



For our children, our community, our world, our future
CHENEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

12414 S. ANDRUS RD., CHENEY, WA 99004

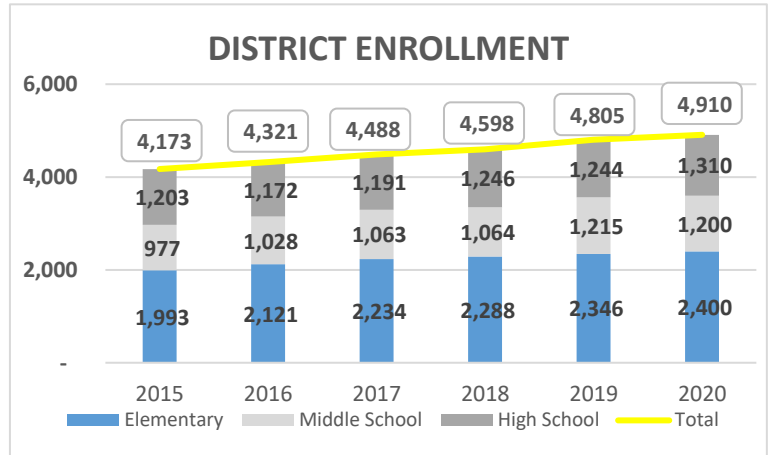
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Cheney Public Schools exists to guarantee a safe and caring learning environment where all students learn at high levels and graduate with options for post-secondary education, careers and civic engagement.

Cheney Public Schools truly appreciates the Legislature’s continued investment in K-12 education. As our state’s most valuable resource, our students deserve safe and secure schools and an equitable education system that provides meaningful learning opportunities for all children. We encourage the 2020 Legislature to support the priorities outlined below.

2020 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

PROVIDE CONSISTENT, EQUITABLE AND AMPLE RESOURCES

- Update staff allocation formulas and the prototypical school funding model. We urge the Legislature to begin a phase-in of updated ratios to improve state funded staffing levels (i.e. nurses, counselors, mental health professionals, school psychologists, etc.)
- Special Education must be fully funded to provide legally required services to our most vulnerable students. We request the Legislature increase the multiplier to cover real costs and remove the 13.5% cap.
- School Employees Benefit Board. We request that adjustments are made, including clarification that substitute employees are not benefits eligible (unless funding is provided by the state).
- We request re-evaluation of the “regionalization” model. Regionalization should be “regional” in scope.

IMPROVE SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY

- We request increased funding for school safety and security so districts can hire mental health providers, counselors, and school resource officers to provide safe schools for all students.

SUPPORT SCHOOL FACILITIES

- We request the State support the *actual* costs of school construction and update the antiquated per- student square footage allocations to support high-quality teaching and learning spaces.
- We also ask that the Legislature advance a constitutional amendment to the people that would reduce the 60% threshold for approval of school bond issues.

Serving the Communities of Airway Heights, Cheney, and West Plains