



Community Connections

For our children, our community, our world, our future

Important Dates

Oct. 25

School Board Meeting
4 p.m.
Three Springs HS/District
Conference Center

Nov. 8

School Board Meeting
6 p.m.
Salnave Elementary

Nov. 10

Veterans Day Holiday - No
School

Nov. 20/21

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Nov. 22-24

Thanksgiving Holiday - No
School

Important Links

[- Cheney Public Schools
Nutrition Services](#)

[- Cheney Public Schools Jobs](#)

[- Bond & Levy Homepage](#)

[- Spokesman-Review Bond &
Levy Article](#)

Parents, Guardians, Staff, and Community Members,

The fall season is quickly coming to a close as our region prepares for colder weather and shorter days. The election season is also fast approaching as Spokane County prepares for the general election on Tuesday, November 7. Currently, four of the five seats on the Cheney Public Schools Board of Directors are up for election--three seats for regular election and one seat for special election. Your vote matters, so please remember to vote in the upcoming election. You can also [click here](#) to register to vote.

Our school board has been hard at work over the past few months determining rates for the Educational Programs and Operations (EP&O) Levy, Bond, and Capital Levy, each of which will be on the ballot this coming February 2024. I, along with the district's Finance and Operations Director Jamie Reed, have been traveling throughout the district, presenting information and answering questions regarding the bond and levies to district staff and community groups within our three distinct communities: Cheney, Airway Heights, and West Plains. We are excited to continue to provide information about each of the ballot measures throughout the next few months!

A big thank you to everyone who completed the recent Cheney Public Schools ThoughtExchange! This survey gathered initial feedback and ideas from staff, parents, guardians, students, and community members related to the district's strategic plan. The district leadership team will dive into these results and begin making plans for next steps. Stay tuned!

Our district staff participated in a Professional Learning Day on Friday, October 13. As students had the day off, our staff was hard at work focusing on student learning and how our Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) can best serve our students. It was a productive day learning and implementing new ways to improve the learning experience for all of the district's students. I look forward to seeing the work from the Professional Learning Day come alive in classrooms across the district!

Cheney Public Schools members, we need your help! We are currently short six (6) drivers for our district bus routes and unable to cover the district transportation needs. This includes our morning and afternoon transportation routes, extra-curricular activities and any additional transportation needs. If the district cannot meet transportation needs, significant measures such as creating a larger walk zones may be necessary. If you or someone you know is interested in driving buses or vans for the district, please [click here](#) for more information!

We are Cheney Public Schools!

Take care,

Ben Ferney, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Cheney Public Schools

Remember To



Our Essential Foundations

- High Expectations and Continuous Progress
- Involvement & Engagement with Community
- Stewardship & Planning

Follow Cheney Public Schools on:

Instagram Facebook and Twitter

or go to www.cheneysd.org for current news & information.



PACE

PARTNERS ADVANCING
CHARACTER EDUCATION

Character Trait for October

RESPONSIBILITY

Respect is being accountable, the pursuit of excellence, and the exercise of self-control.

October 2023



Professional Learning Day

Oct. 13 was one of three professional learning days (PLD) for the 2023-24 school year, and schools were closed to students while district teachers, paraeducators, and administrators spent the day listening, learning, and planning for the future. High school and middle school staff gathered at their respective schools, while elementary schools hosted staff from across the district, broken into groups by grade and position. Each option school--WIN, Three Springs High School, and Home Works!-met together as well, working together in the morning while breaking off into their respective schools in the afternoon. Proficiency scales were the day's focus as educators worked to update scales based on priority standards. These scales provide a way for students to demonstrate their knowledge in each subject based on the standard levels for each subject. District paraeducators came together to connect and learn more about de-escalation strategies and building relationships. It was a great day spent improving the educational experience for all the district's students.



- BUS DRIVER POSITIONS
- PARAEDUCATORS
- CUSTODIANS
- COACHES
- AND MORE!



APPLY NOW

Visit [Cheney Public Schools](https://www.cheneypublicschools.org) for more information on available jobs and to apply!

Nutrition Services Keeps it Local



DID YOU KNOW?

The Krusteaz muffin mix Cheney Public Schools uses for breakfast breads is Shepard's Grain whole grain mix.

Shepard's Grain, created by wheat farmer Fred Fleming out of Reardan, Wash., is grown locally, milled locally at Continental Mills in Spokane, with a portion packaged in Seattle. Shepard's Grain is part of a West Coast collective of small family farms that are not only producing quality crops but creating jobs in rural communities. Local communities, local families, local farmers, and sustainable farming, all part of the product Cheney Public Schools serves to the students of the district.

Meet the New Cheney Middle School Staff:

Mrs. Holmgren

This fall, journalism students at Cheney Middle School interviewed each of the new CMS staff members, learning about their education history, skillset, personal history, and hobbies. Students then developed short write-ups highlighting what they learned. Below is the write-up on Mrs. Holmgren, written and designed by seventh grader Kenneth Hooper.



Meet Mrs. Holmgren!

Meet Mrs. Holmgren! She works at Cheney Middle School as a Library Media Specialist, more commonly known as the librarian. She went to Utah State University, getting a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, and a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the George Washington University. She chose her job because she loves the library and loves reading. She was at Betz Elementary for 9 years as a library assistant before coming to CMS.

Mrs. Holmgren started working at CMS on the 2nd day of the 2023 school year, passing an interview the day before. She chose CMS because she loves the energy of middle schoolers. She hopes to make the library a safe place for students, to make students love reading, and to always be available about anything for students.



Cheney Public Schools 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, economic status, pregnancy, familial status, marital status, disability, or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination.

Title IX/Chapter 28A.640 Officer/
Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator/ADA Coordinator/Gender Inclusive Schools Coordinator
Tom Arlt, Assistant Superintendent
Cheney School District, 12414 S. Andrus Rd.
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4550

Section 504 Coordinator
Franklin Day, Director, Student Support Services
Cheney School District, 12414 S. Andrus Rd.
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4507

Requests for Disclosure of Public Records
Helen Page, Public Records Officer
Cheney School District, 12414 S. Andrus Rd.,
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4502