



Community Connections

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

Important dates:

Oct. 14
School Board Meeting
Zoom
6 p.m.

Oct. 17
Homecoming Parade
Cheney High School
Bus Loop
6:30-7:30 p.m.

Oct. 22
Potential School Board
Work Session
Zoom
5:30 p.m.

Oct. 28
School Board Meeting
Zoom
6 p.m.

Nov. 1
Daylight Saving Time

Nov. 11
Veterans' Day
No School

Nov. 18
School Board Meeting
Zoom
6 p.m.

Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

Superintendents and school district administrators continuously plan and prepare for a variety of situations, scenarios, and circumstances. While this is the case, no one could have fully prepared for the COVID-19 health situation which led to a statewide school closure on March 13th and continues to impact our schools today. Although navigating the COVID-19 health situation has been a challenge, I believe we have made significant progress as a school system and that there are many reasons for optimism as we enter the fall.

To begin with, our teachers and staff have done an amazing job of creating a robust distance learning model for students. Consequently, we have been able to offer both teacher-paced (live daily classroom instruction) and self-paced (flexible learning hours) models in support of the needs of our families. We have also issued 400 hot spots to families for internet connectivity and 3,000 Chromebooks and devices to students. Moving forward, it is important that we are able to adapt and meet the learning needs of our students in a distance learning model and through in-person instruction as the health situation allows.

While each of our approximately 4,800 students began the year in the distance learning model, in recent weeks we have begun phasing small groups of students back into our schools. The initial phase-in began on September 21st and included a hybrid schedule for students furthest from educational justice. During the week of October 5th students who began on the 21st increased their time on site and we began phasing in our ECEAP pre-school students and additional K-5 students furthest from educational justice. In addition, this week we began providing daily full time in-person kindergarten for families who have selected this option.

Altogether, there are currently 667 students receiving instructional support on-site each week in our schools (approximately 14% of our student enrollment). In the coming weeks we will continue to work with the Spokane Regional Health District and analyze the health situation as we make decisions about phasing in additional grade levels and students. While we are eager to have more students on campus, we want to continue to do so safely and with the support of the regional health district.

While I do not know when the COVID situation will be "over" or managed in such a way that allows for a return to a "normal" school schedule and activities, I do know that as a system we are committed to doing our very best to educate each and every child whether physically on our campuses or through distance learning. And, although we cannot eliminate the risk of COVID-19, we are committed to doing our very best to mitigate the health risks as we strive to ensure a safe learning environment for our students, staff members, and community.



In closing, I want to thank you for your continued support and patience as we work through the COVID-19 pandemic and I want to urge everyone to remember this situation is temporary and we will get through it together as a community.

Robert W. Roettger

Robert Roettger, Superintendent

Our essential foundations

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

Follow Cheney Public Schools on Twitter  and Facebook 
or go to www.cheneysd.org for current news and information.



Character Trait for October
RESPONSIBILITY

Being accountable, the pursuit of excellence,
and the exercise of self-control.

Cheney Homecoming Celebration!

Everyone deserves a homecoming in 2020! Our students at Cheney High School have been hard at work creating and organizing fun events the whole week of homecoming, Oct. 12—17! Dress up days, a scavenger hunt, and home and yard décor competitions will culminate in a homecoming parade Oct. 17, 6:30—7:30 p.m. Decorate your cars and wear your best Cheney gear or show off your stellar homecoming looks! Follow us on Instagram @cheneyschools for updates, reels, event details and more!



Cheney Student Making a Difference:

Cheney's Kaienna Ableman is spreading positivity in our community through her love of animals! Kai is a 5th grader at Salnave Elementary and operates a non-profit called Kai 4 Kritters, a local pet food bank. For her 10th birthday last year, Kai decided she wanted to create a pet food bank in honor of her rescue kitty Gracielynn, and when fires devastated many parts of Eastern Washington, she stepped up to answer the call! She and her family have been collecting donations for pets and animals affected by the recent local fires and in just two days, the community helped her raise more than \$1,300!

"She wanted to help and do something good for our community," Kai's mother Kahla Ableman said. "It gives her great purpose and makes her feel so good! With the local fires that sparked on Memorial Day, she wanted to immediately help the animals/pets that were affected by the devastation." Check out the Kai 4 Kritters Facebook page to see more. We have the most amazing students, and a community that supports each other -- great job, Kai! Is your student making a difference in our community? Email stalbot@cheneyisd.org and tell us how!



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
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

**WEST PLAINS
HOMECOMING
WEEK 2020**
"EVERYONE DESERVES A
HOMECOMING IN 2020"



OCT 12th-17th
Sponsored by
Cheney High School

Free Preschool Spots Available!

We are now serving preschool students two days a week in-person and two days remotely! We have several ECEAP spots still available -- visit www.cheneyisd.org under "Parent and Student Resources" to apply! ECEAP serves children ages 3 and 4 in the Cheney School District area, helping families succeed through education. Questions? Call (509) 559-4650 or (509) 559-4828.