



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

12414 S. ANDRUS RD., CHENEY, WA 99004

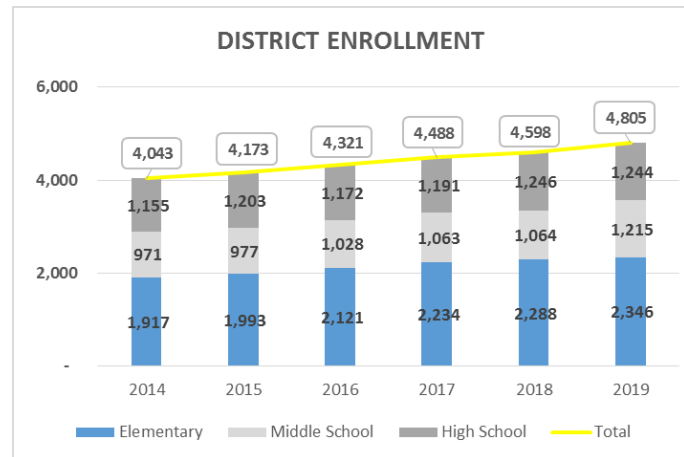
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Cheney Public Schools truly appreciates the Legislature’s continued investment in K-12 education. As our state’s most valuable resource, our students deserve safe and secure schools and an equitable education system that provides meaningful learning opportunities for all children. We encourage the 2019 Legislature to support the priorities outlined below.

2019 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

ADDRESS AND ELIMINATE FUNDING INEQUITIES CREATED UNDER EHB 2242 AND SB 6362

- Inequities between districts are exacerbated by capping levy authority of property rich districts at a higher level than property poor districts. We advocate for raising the LEA limit to \$2,500 for all districts.
- 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.
- It is imperative that the legislature fully fund the cost of implementing the School Employee Benefits Board (a fiscal impact of \$2.1M to the Cheney School District).
- 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.
- We also request resources to support high-risk students who have been suspended or expelled.

CREATE AND MAINTAIN FAIR ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEMS

- Our State assessment system has been in constant fluctuation. Please support a fair assessment system that is consistent, efficient, non-punitive and designed to assist schools in improving practice.
- In support of a fair and non-punitive assessment system, we ask that the legislature delink state assessments from high school graduation.

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.
- 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