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."
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!

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 region's 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]

Zoe Monroe Tapia: “Huancavelica” 1st place | People’s Choice Award
Sienna Simpson: “Reclaimed” 1st place
Chloe Custer: “Love is Blind” 1st place
Kaley Shipley: “We’re All Connected” 3rd place
Karissa Lindner: “The Dancer” 2nd place
Ethany Rogan: “Surreal” 2nd place
Logan Wehr: “City of Angels” 2nd place
Riley Bastian: “Night and Day” 3rd place
Samie Christensen: “Reflection of Grief” 1st place, Judge’s Choice, CWU $2000 scholarship
Adella James: “Solitude” 1st place
Charlotte Pedersen: “Friends Forever” 3rd place and Board Choice Award

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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

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.

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.

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

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!