

Evergreen Elementary Lunch Buddies



Grandma Sally with 2nd grader Emily Perez



Grandpa Jim with 1st grader Dallas Dumaw

Retirees Positively Impact School Climate

Reading Improves Friendships Abound

Evergreen reading specialist June Lamberd is always thinking about how to help students become better readers. "As a kid I did not like to read," says Lamberd, "so I am very motivated to come up with new, innovative ways to help young readers."

That's how "Lunch Buddies" was born – an idea that has taken root at Evergreen this year where retirees from several local retirement communities come for lunch. Each retiree is partnered with the same student every time they attend. In addition to reading time, the other benefit of the "Lunch

Buddies" program is the special bond that forms between students and retirees.

Rockwood's 97-year old Lawrence Brown has a daughter who lives in California. During their weekly phone conversation, Lawrence often mentions how meaningful he finds the time spent with his buddy Marcus Mahoney. On a recent visit, Mr. Brown's daughter accompanied him to Evergreen so she



Marcus Mahoney with Lawrence Brown

could see first hand her dad in action and the budding friendship between the two lunch buddies.

More volunteers are needed. There are currently 29 lunch buddy partnerships with a number of students on a buddy "wish list." If you would like to be a part of this program please contact June Lamberd at 465-6400.

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School Nurse Allison Cowart
Providing AED Instruction

2015 Caring for Our Community Award

The Mead School District has been awarded the 2015 *Caring for Our Community Award* – an honor presented each year to a local organization proactively engaged in measures to prevent loss of life from sudden death. With support from a variety of school and parent groups, AED programs have been implemented in all high school and middle school buildings, as well as four elementary schools. Our school nurses lead annual AED drills helping potential responders better prepare for on campus cardiac emergencies.



3A Wrestling & Academic State Champion

Congratulations to Mt. Spokane High School junior Alec Hoover. In addition to winning the state 120 lb. 3A wrestling title, he was the Academic State Champion for that weight class with a 4.0 cumulative GPA. To further honor Alec he was named the WIAA 3A Athlete of the Week in early March.

Riverpoint Academy Students Win Microsoft's World Series of Innovation



Team Blair: Cassidy Newsom, Blair Waiting, Rianne Ellingwood & Connor Breneman

Back in November when RA students were asked to enter Microsoft's World Series of Innovation, they never expected their project would be a finalist or win. They were wrong. Out of 1200 submissions, they won their division, earning \$2,500 for themselves and \$500 for Riverpoint Academy!

Team Blair designed an online app to assist with volunteerism. The app, named VolunteerMe, gives users the ability to search for nearby volunteer opportunities and sign up to volunteer through the app.



Senior Presentation Panelists

Senior Presentations are a wonderful opportunity to hear the stories and future plans of graduating seniors. Interested in being a panelist? Contact:

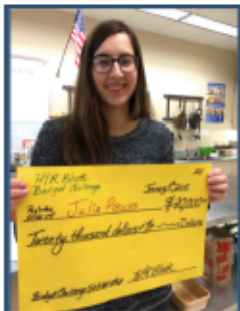
- **Mead High School**
April 21 & April 22 (5-8:30 p.m.)
Mike Phillips
mike.phillips@mead354.org
- **Mt. Spokane High School**
May 20 & May 21 (5-8:30 p.m.)
Joanie Pringle-Jones
joanie.pringle-jones@mead354.org



Celebrating Career & Technical Education



H&R Block Budget Challenge Scholarship Winner



Julia Preuss, a senior at Mt. Spokane High School, has been awarded a \$20,000 scholarship through the H&R Block Budget Challenge – a teen financial literacy program that rewards high school students for mastering real-world budgeting and personal finance decision-making. Julia is one of only 66 scholarship winners nationwide!

All students enrolled in Independent Living at Mt. Spokane participate in this nine-week challenge, where they experience activities like paying bills, managing expenses, saving money, investing in retirement, paying taxes and more, in the safety of a classroom. The program was created to help address the need for more financial education in high schools.

The H&R Block Budget Challenge is free to high school teachers. Participants play classroom against classroom and student against student, competing for \$3 million in grants, scholarships and cash prizes.

NEW! Popsicle Stick Bridge Building Contest



Thanks to a \$3,300 grant from the Washington State Foundation for Structural Engineers, all engineering students at Mead and Mt. Spokane high schools – nearly 350 of them – designed popsicle stick bridges as part of their first semester course work. The students who produced the top 25 designs from each school were then invited to take part in a first for the Mead School District – a bridge building contest that took place on February 7th in the Mt. Spokane High School fieldhouse.

Bridge efficiency (amount of weight the bridge can hold, divided by the weight of the bridge) was the judging criteria. Congratulations to the following winners:

- 1st Place \$100 – Albert Hagar (Mt.S) 624 Efficiency
- 2nd Place \$80 – Bethany Walton (Mt.S) 477 Efficiency
- 3rd Place \$60 – Brandon Evan & Vincent Cao (Mead) 449 Efficiency

ProStart Culinary Team

Congratulations to the ProStart Culinary Team from Mt. Spokane High School and their advisor/teacher Claudia Couch. At the recent Washington State ProStart Invitational held in Tacoma, they placed 4th overall out of a field of 19 teams. They are the very first culinary team from the Mead School District to take part in a ProStart competition.



ProStart Team Members:
Breeawna Sumner, Juliette Dessaint, Erin Noll, Meridian O'Donnall & Ciara Bland

The team completed a three-course meal in 60 minutes receiving very positive remarks from one of the judges, a Master Chef from Switzerland. In addition to the 4th place award, Breeawna Sumner received a \$1,000 scholarship and was named "ProStart Student of the Year."

Renewal

Maintenance & Operations Levy

Levies are for Learning!

Facilities

Improvement Bond

Bonds are for Building!

Voters Resoundingly Approve Bond & Levy

The February Bond & Levy election results were validated on February 24, 2015. Final YES votes were 69.67% for the Levy and 64.09% for the Bond! Now the work begins. The board has selected OAC to serve as the Construction Project Manager for the three flagship projects (Northwood, Midway and Shiloh Hills). The next 60 days will see the development of the Master Schedule of Projects plus the first public bond offering.

For the most current information on the status of all bond projects visit www.mead354.org/bondprojects.

Thanks from the Mead Board of Directors . . .



The Board of Directors, administration, teachers, staff and students extend a sincere THANK YOU to the Mead community for your approval of the bond and levy. Mead has a long-standing history of providing outstanding learning and extra-curricular opportunities for all students. This is possible because of strong community support. Thank you for your ongoing investment in the education of Mead students.

Ron Farley, Board President (Director District #4)



Once again you, the voters, have invested in our kids and their future with your "yes" vote. I continue to feel honored and privileged to serve you, the patrons, staff and kids of this fantastic district - it's been a wonderful 18 years. Thank you all for making this the best school district in the state!

Denny Denholm, Board Vice-President (Director District #2)



I deeply appreciate the supportive "yes" votes from the Mead community. Your personal financial commitment and sacrifice speak volumes about the value you place on education and the trust you place in school district leadership to be excellent stewards of provided resources. We will provide regular updates regarding the progress of building projects and additionally let you know how our educational programs are helping develop young people as emerging leaders and citizens. Thank you!

Carmen Green (Director District #5)



Thank you for trusting the board with your hard-earned tax dollars by supporting the bond and levy. These funds allow and encourage us to continue working hard to balance the budget between necessary maintenance and direct student learning needs in ways that will improve our entire community. We sincerely appreciate your trust and support. It's truly an honor and privilege to serve you, the Mead community.

Maureen O'Connor (Director District #1)



Thank you Mead patrons for believing and investing in the future of our children. Your generosity in supporting our levy and bond is greatly appreciated. I am especially grateful we are now able to enhance safety and security at all of our school buildings and begin the process of looking for future school building sites to address our growing student population.

Bob Olson (Director District #3)

THANK YOU

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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 Hoodley, Executive Director of Student Services and Activities - 509-465-6008 or jared.hoodley@mead354.org.

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WASA Community Leadership Award



For their volunteer work as members of the Citizen's Advisory Committee, Chad Burchard, Martin Kolodrub and Kevin Bacon (pictured left to right) have been nominated to receive a *WASA Community Leadership Award*. This award is presented to community members or groups in recognition of their contribution to education.

The Mead Citizen's Advisory Committee, chaired by Chad Burchard, was instrumental in helping pass the February Bond & Levy. Each of these gentlemen invested many, many hours developing a successful campaign strategy. We thank them for their service and dedication to helping provide all Mead students with outstanding learning opportunities.

Moving Forward A Message from Superintendent Tom Rockefeller



I join the Board of Directors in thanking you, the Mead community, for your overwhelming approval of the February Bond & Levy ballot measures. Your support continues a long history of community commitment to investing in excellent learning programs, great staff and quality learning facilities.

I want you to know I am committed to using school district monies in an effective and efficient manner to address the education needs of all students. As we *move forward* with everything from staffing and curriculum adoptions to the purchase of future building sites, wise and prudent use of resources will be our guiding principle. Mead has a very experienced and knowledgeable Board of Directors. With their steady and strong leadership I know our students, staff and community are in good hands!

Please visit district and school websites (www.mead354.org) for classroom, building and district level news. You will find information on everything from assessment results to building level learning initiatives - from clubs, booster and PTO activities, to awards, achievements and accolades about students and staff. We have created an online "Bond Projects" page where you will find the most current information on construction timelines, as well as a "news blog" that will provide a chronology of projects from start to finish.

I am very proud to be a member of the Mead School District community - a community that values *moving forward* with a clear focus on students and their learning.



2015-2016 High School Daily Bell Schedule



Recent state legislation requires that we add instructional minutes (an average of approximately 15 minutes each day) to the high school schedule for the 2015-2016 school year.

The administration and staffs at both Mead and Mt. Spokane have created several schedules that would meet the new requirements. However, before making a final decision they would like your input. A survey with potential schedules is posted on each school homepage and is open for community comment April 1-14. Thank you for your participation.