

MEAD

MATTERS

October 2014



Long Live the Battle

Community Pride and School Spirit Abound

Friday, October 10 was a near perfect fall evening - crisp but not too cold - and the Mead community was out in full force, more than 11,000 strong. Why? To support the Mead Panthers and the Mt. Spokane Wildcats as they clashed in the annual football classic better known as *Battle of the Bell*. It was reminiscent of earlier times, before cable TV and the Internet, when almost everyone in town turned out on Friday nights to support the local football team.

Entire extended families were in attendance - grandparents, parents and kids - many of whom are long time Mead residents and former Mead School District students. While they were there to cheer for their respective

team, they also came to be a part of the bigger *Battle of the Bell* experience and show their solidarity and support for the Mead School District. "It was heartening to see so many in attendance but not surprising," said School Board Director Denny Denholm. "The Mead community has a 100+ year history of demonstrating support for Mead Schools, whether on the athletic field or by approving local bonds and levies that provide safe schools and enrich student learning opportunities."

At half-time fans were treated to a performance of *The Heist* by the award-winning Mt. Spokane Marching Band under the direction of James Layman and Scott Jones.

And the winner was . . . Mt. Spokane. It was a hard fought battle but the Wildcats prevailed, 17-14, taking home

the traveling Victory Bell. This bell was originally mounted in the Greenbluff school steeple and then relocated to the Farwell Schoolhouse when the Mead Consolidated Union School District opened in 1911.

The Wildcats vs. the Panthers - for 18 years this sports rivalry has brought the Mead community together. Long live the *Battle of the Bell*!

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Cat Scramble Golf Tournament & Silent Auction

Battle of the Bell pregame festivities included the presentation of a record-breaking check in the amount of \$46,000 to the Mead and Mt. Spokane Athletic Booster Clubs from the CENEX Zip/Trip Cat Scramble Golf Tournament - an event held annually with proceeds divided equally between the two schools to help support athletic programs. Over the past 14 years this event has raised nearly \$300,000!

**September 2014
"Teacher of the Month"**



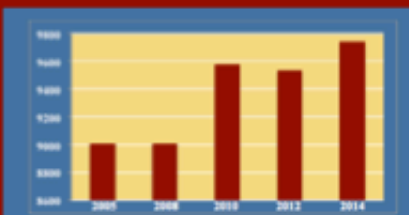
Congratulations to June Lamberd (Evergreen Elementary) who was named the EWU/KHQ September 2014 "Teacher of the Month." Fifth grader Shae Doree nominated Mrs. Lamberd and says about her, "She is funny, kind, and always willing to help."

**Evergreen Elementary
Principal Assistant**



Tony Moser is taking a leave of absence from his teaching position at Evergreen to serve as principal assistant for the 2014-2015 school year. Mr. Moser is a graduate of Mead High School (2006).

2005-2014 Enrollment



Q: Does the Mead School District have more students today than it did ten years ago?

A: Yes . . . enrollment has increased 7% over the past ten years from 9,010 in 2005 to 9,743 on October 1, 2014. In the past year alone the district has grown by 148 students!



"What's Next?" and "How Do I Get There?"

In everything Mead does, we have a passion to position our students for success now and in the future.

Ask any kindergarten student what they want to be when they grow up and most can rattle off 4-5 things . . . policeman, fireman, nurse, doctor, astronaut, teacher, construction worker. They are just beginning to learn to read and write but have already thought about, "What's Next?"

As students move into middle school and high school it isn't enough only to think about "What's Next?" Students must now also explore, discover and answer the question, "How Do I Get There?"

The Mead School District is committed to positioning students for success now and in the future. To that end, both Mt. Spokane and Mead high schools, this year for the first time, hosted "on-site" college fairs that took place on Monday, September 29. Students and families were able to interact with over 40 colleges, universities, tech schools and military branches.

Hosting the college fair on-site provided all juniors and seniors the opportunity, during the regular school day, to sit and listen to representatives from three different post-secondary options of their choosing. This differs from past years when the college fair was off-site and significantly fewer students participated.

In the evening at Mt. Spokane there was a combined college fair attended by over 200 people. In addition to vendor booths, four "mini-sessions" were offered that focused on "Finding the Right Fit" – "Mapping Your Senior Year" – "Financial Literacy" & "What Makes a Great Student."

College fair coordinators were counselors Rob Renner (Mt. Spokane) and Mike Phillips (Mead). Following the event Mr. Renner enthusiastically stated, "We are excited about the partnerships that are growing between our school communities and higher education. The event was a great success and we look forward to building it and making it even better next year!"





Brycen Southerly
Assistant Stage Manager



Aliah Higgins, Sarah Sims & Kayla Kuiper
Costume Crew



Sound Technician Aaron Skok &
Theatre Arts Director Andrew Lewis



Teachers Dana Rowan & Karen Brathovde
Share the Role of the Mayor's Wife



BYE BYE
Birdie

Students & Seniors: \$5.00
Adults: \$10.00

The Making of a High School Musical

*In total **Bye Bye Birdie** rehearsal time will exceed 200 hours!*

It's an impressive undertaking now in rehearsal, and promises to be more so in actual production, when the Mead High School Drama and Music Departments proudly present the 1950's musical *Bye Bye Birdie*, November 13-15 and November 20-22, beginning at 7 p.m. each evening.

Follow Mead High School Theatre Arts Director Andrew Lewis during a typical after-school rehearsal and you will observe multiple activities taking place all at the same time.

Choreographer Tonya Axworthy is instructing a group of dancers in the theatre. Music Director Andrew Bortz (student teaching at Mead) and a second choreographer Ali Waid (Class of 2004) are in the choir room working with actors on a song and dance routine. Assistant Stage Manager Brycen Southerly is constructing a wall designed to attach to a bed, which will eventually "float" – a theatre term – onto the stage under the power of a

member of the stage crew. The costume crew, in yet another room, is busy making alterations. Imagine tracking and coordinating multiple costume changes for a cast of 38! Meanwhile the sound crew is troubleshooting wireless microphone issues.

It's an unusual mix of 32 high school actors, 17 high school musicians, 27 crew members along with four adults and two Evergreen Elementary student actors. Mead principal Mark St. Clair and assistant principal Byran Smith will share the role of the Mayor, with teachers Karen Brathovde and Dana Rowan splitting time as the Mayor's Wife.

Even now it's apparent director Andrew Lewis and his cast, crew and musicians are passionately absorbed in the process of making this high school musical. But more than just a musical, they are making a "going to the theatre" culture at Mead High School. We invite you to join them!

The Mt. Spokane
High School
Drama Department
Proudly Presents
Oscar Wilde's



November 12-14 - 7 pm
November 19-21 - 7 pm
November 22 - 2 pm

Students & Seniors: \$5.00
Adults: \$6.00

There is nothing earnest about this play, at least on the surface. It's a satire of the Victorian era when an intricate code of behavior governed nearly every aspect of daily life.

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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November Events

Nov. 7	Elementary School Early Release
Nov. 10	No School
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day
Nov. 12-14	<i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i> – Mt. S 7 pm
Nov. 13-15	<i>Bye Bye Birdie</i> – Mead High School 7 pm
Nov. 15	Mead High School Bandwagon Craft Fair 9 am
Nov. 16	Mead High School Bandwagon Craft Fair 10 am
Nov. 19-21	<i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i> – Mt. S 7 pm
Nov. 20-22	<i>Bye Bye Birdie</i> – Mead High School 7 pm
Nov. 20-26	Elementary Conferences – Early Release
Nov. 22	<i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i> – Mt. S 2 pm
Nov. 27-28	Thanksgiving Break

**Meeting Our Mission & Stewardship
 A Message from
 Superintendent Tom Rockefeller**



I take great pride in the fact that the Mead School District consistently meets and exceeds two critical and extremely important standards - "Meeting our Mission" and "Stewardship."

Our single most important mission is to educate students. In everything Mead does, we have a passion to position our students for success now and in the future. We do this by providing students with the best possible learning programs and professional instruction starting in kindergarten and continuing through grade 12. We additionally offer students a wide variety of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities designed to expand their interests and desire to learn, achieve and succeed. Our high graduation rates, high two-year and four-year college acceptance numbers and above-the-state-and-national-average SAT scores demonstrate we are successfully meeting this primary mission.

The second standard, stewardship, involves the prudent management of the resources and assets provided by the state and our local community. Even with one of the lowest "cost per student" budgets in the entire state, the Mead School District, year in and year out, delivers a very high quality learning program. The Mead School District Board of Directors is committed to allocating district resources in ways that best address the learning needs of students.

I thank the Mead community for their trust and support as we partner together to meet our primary mission – the education of Mead students.



Northwood Middle School
Calling All Veterans

Please Be Our Guest!
 Veterans Day Assembly

Northwood MS
 13120 N. Pittsburg
 Spokane, WA 99208
 509-465-7512

Friday, November 7, 2014
 8:15 am – 9:15 am
 Reception Following

Upcoming Bond & Levy

In February 2015, Mead voters will be asked to consider two ballot measures. The first is the renewal of our **M&O LEVY** and the second is a **FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT BOND**.

The proposed **LEVY** renews existing program for three years (2016, 2017, 2018). Tax rates for the current levy and proposed levy are identical . . . \$4.21.

Based on recommendations from the Facilities Planning Committee the district will also run a **BOND**. Flagship Projects include full modernization of Shiloh Hills and Midway and the replacement of Northwood. All three projects qualify for "state match" monies. The total cost for all proposed bond projects is \$101.6 M . . . the state pays 32% (\$32.1 M) . . . Mead patrons pay 68% (\$69.5M).

**February 10, 2015
 Two Ballot Measures**



RENEWAL
Maintenance & Operations Levy
Levies are for Learning!

Facilities Improvement Bond
Bonds are for Buildings!

**For All Your Bond & Levy Information
 Visit
 www.mead354.org/bondandlevy**