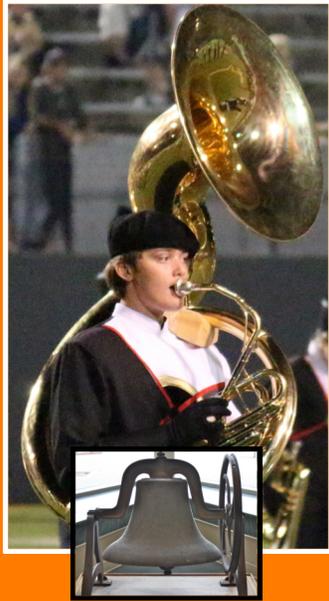


MEAD

MATTERS

August 2013



Battle of the Bell

Mead vs Mt. Spokane
Football Game
Friday, September 27, 7:30 pm
Joe Albi Stadium

Connect with neighbors at the pre-game tailgate party and enjoy a performance by the Mead High School Marching Band at halftime.

Our goal is to exceed last year's record-breaking attendance of more than 12,000.

Tickets may be purchased in advance at any of our schools - \$4 students, \$6 adults.



Welcome to the 2013-14 School Year

September is packed with events.

On Tuesday, September 3, we will open our doors for the 2013-14 school year and welcome an estimated 9,500 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.

Both Mead and Mt. Spokane High Schools made the *2013 America's Best High Schools* list published by *Newsweek* and *The Daily Beast* last

spring and were tied for first place in the Spokane region for graduates entering college immediately after high school as reported by the *Spokesman Review* (August 11, 2013). In that same article Mead High School was ranked first and Mt. Spokane third for high school graduates who not only attended but graduated from 2 and 4-year institutions.

This year we are excited to announce the opening of MEPP East (an extension of the district's parent-partnership program), the relocation and expansion of Riverpoint Academy to the Roundy's building on the

Newport Highway and the opening of all-day kindergarten at Shiloh Hills.

September promises many exciting community events and you are invited to all of them! Plan to be a part of the ongoing pride and heritage of the Mead School District.

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Sunset Concerts

Saturday, September 7 –
6:30 p.m. @ Midway Elementary
Featuring the Mt. Spokane HS Band

Saturday, September 14 –
6:30 p.m. @ Sky Prairie Park (5-Mile Prairie)
Featuring the Mead HS Band

- **3rd Annual "Show & Shine" Car Show**
Saturday, September 7, 9 am – 1 pm, front parking lot of Mt. Spokane HS. No entry fee, however, there will be the opportunity to make a donation toward school supplies for needy students.
- **Volleyball, Mead vs Mt. Spokane**
Thursday, September 26, 7 pm @ Mt. Spokane. See two of the state's consistently top teams battle in this annual district classic.
- **Neighborhood Sales**
Saturday, October 5, 9 am – noon
Evergreen & Farwell Elementary Schools
(For booth information visit www.mead354.org)



New Pedestrian Warning Light

On Hastings Road, at each end of Mead High School, look for new pedestrian crossing warning lights. Spokane County is installing these lights with work scheduled for completion in early fall.

Grant funds are being used to pay for the new lights that will be controlled by the county via satellite using a schedule provide by the Mead School District.



Mead High School Welcomes Rick Pelkie

It is a pleasure to announce the hiring of Rick Pelkie as an assistant principal at Mead High School. Born and raised in Spokane, Rick is a 1989 graduate of North Central High School.

Rick was a 7th and 8th grade math/science teacher, and coached high school football and basketball before moving into administration ten years ago. He comes to the Mead District from Othello High School where he served as an assistant principal.



Riverpoint Academy Moves to New Home

With the motto *Igniting Passion, Producing Innovators*, Riverpoint Academy opened in the fall of 2012.

This fall Riverpoint Academy is expanding and relocating. The school will increase from 75 to 150 students (juniors and seniors) and has moved to a larger facility (11008 N. Newport Highway). Course work combines science, technology, engineering, math and entrepreneurship much as those disciplines are linked in the world of work and innovation. The Academy challenges students to apply their knowledge and creativity toward solutions and to gain experience and skill that positions them well for future careers.

Riverpoint Academy recently hosted an Education Summit featuring keynote speaker Larry Rosenstock, CEO and founder of High Tech High, an innovative public charter school in San Diego, California. Mr. Rosenstock spoke passionately to a packed house on the topics of design thinking, career/work ready assessment and project-based learning.

If you have a high school junior or senior interested in attending Riverpoint Academy there are a few openings available. Please contact principal Danette Driscoll for information (danette.driscoll@mead354.org).

Parent Partnership Program Expands

MEPP East, an expansion of our parent-partnership with home school families, will open this fall and be housed at 14617 N. Newport Highway. The school's mission statement is: "We collaborate with parents to customize education in order to prepare students for life's responsibilities, challenges and opportunities."

According to Bruce Olgard, the district's alternative learning education principal, program goals include the continued exploration and development of engaging classes to sustain enthusiasm for learning and to assist families in identifying curriculum choices that are a good fit for the unique needs of each child and each family.

For enrollment information visit www.mead354.org and click the MEPP East link.



Fall Craft Fairs

Mt. Spokane Band Craft Fair

October 12, 9 am – 5 pm

October 13, 11 am – 3 pm

Booth Information @ www.mshsbandstand.com

Mead HS Band Craft Fair

November 16, 9 am – 5 pm

November 17, 10 am – 4 pm

Booth Information @ www.meadcraftfair@gmail.com



Full-Day Kindergarten Shiloh Hills Elementary

The implementation of full-day kindergarten in Washington state is underway. For the 2013-14 school year, the state has provided funding for 43.5% of the state's kindergarten students to attend school all day. Elementary schools with the highest rate of poverty are the first to receive funding. Statewide full-day kindergarten implementation is expected by 2017-18.

In Mead, Shiloh Hills qualified for funding and will offer full-day kindergarten to students who reside in the Shiloh Hills attendance area. In Spokane, 23 of their 34 elementary schools qualified for first year state funding.



2013 Mt. Spokane ASB officers participating in the "Adopt a Highway" program.

Activities coordinators play a central role in producing and directing the overall positive energy and climate at both Mead and Mt. Spokane High Schools.



Randy Mickelsen welcomes students to Leadership Camp.



Mead & Mt. Spokane take part in "Breaking Down the Walls" an interactive program that focuses on community building.



Mead High School Leadership Camp Junior Counselors.



Randy Mickelsen & Nancy Butz



Highlighting Our Activities Coordinators

Activities Coordinators positively impact school climate & culture.

The position of Activities Coordinator is unique to the Mead School District. Twenty-eight year teaching veteran Randy Mickelsen is the Activities Coordinator at Mead High School and his Mt. Spokane High School counterpart is twenty-seven year teacher Nancy Butz.

Mr. Mickelsen and Mrs. Butz teach leadership classes which are open to all students. They also direct the ASB (Associated Student Body) classes which oversee the school's ASB budget. With their guidance ASB organizes multiple activities throughout the school year. These activities include school assemblies, Homecoming, freshman orientation and school wide community support projects.

High school principals Mark St. Clair (Mead) and Darren Nelson (Mt. Spokane) credit both coordinators with playing a central role in producing and directing the overall positive energy and climate at each school.

A hallmark of the Mead High School activities/leadership program is Leadership Camp. Twice each year Mr. Mickelsen takes 100 10th-12th graders to "camp." For many this is a life changing experience and Mead High School graduates, when asked about high school, regularly talk about their positive experience at leadership camp.

Mr. Mickelsen explains his motivation for working long hours, both during and outside the school day, as the satisfaction of "seeing kids develop the leadership skills they will take to any role in their future life."

Mrs. Butz attributes the strong activities program available to Mead School District students to the fact that "we have a person at each high school whose primary focus is activities – not athletics and activities. When responsibility for the two are combined, activities often take a back seat."

We extend thanks to Randy and Nancy. Our high school activities program enjoys an outstanding reputation because of their dedication and hard work.

2013-14 Budget Adopted



For the first time in six years the 2013-14 Mead School District operating budget reflects a modest increase. The vast majority of increased funding is earmarked by the state for restoration of cuts to salaries, the implementation of full-day kindergarten and an increase in LAP (learning assistant program) funding. This funding restoration represents approximately 50% of the cuts experienced by the district over the past several years.

School Board Directors Ron Farley, Denny Denholm, Maureen O'Connor, Tom Hunt and Bob Olson are directing funds not earmarked for salary restoration to roof/facility repairs, mandatory sewer hookup at Northwood, Farwell and Midway and general technology upgrades.

This newly adopted budget projects an enrollment of 9,500 students and totals \$89,575,410.

MEAD MATTERS
Mead School District #354
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Mead, WA 99021

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Questions or concerns?
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2013-14 School Calendar

Sept. 3	First Day of School
Oct. 11	No School
Nov. 1	Elementary School Early Release
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day
Nov. 21-27	Elementary Conferences – Early Release
Nov. 28-29	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 23	Winter Break Begins
Jan. 6	School Resumes
Jan. 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Feb. 17	President's Day
March 14	Snow Make-Up Day (if needed)
March 31 - April 4	Elementary Conferences – Early Release
April 7-11	Spring Break
May 26	Memorial Day
June 12	Last Day of School
June 13	Snow Make-Up Day (if needed)

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, it is a pleasure to welcome the students, parents and community of Mead to another school year. It truly never gets old to say that we are “ready and excited” to get the school year started! As a district we are prepared and look forward to continuing our tradition of providing a top quality education for all students.

Please take advantage of the many, many opportunities to become associated with our schools during the upcoming school year. I invite you to become a classroom volunteer, go to a cross-country meet, watch a football game, attend a music concert or enjoy a play. There are literally thousands of activities, programs and competitions you can select from and attend during the school year.

Mead is a great school district. By supporting our students, we together will continue to build a stronger community. Again, welcome to the new school year. I look forward to seeing you at one or all of the community events featured in this issue of Mead Matters.

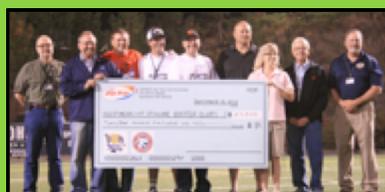
13th Annual Cat Scramble Golf Tournament & Silent Auction

The idea was hatched 13 years ago by a handful of Mt. Spokane High School coaches and booster club parents. The first Cat Scramble, a Mt. Spokane only event, took place in 2000 at the Deer Park Golf Club with approximately thirty-five golfers participating. That first year the event broke even.

According to former Mead HS athletic director Dick Cullen, in 2003 the event was expanded to include both Mt. Spokane and Mead High Schools. By 2005 this major fundraiser for both school booster

clubs sold out. That tradition continues to this day. Last year 144 golfers participated and the event raised \$29,500 that was split between the Mt. Spokane and Mead athletic programs.

This year's event will take place on Saturday, September 14, at Wandermere Golf Course.



2012 Cat Scramble
\$29,500 Check Presentation

Cenex Zip Trip is once again the Title Sponsor and we wish to thank general manager Mr. Ian Johnstone for his continued support. Following the golf tournament there will be a dinner/silent auction.

This year's tournament SOLD OUT early! Even though no golf spots are available, you can support booster club efforts by attending the dinner/silent auction at Wandermere following the September 14 tournament or donate items by contacting one of the event co-chairs, Joanie Pringle-Jones (981-6942) or Renee Fine (385-2023).