



Community Connections

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

Important Dates

Feb. 28

School Board Meeting
6 p.m.
Windsor Elementary School

March 13

School Board Meeting
6 p.m.
Cheney High School Library

March 14

Parent/Teacher Conferences
No Students

March 15

Parent/Teacher Conferences
No Students

March 27

School Board Meeting
11:30 a.m.
Snowdon Elementary

Important Links

[- Cheney Public Schools Nutrition Services](#)

[- Cheney Public Schools Jobs](#)

[- Choice Process](#)

Parents, Guardians, Staff, and Community Members,

It is hard to believe that February has nearly come and gone, and March is upon us. So much has happened in the short time since the New Year, including the February 13 Special Election, a continuation of our district's strategic planning process, our district-wide Professional Learning Day, and multiple student activities across the district.

Thank you to all our community members who exercised their right to vote and those who supported our measures! Time and time again, it is evident that we have a strong community supporting our students and children. Our Educational Programs and Operations Levy passed with nearly 56 percent approval, while our Capital Technology Levy passed with almost 59 percent approval. As a district, we are thrilled to have the funding to continue offering our students so many opportunities in their schools. We will now begin reflecting, addressing concerns, and gathering community feedback on the next steps in potentially re-running the bond. Be on the lookout for a survey distributed via email and social media in the coming weeks asking for your feedback and opinions on the first bond measure.

The District's Strategic Plan is also top of mind as we have moved into the third phase of our five-phase strategic planning process: Focus Groups. Earlier this month, we distributed survey links via email and social media to four distinct groups: community members, parents/guardians, staff, and students. Over the next five weeks, we will meet with multiple 11-member focus groups representing the four distinct groups to gather valuable feedback and information to guide the District's strategic plan. By April, we hope to have a strategic plan draft completed and, by May, a final plan to present to the Board of Directors for consideration. The input of our greater community is imperative to ensure we fully represent everyone in our Strategic Plan.

Our district staff participated in the second Professional Learning Day of the school year on Friday, February 9, and it was fantastic to see all of the wonderful learning and great discussions taking place among our staff. A few highlights were the cross collaboration between schools, guest speaker Kristin Souers leading professional development on the power of 'mindset', and the focus on student learning in teacher teams. It was such a productive day, and I look forward to seeing this work implemented in classrooms across the district.

February has been full of awesome events for our students, from Cheney High School's Black Student Union's performance at the third-annual Spokane Black Voices Symposium to the second-annual Cheney High School Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM) night, there have been opportunities district-wide to join in on the activities. I also had an opportunity to watch the Cheney High School Drama performance of These Shining Lives; what an amazing show by such talented individuals.

As I reflect on all the incredible things our district has done this school year, I am again thankful to be part of such a committed and supportive district! From our community members, parents, and families to our staff and students, it is an all-around effort to continue making this a great district.

We are Cheney Public Schools!

Take care,

Ben Ferney, Ed.D.
Superintendent, Cheney Public Schools

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.



Character Trait for February
HONESTY

Sincerity and reverence or love for the truth.

Activities from Around the District



CHS's Black Student Union performs at the third-annual Spokane Black Voices Symposium, presented by The Spokesman-Review.



Attendees at the Cheney CTE Second Annual STEM Night enjoy one of the many activities available.



Betz Elementary second graders follow the direction of music teacher Shaun Kelly in their musical performance, Jr. Suessical.



Members of CHS Drama perform in *These Shining Lives* in early February.

Feb. 13 Special Election Thank You

Thank you for your votes, Cheney Public Schools community! Both of our replacement levies—EP&O and Capital Technology—have been approved. We are grateful to our voters and community for your support, which helps us continue to provide our students with access to safe, caring environments with options for their futures.

We will begin reflecting and gathering input on the next steps in re-running the bond. In addition to gathering community feedback and addressing concerns, we will work together with district administrators and our Board of Directors on a plan moving forward.

THANK YOU FOR VOTING



Choice Process Enrollment Window Now Open

The Choice Enrollment window is now open through March 29! What does this mean for district families? If your student(s) attends their address-assigned school, no further action is needed. However, if your

student(s) has choiced into a school other than their address-assigned school, you need to complete the choice process. It is important to note that ALL choice families need to complete the choice process, regardless of new choice or renewal. [Click here](#) to access the district webpage on the Choice Enrollment Window.

District Strategic Plan Update



Thank you to each of our district community members for the active role you've taken in the district's strategic planning process. As we continue on in the process, your perspective and guidance are necessary to ensure we are representing the collective district in the strategic plan. We will be hosting several community focus groups during the month of March and April. If you are not selected for a focus group, but you filled out the focus group form by the Feb. 23 deadline, you will receive a follow-up email requesting your feedback. Any students grades 3-12 who have not filled out the feedback form are encouraged to do so by clicking the link below!

[Student Feedback Form](#)

Visit [Cheney Public Schools](#) for more information on available jobs and to apply!

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

February 2024