One of the goals we have had as a school the last several years is amplifying student voice. Research shows that students who believe they have a voice and that teachers are willing to listen and learn from them are 7x more academically motivated (Quaglia Institute).

Student voice directly correlates to academic motivation:

- When students believe that they have a voice and that teachers are willing to listen and learn from them, they are 7x more academically motivated!
- When students have a sense of Self-Worth, and that teachers care about them, they are 6x more academically motivated!
- Students that are meaningfully Engaged and feel that what they are learning will benefit their future, and 14x more academically motivated!
- Students that have a sense of Purpose, believe they can be successful, and are supported by their teachers, are 17x more academically motivated!
- When students feel that they are encouraged to try their best and are supported by their teachers, they are 8x more academically motivated!
- When students feel that students in their school are supportive and respect each other, they are 4x more academically motivated!

These divisive times are a perfect opportunity for schools to help students find their voice and engage in civil discourse of difficult topics and differing perspectives. We believe our Panthers can model this. We have also found that masks and distancing have made dialogue difficult. So, we must find more ways to navigate and discuss different perspectives even amidst a pandemic.

One such way we plan on dialoguing is “Lunch Table Talks.” Well, we still don’t have tables but would like to provide opportunities for students to lean into new topics and perspectives during their lunch. In honoring Dr. King’s legacy, we hope to take the perspectives shared by our students on Dr. King’s Dream to launch into further discussion. We will be collecting interest with students HERE to begin soon.

Thank you for helping us model for our kids that dialogue can bridge division!

Jeff Naslund
Proud Panther Principal

PS. Big thanks to all of the senior parents who expressed interest in helping to plan the Class of 2021 Senior All-Nighter Event. This Mead tradition allows for our kids to celebrate their K-12 journey in a safe way. Together. The planning has commenced and will continue into the Spring leading up to graduation on June 18, 2021 @ 5pm. Yes. It will be here quickly!
After a very (very) competitive process, we are thrilled to announce Madison Ediger as Mead High School’s 2021 Lilac Candidate. She is eager to carry on our tradition of excellence and will represent our entire community. She truly lives our vision of belonging and epitomizes the kind of inclusivity for which we are striving. Please join us in congratulating her in this and every step along the way.

We will keep you in the loop throughout Madison’s journey but follow Spokane Lilac Association on Facebook to see for yourself.

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN PANTHER TERRITORY?

Monday, January 18. No School: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 19 & January 20. MLK Virtual Assembly Bell Schedule
Wednesday, January 20. Mead High School Levy Webinar
January 22. Ballots mailed out
February 9. Deadline for in-person voter registration or updates
February 9. Election Day*

*Note: Ballots must be postmarked / returned to a ballot dropbox by 8pm
February 12. Last Day of 1st Semester / Half Day
February 15. No School: President’s Day
February 16. First Day of 2nd Semester

AP PAYMENT PROCESS FOR 2021

- Exam cost is $95. Mead High School Business Office will start accepting payment February 1, 2021 through April 30, 2021. Payment must be made in order to test. A payment plan can be arranged with the Business Office.
- Unused/canceled exam fees will be waived for the 2020-2021 school year ONLY. Refunds will be issued by the Mead District Office, fall of 2021.
- It is possible to request an exam after the final deadline (November 13th), but an additional late order fee of $40 per exam may apply.

REPLACEMENT LEVY WEBINAR FOR BRENTWOOD, FAREWELL, MIDWAY, NORTHWOOD, MEAD

As many of you know, the Mead School District will be asking our community to consider a renewal Educational Programs and Operations Levy in the Feb. 9 Special Election. We’ve linked a fact sheet here for information, but we know you may have questions about the levy or would like more information. To make sure we provide you with all of the factual information about the levy, Superintendent Shawn Woodward is hosting a virtual webinar for families from a group of schools including your child’s school on Wednesday. There is no need to register, just log on via Zoom with the information below:

Date: Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2021
Time: 4:30-5:15 p.m.
Zoom Info: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81924181750
- Zoom meeting ID: 8192 418 1750

More information about the levy can be found at www.mead354.org/levy. Thank you, and we hope to see you on Wednesday! If Wednesday doesn’t work for you, additional webinar opportunities next week are available on Tuesday and Thursday here.
It has been a difficult year for everyone, especially our students. Mead High School continues to advocate for our kids when it comes to schooling, and their co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. The road we have been navigating and continue to travel down, has been bumpy and the directions, confusing. The recommendations and guidelines have been frustrating for many of us. Our Goal is to provide a safe environment for Mead High School students while they attend school and eventually resume their other school activities. Our new guidelines are the first step. We ask for your patience and understanding as we react to the guidelines and prepare our kids for a possible return to athletics and activities. There are still unknowns and standards that must be met for us to get where we want. Many people have been doing incredible work for months now, to maintain in-person learning and none of what has happened or what we are proposing would be possible without the work of our School District and Mead High School Administrators, our dedicated School Nurses, Teachers, Counselors, Office Staff, Cooks, Custodians and Maintenance Department. Please, if you have questions as we move forward, call the Athletic Office, 465-7011

Mead High School – Return to Play – Conditioning & Fall Sports Update

Last week the Greater Spokane League proposed and the WIAA approved a “Season-1” sports schedule for the schools in our League. Mead High School is also conducting an After School Conditioning opportunity for our Panther student-athletes, set to begin January 20th.

Complete information regarding Registration, Return to Play Planning and the “Healthy Washington” Guidelines can be found on our Mead High School Home Page and on our Athletics Page.

Greater Spokane League Season-1 Start & End Dates:

- **Volleyball** and Girls Swim + Dive will start **February 8th and will end March 28th**
  - Volleyball can begin Competitions in Phase 2
- **Football** will start **February 15th and end April 11th**
  - Football can begin Competitions in Phase 2
- **Girls Soccer** and **Cross Country** will start **February 22nd and end April 11th**
  - Girls Soccer can begin Competitions in Phase 2
  - Boys & Girls Cross Country can begin Competitions in Phase 1
- **Slow-pitch Softball** will be moved to a later season that will be opposite Fast-pitch Softball

New metrics have been adopted by the Department of Health as well, to divide regions into either Phase 1 or Phase 2. Team Sports had previously been assigned risk levels and their levels of participation are determined by the phasing guidelines below. The East Region is in Phase 1 of the Governor’s Healthy Washington Plan and updated metrics are released each Friday.

**LOW RISK SPORTS:** Cross Country, Golf, Gymnastics, Tennis, Track & Field, Sideline/No-Contact Cheerleading and Dance, Swimming & Diving (Follow Pool and Water Recreation Facility Guidelines)

**MODERATE RISK SPORTS:** Baseball, Bowling, Soccer, Softball, Volleyball

**HIGH RISK SPORTS:** Basketball, Football, Wrestling, Cheerleading w/ Contact, Dance w/ Contact
GOT PANTHER GEAR? Mead Staff, Students, Panther Fans and Families You can find our Online Store on our Mead High School Home Page under the Athletics Tab or go to https://sideline.bsnsports.com/schools/washington/spokane/mead-high-school

MEAD PANTHER BOOSTER CLUB NEEDS YOU! - Mead High School is currently looking for Parent Volunteers to replace our outgoing Panther Booster Club Officers. The current group of volunteers has been led by energetic and supportive parents of Mead student-athletes who have worked together over the years to raise thousands of dollars for Mead High School Athletic Programs. Please email John Barrington - john.barrington@mead354.org - if you are interested in becoming a Booster Club Officer!

Boosters are also actively searching for volunteers to help with our annual Mead/Mt. Spokane Golf Tournament - the Cat Scramble. We need 2 to 3 folks to represent Mead High School in one of the most important and largest athletic fundraisers of the year. The proposed date for the 2021 event, is Saturday, September 18th, at Wandermere Golf Course.

MEAD HALL OF FAME – NOMINATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED NOW! Last year Mead High School introduced our first class of Hall of Fame Members in a ceremony held at halftime of a basketball game, February 6th. Becky Clark and Gary Baskett are Mead’s inaugural members, and their plaques are prominently displayed in our new Hall of Fame trophy case on the south wall of our gym foyer. Last year’s program, NOMINATION FORM

The purpose of the Mead High School Hall of Fame is to recognize former outstanding teams, student-athletes, coaches, faculty and Mead community members who have made significant contributions to Mead High School and the Mead community. Our goal is to formally perpetuate the memory of those teams, student-athletes, coaches, faculty and supporters who have brought distinction, honor and excellence to Mead High School.

Hall of Fame Criteria

- Graduated / Retired from Mead High School at least 10 years prior (Exceptions approved by committee)
- A person may be nominated more than once
- Nominations are considered for 3 years
- Nominee must possess outstanding moral character
- A maximum of four candidates will be inducted each year (Exceptions approved by selection committee)
- HOF recognition may be given posthumously
Save the Date: Running Start, Dual Credit, & Running Start for Careers Informational Zoom Meeting Coming Soon!

Sophomores and Juniors - If you are interested in pursuing Running Start or other Dual Credit options for next school year - mark your calendar for **Tuesday, March 2nd @ 6:00pm**. Register in advance for this webinar: https://ccs-spokane.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4Z2Y6rdCT7W2ZxhZZet9Gg

The Mead School District is excited about our partnership with the Community Colleges of Spokane and a new dual credit offering called "Running Start for Careers." We know there is a need for skilled labor in almost every vocational field and this option allows juniors and/or seniors to start their training at the college for free while simultaneously earning high school credits toward graduation. Find more information and available programs (Accounting, Criminal Justice, Automotive, Fire Science, Machinist, Paralegal, etc.) at https://www.mead354.org/apps/pages/Dual_Credit_Options

**Don’t Let COVID-19 Derail Your Plans for After High School**

**Student & Families - A message from the Washington Achievement Council**

When planning for life after high school—especially in the face of COVID-19—it’s important to consider all your options, stay on track with preparing and applying, and have a back-up plan.

The Washington Achievement Council has additional planning resources. Visit the Plan Your Future web page for more on the resources below and a wealth of information about financial aid, college, and career education:

- **Explore Your Options:** The College & Career Compass tool will help you identify educational pathways that can lead to promising careers and a brighter future.
- **Seize the Opportunity:** More families are now eligible for the Washington College Grant, which can be used for multiple pathways, including four-year degrees, community or technical college, apprenticeships, and other training.
- **Apply for Financial Aid:** Washington College Grant is one of many financial aid programs available that can dramatically reduce the cost of an education. The only way to know for sure if you’ll qualify is to apply for financial aid.
- **Reassess Your Status:** High schools and colleges continue to be as flexible as possible about everything from graduation and course requirements to test scores and college admissions. Connect with admissions and financial aid offices to understand how they are adapting to better serve prospective students. Even your financial aid may be adjusted if your circumstances have changed.
Don’t let uncertainty about the coming months derail your hopes and dreams for the future. Stay on track and plan your future on the Washington Student Achievement Council website.

*All Mead High School students are being asked to complete one future planning lesson each semester on their XELLO account. These lessons are being assigned through English courses and are part of our Required High School & Beyond Plan requirements for graduation.

Seniors - FAFSA Support

There is still time to complete your FAFSA. The College Success Foundation is offering free zoom webinars to support you this month. If you still want to try and qualify for financial aid, join this free zoom support to help you complete your FAFSA. College Success Foundation FAFSA Webinars

Washington State Opportunity Scholarship

The Baccalaureate Scholarship provides up to $22,500 in financial aid and access to career-launching support services for students pursuing high-demand STEM and health care majors. Apply today at at https://www.waopportunitiescholarship.org/

Application due by February 11th
2021 Educational Programs and Operations Renewal Levy

What does this renewal levy fund?

Academics
- Elective Course Offerings
- Advanced Placement Courses
- Elementary Specialists
- Staff for Small Class Sizes

Extra-Curriculars
- Band, Choir, Orchestra, Art
- Athletics in MS and HS
- Speech and Drama
- Student Clubs

Future Readiness
- Work-Based Learning
- Career-Track Opportunities
- STEM Courses
- Technology

Student Support
- Nurses and Para Ed Support
- Counselors & Social Workers
- English Language Learning
- Student Intervention Support

Is this a new tax?
No. It is a proposed three-year renewal of the current levy that expires in 2021. The Mead School District has had a levy in place for more than 40 years.

What are levies for?
Levies provide local funding that bridges the gap between what the state and federal governments pay and the actual costs of operating our schools. Levies make up about 11.7% of the district’s total operating revenue.

What does this renewal levy cost taxpayers?
If approved by voters on Feb. 9, the estimated levy tax rate for Mead School District would be $2.00 per $1,000 of assessed valuation.

For a $300,000 home, that equals $600 per year or $50 per month.

Strategic priorities developed through community feedback are the backbone of this renewal levy and are fundamental to the student experience. These improvements will continue to strengthen our schools and prepare our students for the future:
- Support for at-risk students K-12
- Mental health support for students
- Career-track opportunities for 9-12 students (internships)

Each student future ready empowered to dream, believe, achieve