



MEAD MATTERS

SPRING 2023

EACH STUDENT
FUTURE READY

EMPOWERED TO
DREAM, BELIEVE,
ACHIEVE

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MEET OUR NEXT *SUPERINTENDENT*

Travis W. Hanson



BOARD SELECTS HANSON TO LEAD MSD

The Board of Directors has hired Travis W. Hanson as Mead School District's next superintendent! Hanson, who has been the Superintendent of Deer Park School District since 2013, will take over in Mead on July 1, 2023, replacing Shawn Woodward who has accepted the superintendent position in Monroe (Wash.) School District.

"We are very excited for the future of the Mead School District under Travis' leadership," Board President Denny Denholm said. "After reading through our community's feedback obtained from a recent survey, working through hiring process options and reviewing previously vetted candidates for the position, it was clear to us that Travis checked all the boxes."

A product of the Mead School District, Travis graduated in 1990 from Mead High School, where he returned to teach in 1996. This was followed by a brief period of time working at Mead's District Office as a Curriculum & Technology Specialist. His two daughters are graduates of Mt. Spokane High School.

"During his decade as a superintendent, Travis has proven himself to be well-respected Statewide," Board member Michael Cannon said. "That experience, coupled with his familiarity with the Mead community and his strong background in managing a district budget, directly aligns with the top themes from our community survey and discussions as a board."

"I'm humbled and honored to be selected as the next superintendent of this incredible school district," Hanson said. "I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to return to Mead and look forward to being a part of the exciting things being done every day both inside and outside the classroom. I have fond memories of my time as both a student and teacher in Mead and will work tirelessly to ensure young people continue to experience all that has made a Mead education special."

VISIT WWW.MEAD354.ORG OR THE MEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT FACEBOOK PAGE FOR THE LATEST NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT



SPOKANE SCHOLARS RECOGNIZE REGION'S BEST AND BRIGHTEST

Students from Mt. Spokane and Mead High School were honored on April 10 at the 31st annual Spokane Scholars Foundation Banquet in front of about 800 people in attendance at the Spokane Convention Center.

Each scholar was recognized individually on stage, and each received a personalized Spokane Scholars medallion. The top four scholars in each category received cash awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$4,000. Fourteen regional universities and colleges have agreed to match the awards with a scholarship for one year.

Since 1993, the Spokane Scholars Foundation has recognized excellence in academic performance by the regions' high school seniors. Since that first year, the Spokane Scholars Foundation has recognized over 3500 scholars, selected more than 500 Award Recipients, and distributed more than 1.5 million dollars in cash awards and matches.

2023 Scholar Award Recipients

English

\$4,000 – Hannah Robbins, MHS

Fine Arts

\$3,000 – William Strauch, MHS

\$1,000 – Charlotte Pedersen, MSHS

Mathematics

\$1,000 – Andrew Parker, MHS

Spokane Scholar Recognition

Riley Bastian [MSHS, English]

Danielle Beauchemin [MHS World Languages]

Tori Hausman [MSHS, Science]

Natalie Millen [MHS, Science]

Misa McKenna [MHS, Social Studies]

Hayden O'Neal [MSHS, Social Studies]

Cady Shaw, [MSHS, World Languages]

MSHS REGIONAL ART WINNERS

Mt. Spokane HS represented the Mead School District very well at this year's NEWESD 101 Regional Visual Art Show with 11 Wildcat art students placing in the competition. MSHS had five first-place winners who will proceed to the OSPI state competition. Congratulations to all 11 students listed below and MSHS art teachers Angelika Wilson-Wipp, Nicki Banger and Jenne Hatcher!



Zoë Monroe Tapia: "Huancavelica"
1st place | People's Choice Award



Chloe Custer: "Love is Blind"
1st place



Sienna Simpson: "Reclaimed"
1st place



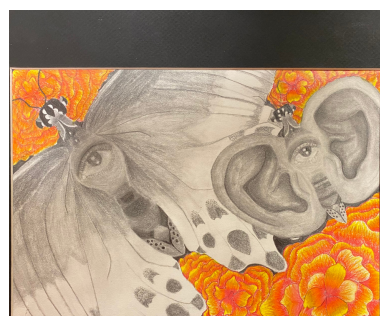
Samiele Christensen: "Reflection of Grief"
1st place, Judge's Choice, CWU \$2000 scholarship



Riley Bastian: "Night and Day" - 3rd place



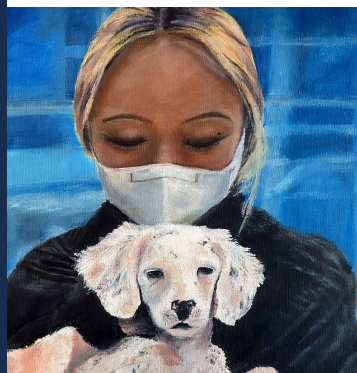
Adella James: "Solitude"
1st place



Kailey Shipley: "We're All Connected"
3rd place



Logan Wehr: "City of Angels"
2nd place



Charlotte Pedersen: "Friends Forever"
3rd place and Board Choice Award



Karissa Lindner: "The Dancer"
2nd place



Ethany Rogan: "Surreal"
2nd place

CLOTHING DRIVE TO BENEFIT AREA



Our schools hosted a fantastic (and friendly) clothing donation drive competition from Jan. 30-Feb. 27 to benefit the Mead Student Resource Hub in partnership with Teen & Kid Closet. Organized by Mead High School ASB Advisor Skyler Lamberd, 14 district schools collected clothing throughout the course of the month and came away with more than 6,100 items to benefit students and families in need in our area.

More than 50 leadership students from MHS ASB and Farwell Elementary ASB led the way in putting the drive together, decorating and delivering the donation boxes for all participating schools. Mt. Spokane (1,220 items), Northwood (647) and Farwell (1,187) collected the most items among their peer schools.

"The idea behind [the donation drive competition] is not so much what they're going to win, but what they're contributing," said Kelly Schultz, Mead School District Student and Family Services Coordinator. "We feel it's essential for our students to have a sense of community and understanding that they could be helping a neighbor."

HEART SAFE SCHOOLS DESIGNATION



From L to R: JoLena Speer, Ruth Erb, Tracy Emch, Carrie Dinwoodie, Josh Westermann, Allison Cowart, Gret Jordan, Kristen Palpant

With leadership from the school nursing staff and Providence Sacred Heart, MSD earned a Project Adam Heart Safe Designation.

A Project ADAM Heart Safe School has successfully implemented a quality sudden cardiac arrest program of awareness, training and effective emergency response to promote a safe environment for students, visitors and staff as outlined in the Heart Safe School Checklist.

Join us in giving a major kudos to our school nursing staff as they work daily to provide care for our students.

MHS STUDENTS SPEAK TO ELEMENTARIES ABOUT KINDNESS

On February 24th, three Mead High School students took "leadership" to the next level, volunteering their time to speak about the importance of kindness to elementary students. MHS students Bailey Wells, Brandon Southerly and Mitchell Holiday engaged youngsters at Skyline Elementary's Town Hall Assembly to share stories of how kindness can affect and impact others in a positive way.

Coordination of the MHS leadership students and Skyline Elementary came in partnership with Light A Lamp, as a part of their mental wellness campaign titled *Project Lift Up*. In addition to working with leadership students and sharing the message of kindness, Light A Lamp also has been delivering mental wellness packs to area schools to help lift up students who may be struggling with hopelessness, anxiety or depression. Light A Lamp has delivered packs filled with mental health resources, food coupons, journals and even small hygiene products like lip balm to Mead HS, Mt. Spokane HS, Mountainside MS, Northwood MS, Highland MS & Skyline Elementary.



Find the 2022-23 District Calendar and plan ahead with the Board-approved 2023-24 calendar at www.mead354.org/calendar

MEAD MATTERS
Mead School District #354
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Questions or Concerns? Call (509) 465-6000

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: Josh Westermann, Director of Student and Family Services – 509-465-6008, 2323 E Farwell Rd, Mead, WA 99021 or josh.westermann@mead354.org.

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CONGRATS TO OUR NEW AND RENEWING BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS

The Mead School District is pleased to recognize seven teachers who earned or renewed their National Board Certification, which is widely considered to be the highest professional recognition for educators. These accomplished educators earned the profession's highest mark of achievement through a rigorous process, demonstrating their proven impact on student learning and achievement. Including Mead's three new certifications, the District now employs 52 National Board Certified Teachers.

New NBCTs

Becki Higgins (5th Gr, Meadow Ridge)
Ryan Iverson (8th Gr, Highland)
Melissa Hainline (2nd Gr, Skyline)

Renewing NBCTs

Drew Olsen (Music, Colbert)
Lea Sneed (Kindergarten, Evergreen)
Michael Divelbiss (Music, Northwood)
Vivian Davis (Resource, Shiloh Hills)

NATIONAL BOARD
for Professional Teaching Standards®

LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Spring Break is now behind us, and we are in the homestretch of the school year! First, thank you to our community for all you've done to help us get through a long, snowy winter. Weather is always unpredictable this time of year in our neck of the woods. With that said, we turn our attention to finishing the year strong and setting the school district up for a successful 2023-24 school year. As a leadership team, we are focused on next year's budget and some adjustments we have to make due to a number of factors from decreases in state-funding sources like Local Effort Assistance and Regionalization dollars, enrollment not bouncing back post-pandemic and ongoing capital needs. As always, these adjustment proposals are brought to the Board publicly this time of year, reviewed and ultimately approved by the Board. That process is underway and will be an agenda topic at each of the next two Board meetings.

Finally, I'd like to congratulate Travis Hanson on his appointment as the next Superintendent of this wonderful school district. Travis is an experienced leader, excellent communicator and always has the best interests of students and families in mind. The future is bright here in Mead!



Sincerely,
Shawn Woodward

COMMUNITY MEMBER E-NEWS SIGNUP

Are you a community member with no children currently attending Mead Schools, but you want to stay up-to-date on the latest news and updates from the Mead School District? Scan the QR Code or go to mead354.org/email to sign up to receive emails from the Mead School District about latest happenings around the schools, board meeting updates, bond & levy information and other good news! If you have a current student or are a current staff member and already receive emails from the District or your child's school, you are already good to go!



SCHOOL FUNDING AND TAXPAYER IMPACT

Interested in how public school districts are funded or have questions on how local, state and federal dollars are used? There are a couple new ways to stay on top of how the school district is funded. For an overall view, visit mead354.org/schoolfunding. And, look for this seal --> to show you exactly how your levy taxes are being spent on enriching student experiences and opportunities!

