



# Community Connections

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

## Important dates:

**November 5**  
Election Day

**November 11**  
Veteran's Day holiday—  
no school

**November 13**  
Sunset Elementary  
School Improvement  
Plan, 3:15 p.m.  
School Rededication  
4:15 p.m.  
School Board Meeting,  
4:30 p.m.

**November 25-26**  
Parent/Teacher  
Conferences — no  
school

**November 27-29**  
Thanksgiving Break —  
no school

**December 4**  
Salnave Elementary  
School Improvement  
Plan, 5:15 p.m.  
School Board Meeting,  
6:00 p.m.

Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

The purpose of a mission statement is to clearly define why an organization exists. Following a thorough process, and a multitude of input/feedback, the mission statement for Cheney Public Schools has recently been updated and finalized. It now states, *"Cheney Public Schools exists to guarantee a safe and caring environment where ALL students learn at high levels and graduate with options for post-secondary education, careers, and civic engagement."*

There are approximately 4,900 students in our school district and my focus is to ensure that we provide each of them with a safe and caring environment, high levels of learning, and options for post-secondary pursuits following graduation. Our staff members, schools, and district are devoted to working collaboratively to achieve this mission and the learning and social/emotional goals of our district strategic plan.

In order to achieve our mission and goals, Cheney Public Schools is committed to the implementation of true professional learning communities (PLCs). Collaborative grade level and content specific teams meet each Friday during our weekly late start, and at other times throughout the week, to work through the four questions that guide professional learning communities (PLCs). The four guiding questions are:

1. *What specifically do we expect all students to learn? (Standards)*
2. *How will we know when each student has learned? (Assessment)*
3. *How will we respond when students experience difficulty learning? (Intervention)*
4. *How will we respond when students demonstrate they have learned? (Extension)*

Throughout the fall, we have spent a considerable amount of time and effort working on question three (how will we respond when students experience difficulty learning). In direct support of our focus on intervention strategies and systems, approximately two-hundred staff members attended a PLC summer hybrid event centered on Response to Intervention (RTI). As a district we were also fortunate to have Ken Williams and Dr. Anthony Muhammad support our continued PLC implementation and intervention prioritization during our August and October professional learning days.

I am very proud of the intentional work that is occurring within our school district. Our PLC teams have worked extremely hard to identify essential standards and create assessments that provide meaningful student achievement data. Teams continue to work hard to create important on-time intervention and extension opportunities for students. As a district we are committed to staying the course with regard to our collaborative work and we will stay clear of initiatives that could derail our focus on achieving our mission and goals.



In closing, I want to thank our families and community for your continued support of our school district. It is *together* that we will ensure the success of each and every student of Cheney Public Schools. Thank you!

*Robert W. Roettger*

Robert W. 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](http://www.cheneysd.org) for current news and information.



### Character Trait for November **CITIZENSHIP**

Positively contributing to society and  
community as well as dutifully respecting  
authority and the law.



## Cheney CTE Students Benefit From Hands-On Learning

Students in a variety of CTE classes got to experience real-world learning this month. Career and technical education (CTE) is the practice of teaching specific career skills to students, and can help prepare them for work in trade and vocational fields. Students built large playhouses from the ground up, cooked in the kitchen of a local restaurant, and competed in a computer operating competition featuring teams from across the state.



## Cheney Teacher Honored by EWU

Salnave Elementary School teacher Kyndle Palmer was selected as Eastern Washington University's Teacher of the Month! Ms. Palmer was nominated by fifth-grader Emma Plewnarz.



## Home Works! Students Go Exploring

One of the classes offered at Home Works! this year is "Which Way USA," where students work in teams to explore U.S. states, solving puzzles and collecting facts as they go.



## West Plains Support Network Meeting

The next meeting of the West Plains Support Network, a local networking group dedicated to addressing community concerns, will be held Nov. 6, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. at First Interstate Bank in Airway Heights.

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