HALFWAY THROUGH THE SCHOOL YEAR... BUT STILL SO MUCH MORE TO COME!

It is hard to believe that we are already more than halfway through the school year. We had another incredible first half of the year and there is still so much more around the corner.

Our DECA program continues to shine state–wide and nationally. This year, Mead qualified 80 students for state. Mead DECA competes for nationals qualification on Feb 29 - March 1. Let’s go Panthers!

The Mead Poetry Out Loud Competition hit the Mead Theatre stage on January 9 and 10. Congratulations to Geneva Heisenbuttel who took first place and will rep the Panthers at the Eastern Regional Contest on tonight at 7:00 PM, Spokane Downtown Library. Shout outs also go out to Lexi Mattox (2nd) and Mackenzie Ediger (3rd).

Today, Mead Cheer heads to State to defend their Traditional Routine title. Click here to follow the Day 1 and Day 2 schedules at Battle Ground High School. Let’s go Cheer! Also this weekend, Mead Boys Wrestling heads to the Spokane Convention Center and Girls Wrestling to Hanford High School for the sub-regionals tournaments. Panther Wrestling is ready for a state title three-peat.

This next week is CatMania! Spirit Week. We will be on an alternate bell schedule Tuesday, 6 February for the CatMania! Pep Assembly. Later that evening we have the doubleheader against the Wildcats at 5:30 PM. Make sure to arrive early. We expect a full house. Currently, Panther Girls Basketball is the number one seed in the District 8 bracket. District playoff brackets start next week.

As we gear up for the spring season, we simultaneously wind down the winter season to celebrate the service, dedication, and accomplishments of John Barrington to Mead School District and Mead High School. Over the last 36 years, John taught math at both Mead Junior High (1988–1997) and Mead High School (1997–2018). John coached at both the middle and high school levels, including football, wrestling, baseball, and softball. In 2012, John became the Athletic Director for the Panthers. Over the past 12 years as AD, John has profoundly impacted not only student-athletes here at MHS but also the Greater Spokane League and state–wide athletics. His recent awards include: 21/22 WSSAAA Athletic Administrator Service Award and 22/23 WIAA District 8 Athletic Director of the Year. John retires on 1 March 2024. John’s wife, Tammy, is also retiring. Tammy spent her second career
The Mead Pantera (Yearbook) sets state record with four Pacemakers and two Gold Crown wins. (the past 12 years) in Mead School District serving in a variety of roles including Principal’s Assistant, Attendance, Athletics, Transportation, Performing Arts, and her current position as Bookkeeper at MHS. Please join us to celebrate both John and Tammy Barrington’s ride into retirement on Monday, 26 February 2024 at 6:00 PM in the Mead Mall (see flyer in the “Athletics & Activities” section).

So that leaves us with, what is next for Panther Athletics? After consulting about the best path forward to a new athletic director, we are very excited to announce that Lynn Coleman has agreed to assume the role of Interim Athletic Director starting March 4 through the end of June. John and Lynn have not only worked together for the past three years, but John is also already training Lynn for the transition.

Lynn started at Mead High School 24 years ago and has been the Administrative Assistant for Athletics the last three years. Lynn coached girls tennis in our district for over 20 years, and sent the Panthers to the state tournament 11 of 13 years. Lynn is a two-time GSL Coach of the Year. In addition to her district service, Lynn is a PTR Certified Teaching Pro 4A and was a Staff Teaching Pro at NorthPark Racquet Club for nine years. At one point, Lynn was the #1 ranked player in her age bracket for the Pacific Northwest and top ten in the nation. Lynn was also one of the directors of the Inland Empire Tennis Tournament for ten years, the largest junior tournament in the United States.

We are very confident that Lynn will continue to support Panther coaches and student-athletes in her new role.

Looking ahead to next year, we plan to post the permanent Athletic Director position in March and interview in April. We will post both inside and outside the district for a full search. The permanent Athletic Director position will start July 1. We will share more information on the hiring process as details are determined.

Thank you, as always, for your partnership in making Panther Nation the very best! Hoorah!

The 2023 book was named both a National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) Pacemaker Finalist (for the 6th time in a row) and a Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA) Crown Finalist (for the 3rd time in a row) this week. Crown winners will be announced in March and Pacemakers will be announced in April.

Additionally, Yearbook Adviser, Makena Busch, was named the Distinguished H.L. Hall National Yearbook Adviser of the Year recipient. Congrats, Makena!

WMEA ALL-STATE BAND AND ORCHESTRA
Mead High School band and orchestra students continue to shine state-wide. Seven of our Panther musicians were selected to perform with the WMEA All-State Band and Orchestra. They were selected from nearly 3000 who auditioned. Congrats!

Mead HS Band Students
Ashley Conner, 2024 WMEA All-State Concert Band-Bassoon
Isaac Ojennus, 2024 WMEA All-State Concert Band-Oboe
Bruce Redden, 2024 WMEA All-State Concert Band-Tuba

Mead HS Orchestra Students
Savithri Bhat, 2024 WMEA All-State Philharmonic Strings-Viola
William Farley, 2024 WMEA All-State Philharmonic Strings-Violin
Sophia Ji, 2024 WMEA All-State Philharmonic Strings-Violin
Sarah Lines, 2024 WMEA All-State Philharmonic Strings-Violin
REGISTRATION
All athletes must register in FinalForms.
- Participation Fee ($45) and
- ASB ($50) required.
- Click here to register online.

INTERESTED IN A SPRING SPORT?

SPRING SPORTS
Baseball (boys)
Boys/Girls Golf
Boys Soccer
Unified Soccer
Softball (fast-pitch; girls)
Boys/Girls Tennis
Boys/Girls Track & Field

ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

JUST A FEW HIGHLIGHTS....
Fri-Sat, 2-3 February
Fri-Sat, 2-3 February
Fri-Sat, 2-3 February
Friday, 2 February
Saturday, 3 February
Tuesday, 6 February
Thursday, 8 February
Fri-Sat, 9-10 February
Fri-Sat, 9-10 February
Saturday, 10 February
Tuesday, 13 February
Tuesday, 13 February
Thurs-Sat, 15-17 February
Fri-Sat, 16-17 February
Fri-Sat, 16-17 February
Mon-Wed, 26-28 February
Tuesday, 27 February
Saturday, 2 March
Wednesday, 6 March

Mead Cheer at State, Battle Ground High School
Boys Wrestling, Sub-regionals Tournament, Spokane Convention Center
Girls Wrestling, Sub-regionals Tournament, Hanford High School
Basketball v. GPrep @ Mead, 5:30 PM Girls, 7:00 PM Boys
Girls Dance at Richland
CatMania! Panthers v. Wildcats @ Mead, 5:30 PM
Mead Cheer Fashion Show (Prom Dresses), MHS Mall, 7:00 PM
Boys Wrestling, Regionals Tournament, University High School
Girls Wrestling, Regionals Tournament, Sunnyside High School
MSD Bridge Breaking Competition, 9:00 AM Check-in; 10:00 AM Event Start
Varsity Gymnastics, Regional Tournament, 4:00 PM, Mead Gymnastics Center
Choir Valentine’s Concert, Mead Theatre, 7:00 PM
“A Night of Senior-Directed One Acts,” MHS Theatre, 7:00 PM
Mat Classic XXXV (Wrestling State), Tacoma Dome
Band/Orchestra All-State, Yakima Convention Center
Spring Play Auditions, Mead Theatre, 3:00-6:00 PM
Mead Choir Cabaret, Mead Theatre, 7:00 PM
Mead Dance @ Ferris, 11:00 AM
MSD Cultural Night & Clothes Drive, Mead Mall, 6:00 PM

On January 19 at the Spokane High School Invitational at The Podium, Dominick Corley sprinted a crazy 6.64 personal best and smoked the competition in the 60m--earning the national top spot. It’s a historically fast time. Corley, a Stanford recruit, and academic standout at MHS, is looking forward to an impressive senior year for Mead Track. Congratulations, Dominick, the national record (6.57) is yours!
WHAT'S HAPPENING!

Celebration of Life
John Marshall
Saturday, 3 February 2024
Mead Theatre
2:00 - 5:00 PM
Click here for more details.

A Night of Senior-Directed One Acts
February 15-17, 2024
All shows 7:00 PM
$5.00
Act 2 is rated PG-13
Parent discretion advised for mature content

SAVE
Mead Cultural Night & Clothes Drive
03.06.2024
6-8 PM
MHS Mall

SAN Events are parent-sponsored
24/25 COURSE REGISTRATION WEEK

We are already at that point in the school year -- it’s time to select classes for next year! We are still in the process of updating the 24/25 Panther Focus Guide (Course Catalog) but you can still get a glimpse of class options by looking at the 23/24 Panther Focus Guide.

Please plan to make sure your Panther is present on registration days. Counselors provide important information regarding course selection and also support students updating their four-year plan.

Registration days:
Freshmen: Feb 20 & 23 (English classes)
Sophomores: Feb 21 (World History) and 23 (Humanities).
Juniors: Feb 22 (US History)

AP EXAMS ON SALE NOW
Start planning for AP Exams!
AP Exams are 6 May - 15 May 2024
- Students interested in taking an AP Exam must purchase the exam prior to the testing weeks.
- Sales run 1 February- 30 April 2024 in the MHS Business Office.
- AP Exams are $98.00. Payment plans available. Call 509.465.7031, stop by the MHS Business Office, or pay online.
- Fee waivers available: Complete the MSD Free/Reduced paperwork first, then have your student pick-up a state fee waiver form from Ms. Chandler in Room S1. Form due to Ms. Chandler no later than 2:40 PM on Friday, 26 April.
- IMPORTANT! There is a cancellation/ unused exam fee of $40. Therefore, if a student commits to taking an AP exam and later decides to cancel or no-shows on test day, a $40 fee will be accessed on the student’s Mead High School account.

The Winter Months are Still Here!
Snow is still possible...Families should always assume the school day will be conducted as normal unless notified by the district via phone call, email, district webpage, social media, or local media. For more information on School Delays and Closures, including snow routes, early dismissal and impacts on before and after-school activities, breakfast programs and preschool, go to www.mead354.org/delay.

 Increased Parking Lot Supervision
We are increasing parking lot patrols for a variety of reasons. Cars without a parking pass will receive one warning, then a ticket ($20). Student and parent will be emailed with the warning (and ticket) notification. Cars with passes must be parked in their designated space. Thank you for keeping the parking lot clean and safe.

STUDENT SERVICES NEWS

STUDENT HANDBOOK
Available on the MHS Website. CLICK HERE.

ATTENDANCE MATTER!
we are targeting Attendance as part of our A25/24 School Improvement Plan. Last year, our regular, on-time attendance was only 69% (far below pre-Covid years). Our target this year is over 90%. From Oct-Dec we were averaging 93.4%. We have dipped to 91.1% in January. Be here. It matters.

TWO HOUR LATE SCHEDULE

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<tr>
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<td>10:00 - 10:36</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>10:41 - 11:21</td>
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<tr>
<td>FIRST LUNCH</td>
<td>11:21 - 11:51</td>
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<td>3A</td>
<td>11:56 - 12:32</td>
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<td>3B</td>
<td>11:26 - 12:02</td>
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<td>SECOND LUNCH</td>
<td>12:02 - 12:32</td>
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<td>12:37 - 1:13</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>1:18 - 1:54</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>1:59 - 2:35</td>
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Stay in the Know
BULLETIN DE BELONGING
Keep up-to-date on a daily basis with all things student life at Mead.
Live, daily bulletin, CLICK HERE.
For archived editions, CLICK HERE.

GRADUATION! IS JUST FOUR MONTHS AWAY!
Order that cap, gown, and tassel now! You can also buy other graduation swag like hoodies, rings, and announcements.
It’s not too late to still purchase.

Reminder
Parking Pass Required!

The following events are available online:
- Pep Assembly
- Graduation

For archived editions, CLICK HERE.