzales – Principal, Prairie View Elementary**  
For the past twelve years Dr. Gonzales has been with Spokane Schools working as a principal and teaching/learning executive director.
- **Josh Westermann – Principal, Midway Elementary**  
Mr. Westermann also comes to Mead from Spokane Schools. Last year he was an elementary principal assistant at Indian Trail and Westview.
- **Jeff Naslund – Assistant Principal, Mead High School**  
A graduate of Mead High School and Whitworth University, Jeff comes to Mead High School from Mt. Spokane High School where he taught social studies and math for nine years.
- **Nick Edwards – Principal Assistant, Shiloh Hills Elementary**  
Mr. Edwards, also a Mead High School and Whitworth graduate, comes from Spokane Schools where he was an elementary principal assistant at Regal Elementary.
- **Kathy Williams – Principal Assistant, Farwell & Prairie View**  
Ms. Williams is a veteran administrator. Before separating from service in 2012, she was an elementary principal with Spokane for many years.
- **Coretta Hoffman – Principal Assistant, Mead High School**  
A Mead High School math and German teacher, Ms. Hoffman completed her administration credentials this past school year.
- **Juli Kistler – Principal Assistant, Mt. Spokane High School**  
Ms. Kistler has taught CTE classes (Photography and Integrated Communications) at Mt. Spokane for the past eleven years.

**TALENT**  
+  
**LEADERSHIP**  
+  
**GUIDANCE**  
=  
**GREAT SCHOOLS**

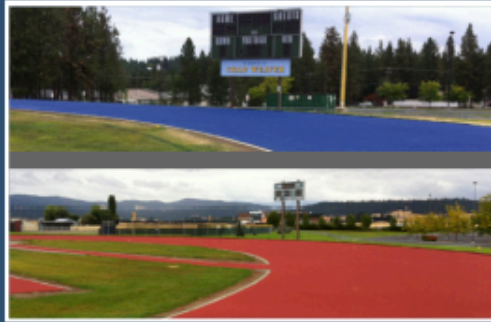




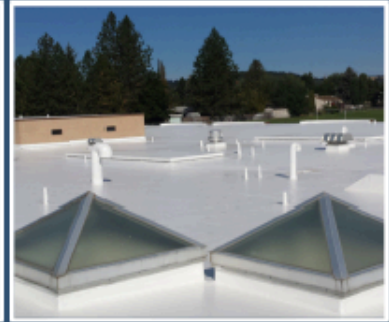
## Summer 2015 Bond Projects COMPLETED!



**New Carpet**  
Brentwood, Evergreen,  
Farwell & Meadow Ridge



**Tracks Resurfaced**  
Mead High School &  
Mt. Spokane High School



**New Roofs**  
Brentwood, Evergreen,  
& Meadow Ridge

For the most current information on the status of all bond projects visit [www.mead354.org/bondprojects](http://www.mead354.org/bondprojects).

### More Bond Projects News

In addition to recarpeting four elementary schools, resurfacing two high school tracks and completing three roofing projects, we moved forward on a number of other bond projects approved by Mead voters last February:

#### Architect Selected for Midway and Shiloh Hills Modernization

Following the same four-step selection process used in the selection of ALSC Architects of Spokane for the rebuilding of Northwood, the Midway/Shiloh Hills Architect Selection Committee recommended, and the school board approved, MMEC Architecture to complete the design work for the modernization of both Midway and Shiloh Hills.

#### Security – Access Controls, Surveillance & Intrusion Detection

The installation of new building access controls, surveillance equipment and intrusion detection technology is underway at all district buildings and schools with a target completion date of January 2016. This work will take place in the evenings to mitigate the impact on student learning. These security enhancements piggyback on the work completed last year via the \$314,447 Emergency Response Grant the Mead School District received from OSPI.

#### Performing Arts Upgrades

The February 2015 voter approved bond included monies to purchase/replace musical instruments. The school board has approved the purchase of twelve new pianos plus a variety of elementary music instruments. Still to come are upgrades to the theatre sound systems at both high schools and the purchase of secondary music instruments.



#### Brentwood Elementary

Along with new carpet, a new roof and the removal of cafeteria carpet that revealed a beautiful hardwood floor, Brentwood's exterior also received a facelift thanks to new paint and the removal of old shrubs.



#### iCan Shine Bike Camp

In mid-August Mt. Spokane High School was the host site for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual *iCan Shine Bike Camp* for kids with disabilities. Over 70 volunteers – many of them Mead High and Mt. Spokane students – worked diligently throughout the week to teach 35 kids and young adults with various disabilities how to ride a two-wheel bike. Initial training included the use of a unique roller bike to teach balance.

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](mailto:jared.hoadley@mead354.org).

ECR WSS  
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### 2015-2016 School Calendar

Oct. 9	No School
Nov. 6	Elementary School Early Release
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day
Nov. 19-25	Elementary Conferences - Early Release
Nov. 26-27	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 21	Winter Break Begins
Jan. 4	School Resumes
Jan. 18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Jan. 29	1 <sup>st</sup> Semester Ends - Secondary Early Release
Feb. 15	President's Day
March 11	Snow Make-Up Day (if needed)
March 28 - April 1	Elementary Conferences - Early Release
April 4-8	Spring Break
May 30	Memorial Day
June 16	Last Day of School

### Welcome to the New School Year! A Message from Superintendent Tom Rockefeller



On behalf of the Mead School District Board of Directors, our teachers, administrators and staff, I extend a warm welcome to students, parents and the larger Mead community. For more than 100 years, the Mead School District has provided the best possible education for all its students. We expect this tradition of excellence to continue for the 2015-2016 school year.

An area of intentional focus this year will be our expanding student population. Following several years of minimal growth, the past two years have resulted in higher than anticipated enrollment increases. We added 200 students last year and are up again this year by nearly 100 students. To address this increasing enrollment and the space needed to implement all-day kindergarten at all elementary schools the School Board has authorized the formation of a Boundary Review Planning Committee to study current elementary school boundaries and future school needs. The committee will be holding community meetings later this year and will present recommendations to the School Board in the spring. Look for additional information in upcoming newsletters.

I invite you to take advantage of the many opportunities available to become involved with our schools. Consider being a classroom volunteer, go to a volleyball match, watch a football game, attend a music concert, or enjoy a play. I am confident you will find connecting with our students and staff a fulfilling and fun experience. Mead is a great school district in large measure because of strong community support. Thank you.

Again, welcome to the new school year!



GSL Sports Passes are available for purchase on-line at [Ticketwest.com](http://Ticketwest.com). Adult Pass: \$70



#### Mead School District Mechanics

Left to Right: John Huffman, Wally Reil, Ron Boutain, Tony Davis (Assistant Transportation Director), Josh Oglesbee & Dude Ovans

### District Mechanics Exceed Standards

Congratulations to our hardworking transportation mechanics John Huffman, Wally Reil, Ron Boutain, Josh Oglesbee, Dude Ovans and their supervisor Transportation Assistant Director, Tony Davis. In just one year they lowered the number of Mead School District "out of service" buses from twenty to five, which is below the state standard. This substantial decrease was praised in a letter of congratulations from Captain Michael Dahl of the Washington State Patrol. He said, "A lot of hard work and attention to detail made your goal of reducing your 'out of service' rate a reality . . . we applaud you and everyone involved for such an outstanding outcome."

The Mead School District has a fleet of 110 buses that travel 1.8 million miles each school year.