Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

I hope your summer is off to a great start and that you have found ways to stay cool as we have experienced a long spell of above average (and even record) temperatures. In this month’s newsletter, I will share information on the recent Andrus Fire, and provide updates related to health and safety protocols and upcoming enrollment opportunities. As always, if you have questions related to any of these issues or need assistance with any other school related questions, please contact the district office at 509-559-4502 or email me directly at roettger@cheneysd.org.

On July 5th the Andrus Fire burned through a portion of our district office property and close to several of our buildings as well as threatening many homes of our community members. While the fire was directly behind the Three Springs High School and Home Works campus, we were very fortunate that neither of the schools suffered any damage and no homes in the surrounding area were lost. I want to personally thank all of the many fire fighters, emergency response team members, law enforcement officers, and volunteers who quickly sprang in to action to contain this rapidly spreading fire. While it is extremely unfortunate that the fire burned approximately 230 acres of fields and forested areas, the situation could have been much worse without the immediate response and hard work of everyone involved. Thank you!

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a significant amount of guidance was issued to school districts during the 2020-2021 school year by the state Department of Health (DOH), OSPI, L&I, the Governor’s office, and Spokane Regional Health District (SRHD). This guidance included health and safety protocols that were adhered to in our schools, on our buses, and within all district facilities (physical distancing, hand washing, face coverings, etc.). As we approach the start of the new school year I know there will be questions related to the protocols that may be in place as we begin the 2021-2022 school year. Following two meetings this week (one including a representative from DOH and the second with SRHD), it is my understanding that the state Department of Health will provide updated health and safety protocol guidance to school districts early next week. Once updated guidance is received, we will work with SRHD, our central office team, and the Board of Directors to analyze the latest information and update health and safety plans for the fall. As soon as updated information related to health and safety protocols is available, it will be shared with our families and community.

In preparation for a full in-person reopening of schools on September 1st, we are providing a mid-summer enrollment opportunity at each of our school sites from 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 22nd. In addition to this mid-summer option, each of our school offices will be open beginning Monday, August 9th to assist families with enrollment and answer questions related to the upcoming school year.

As of Friday, July 16th, there are 47 days until the start of the 2021-2022 school year. In the weeks ahead, we will continue to prepare for the start of the school year and look forward to seeing students in our schools on Wednesday, September 1st!

Take care and enjoy the rest of your summer!

Rob Roettger, Superintendent

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**Important dates:**

- **July 22**
  - Mid-Summer School Registration, all school sites, 12:00 - 4:00
- **August 9**
  - School Offices Reopen
- **August 18**
  - School Board Meeting, Cheney High School and Zoom Webinar, 5:30 p.m.
- **September 1**
  - First Day of School
- **September 6**
  - Labor Day Holiday — No School
- **September 13**
  - First Day of Preschool

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**Our essential foundations**

- ★ High Expectations and Continuous Progress
- ★ Involvement and Engagement with School District Community
- ★ Stewardship and Planning

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**Character Trait for July:**

GENEROSITY

Unselfish giving and sharing of resources, time, and talents with others.

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**July 2021**

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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
Tom Arlt, Assistant Superintendent
Cheney School District, 12414 S. Andrus Rd., Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4550
Email: tarlt@cheneysd.org

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

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
Email: hpage@cheneysd.org

Cheney Athlete Headed to Tokyo Olympics!

Blackhawks forever! Former Cheney Blackhawk Isaiah Rigo was one of 61 athletes selected to represent the United States at the Paralympic Games this August in Tokyo, Japan. Isaiah is one of just three athletes from the Spokane area selected to join the team after completing three days of difficult trials. Now competing at the University of Illinois, Isaiah was a four-time 2A state champion in wheelchair cross country competition from 2015 to 2018, and helped our Blackhawks track and field team win a combined state title in 2018. The Tokyo Games run from August 24 to September 5. Track and field begins on August 27. Go Isaiah! Your Blackhawk family and Cheney community will be rooting for you!