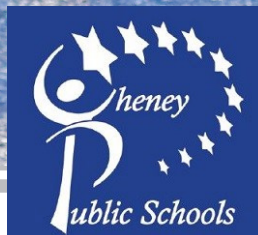


COMMUNITY *Connections*

NEWS OF CHENEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



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

LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Rob Roettger
Superintendent
rroettger@cheneysd.org

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ON THE COVER:

Staff members pass out bags of food at Sunset Elementary as part of Cheney School District's meal distribution program.

Community Members,

Within our school district we have utilized the mantra US/WE/TOGETHER to signify the importance of our collaborative work. Even during the best of times we realize we are much stronger as a team of educators than any individual staff member could be to meet the needs of our students, and that it takes the collective effort and expertise of our entire team to reach our goals. Now more than ever, the mantra US/WE/TOGETHER has taken on increased significance as WE work TOGETHER as a school district and community to address the significant challenges we face due to the COVID-19 health crisis.

I am extremely proud of the response of our school district employees and community as we have temporarily transitioned from a traditional education model to a system of off-site support and remote learning. Within days of the statewide school closure our nutrition services and transportation departments were working together to provide daily meal distribution to families across our district. Our technology department went to work immediately preparing chrome books and other technology resources for distribution to students, families, and staff members. At the same time, our student support services team worked to create a child care option for first responders and medical professionals. On March 23rd we had optional learning materials available and a week later we began providing resources for continuous learning support, including print materials. Currently, we are implementing a continuous learning plan in line with guidance from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to support students and families throughout the remainder of the school year (June 19th).

In addition to the mantra US/WE/TOGETHER we have utilized the philosophy of "getting started and getting better" throughout the school closure. This is uncharted territory for all of us and it was important that we initiated plans and then work continuously to improve upon each aspect of our system daily. Although we are not perfect and there is always room to grow, there are now solid structures and plans in place to support our students and families throughout this health crisis.

During any crisis the expectation is that we do the best we can within the circumstances we are dealt. While I know this is certainly the case now, I worry about the impact the statewide school closure is having on our students, families, and community. I am eager for the day when our students and staff can safely return to our campuses and school can resume. Regardless of the challenges we face in the short-term, we are committed to our mission and goals and will do our very best to meet the learning needs of students and to support families during this unprecedented time.

In closing, I am honored to serve as the superintendent of Cheney Public Schools as we have talented, dedicated, and resilient students, outstanding employees who truly care about children and families, and amazing support throughout our community in Airway Heights, The West Plains, and Cheney. If you have any questions about our response to the statewide school closure, or would like to discuss any other aspect of our system, please email me at rroettger@cheneysd.org or call me at 509-559-4502.

Robert W. Roettger, Superintendent

Robert W. Roettger



Stacy Nicol
School Board President
District 4



Mitch Swenson
School Board Vice-President
District 5



Henry Browne
School Board Member
District 3



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School Board Member
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School Board Member
District 1

NEWS: Cheney schools closing achievement gap

In April, the state celebrated School Recognition Week, a time to recognize schools in Washington that stand out for closing gaps, showing growth, and demonstrating achievement. Cheney's own Westwood Middle School and Snowdon Elementary School are among the 391 schools recognized across the state for their positive actions.

Both schools were specifically selected for closing student achievement gaps. The honor is a collaboration between the State Board of Education, the Equal Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee, and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

"Washington schools are inspiring. With these awards we recognize the outstanding efforts of our schools and their positive impact on students," said Washington State Board of Education Chair Peter Maier. "The State Board, OSPI, and the Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee are excited to celebrate the diverse educational communities that support Washington's ever-changing K-12 student population. Thank you to our state's schools and educators for your dedication to students!"

Last year, Betz Elementary was recognized during this time for outstanding student growth.

This success is only possible through the hard work and dedication of Cheney's amazing staff and students. Thank you to all our employees and families for your continued commitment, enthusiasm and support!



IMPORTANT UPDATE TO IMMUNIZATION PROCESS

Cheney School District is updating the management of student immunization records. The district is now utilizing the on-line system provided by the Washington State Department of Health called School Module. The School Module allows the health staff to quickly and efficiently confirm your child has received each vaccine required for school.

Most children born and/or vaccinated in Washington state already have their vaccination information in the state system. You can access your child's record at any time by signing up for MyIR at <https://wa.myir.net/register>.

With Cheney School District's change to the use of the School Module program for immunization records, it is possible that your child's online immunization record may need some updating. In this case, the school health team will ask you to provide a medically verified copy of your child's immunization record. Once obtained, and with your signed permission, the school nurse will transfer the medically verified record you provide into the online state record.

If further action is required regarding your child's immunizations, you will be contacted directly by a member of your school health team.

Westwood principal receives national honor

Cheney Public Schools is excited to share that Westwood Middle School principal Dr. Erika Burden has been named the 2020 Advocacy Champion of the Year by the National Association of Secondary School Principals' (NASSP) for advocating on behalf of all school leaders to strengthen America's public schools and ensure the success of each student, and for her significant contributions in advancing the policy agenda of NASSP. The Advocacy Champion of the Year award, now in its second year, recognizes school leaders for accomplishments and efforts aligned to the policy and advocacy goals of NASSP.

Dr. Burden was honored during a virtual presentation attended by NASSP leadership, Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers (WA-5), and lead-

ership from the Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP).

Dr. Burden promotes NASSP action alerts to school leaders across Washington state in her role as NASSP middle level state coordinator — empowering those leaders with tools to advocate for the needs of their students, schools, and communities. At the federal level, Dr. Burden has conducted many meetings with members of Congress and their staffs as part of the annual NASSP Advocacy Conference. She regularly invites lawmakers to shadow her for a day, which provides them with a firsthand look at the growing equity issues she faces. She has also worked to secure public education and professional development funding and campaigned for increased



Principal Erika Burden works with staff at Westwood Middle School during a visit from Rep. Jenny Graham.

school safety measures, mental health resources, and suicide prevention programming.

"Dr. Burden has made concerted efforts to develop lasting, meaningful relationships with her state lawmakers and has driven collective impact and changed the lives of her

students," NASSP Executive Director JoAnn Bartoletti said.

The District is fortunate that Dr. Burden has chosen to share her expertise with the children of the Cheney Public Schools, and grateful for her tireless work advocating for students, school leaders and public education.

Continuous Learning in Cheney Public Schools

While schools are closed, we continue to focus on supporting our students with continuous learning. Over the last few weeks teachers have been adjusting the expectations on a weekly basis for students to continue to engage in meaningful ways. Over the next few weeks you will notice a gradual increase in expectations and communication from teachers. Please continue to respond to teacher's emails, phone calls, and Google Classroom, Microsoft Teams, and/or Zoom communications.



What is continuous learning?

The term "continuous learning" means establishing and maintaining connections with students and families to provide learning materials and supports using a variety of modalities (e.g., email, phone, printed learning materials, and available online platforms).

CONTINUOUS LEARNING IS	CONTINUOUS LEARNING IS NOT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly lessons and activities, consisting of digital and non-digital materials, which students work on independently. A model of instruction that can occur at any time -- students independently self-pace their learning once teachers share the resources. Teacher communication through phone, email, Google Classroom, Microsoft Teams, and/or Zoom. Teachers offer online office hours and/or telephone feedback for students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A replacement for normal daily instruction and the rich experience that occurs within the school face-to-face. An online school. Only digital learning.

What does this mean for me?

STUDENTS SHOULD	FAMILIES SHOULD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check Google Classrooms or Microsoft Teams every Monday and Wednesday and complete the assignments provided each week. Connect with your teacher(s) at least once a week. Reach out to your teacher if you need support or have questions. Complete other learning activities, such as reading or accessing online resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support a daily home schedule for instruction. Provide a space for their children to learn and complete their work. Connect with their children's teacher(s) once a week via phone, email, Google Classroom, Microsoft Teams, or Zoom.

What types of lessons and activities can I expect to see?

Teachers will provide online and print materials in the core content areas in a variety of ways, including pre-recorded videos, live lessons, projects, paper/pencil activities, and short responses. We will work gradually to build up to the following time frames at each grade band by April 27, 2020.

Average Daily Time Expectations

PreK	Grades K-1	Grades 2-3	Grades 4-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12
5-10 minute increments; a total of 30 minutes	5-10 minute increments; a total of 45 minutes	10-15 minute increments; a total of 60 minutes	20 minute increments; a total of 90 minutes	20 minutes per class; 2.5 hour maximum	30 minutes per class; 3 hour maximum

MISSION STATEMENT:

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.



For assistance logging in to Google Classroom and to find the classroom code for your child, please visit our At Home Learning Materials Page at <https://bit.ly/CheneyAtHomeLearning>.

Skyward Family Access

Visit www.cheneyisd.org and click on the Skyward link in the top right corner next to the envelope. Log in and update contact information or email your child's teacher. Forgot your username and password? Contact Kathy Conrath at 509-559-4588 or email her at kconrath@cheneyisd.org.

How to Access Google Classroom

To access Google Classroom, visit classroom.google.com or access through Clever. Your child's username is their other student ID plus @students.cheneyisd.org, and their password is their 8 digit birthdate. For more detailed assistance logging in, please visit our At Home Learning Materials page at <https://bit.ly/CheneyAtHomeLearning>.

How to Access Zoom Meetings

Your child's teacher may send you an invitation to participate in a Zoom video conference. To access this meeting on a computer, click on the link provided in the invitation. To access this meeting over the phone, you can call the number provided or download the Zoom mobile app at <https://www.zoom.us/download>.

How to Access Printed Materials

Teachers will be providing printed materials on a weekly basis for students who do not have the necessary technology to work

in online platforms or who prefer paper and pencil activities over online learning. These materials will be delivered to meal distribution sites on Mondays and Wednesdays. The meal distribution locations and times are listed to the right.

More Information

More information can be found at www.cheneyisd.org, by calling our Parent Information Line at (509) 559-4580, or by contacting your child's school.

School Contact Information

Elementary School
Betz: 509-559-4800
Salnave: 509-559-4700
Snowdon: 509-559-4300
Sunset: 509-559-4600
Windsor: 509-559-4200

Middle School
Cheney: 509-559-4400
Westwood: 509-559-4150

High School
Cheney: 509-559-4000

Alternative Programs
HomeWorks!: 509-559-4586
Three Springs: 509-559-4586

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

Meal Distribution Sites

18th & Campbell 9:00 - 9:25 a.m.
EWU Red Barn 9:00 - 9:15 a.m.
Fairchild MHP 9:00 - 9:15 a.m.
Salnave Elementary 9:00 - 9:20 a.m.
Sunset Elementary 9:00 - 9:25 a.m.
Windsor Elementary 9:00 - 9:20 a.m.
Rambo Rd. & Deno Rd. 9:17 - 9:20 a.m.
Betz Elementary 9:25 - 9:40 a.m.
West Prairie MHP 9:25 - 9:40 a.m.
Basalt Ridge Entrance on 6th 9:30 - 10:00 a.m.
Snowdon Elementary 9:30 - 9:50 a.m.
Tyler Store 9:35 - 9:50 a.m.
Vietzke Village 9:35 - 9:50 a.m.
Bi-Mart 9:45 - 10:00 a.m.
Hayford Village 9:55 - 10:15 a.m.
Cedar Summit Apartments 10:00 - 10:20 a.m.
Copper Landing 10:00 - 10:20 a.m.
Spokane St. & 4th, Four Lakes 10:05 - 10:15 a.m.
Deer Creek Apartments 10:25 - 10:35 a.m.

★ Tips for talking with your children about COVID-19, from the CDC

- Remain calm and reassuring.
- Make yourself available to listen and to talk.
- Avoid language that might blame others and lead to stigma.
- Pay attention to what children see or hear on television, radio, or online.
- Provide information that is honest and accurate.
- Teach children everyday actions to reduce the spread of germs.

US. WE. TOGETHER.

Purpose:

The following are expectations around the evaluation of continuous learning for students in Cheney Public Schools. This guidance is due to the emergency closure of school buildings for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. All expectations are reflective of guidance given by OSPI and the State Board of Education.



As we continue to navigate this unique situation, our teachers are continuing to work with your children as they always have, grounded in compassion, communication, and common sense. Through this entire process, as always, our number one priority is the health and emotional well-being of all our students. In short, we want to ensure that our students are well before we ask them to engage in the work of academics.

K-8 Continuous Learning Grading Considerations

Moving forward, with guidance from the State of Washington, teachers will be expecting students to demonstrate effort and progress on materials they have deemed necessary to know for success as they enter into next year. They have spent time narrowing down to just those deemed a priority. In the coming weeks, teachers will be communicating out the multiple ways they are determining to demonstrate a student's understanding on these concepts and skills.

In short, all students will move on to the next grade in the fall. All students will be expected to participate in their learning either online or through paper packets. Middle school students taking Algebra and/or Spanish will be required to follow the same expectations as high school students in these credited classes. Students and families will receive further guidance from their individual teachers and should direct questions to them regarding expectations moving forward.

9-12 Continuous Learning Grading Considerations

As a district, our commitment to your student is to make sure we provide them with as many learning opportunities as possible. A letter grading system best reflects that commitment. Alignment to higher education requirements, NCAA requirements, military enlistment, and entry to post-secondary opportunities may demand the need for credit-bearing requirements. Teachers will be modifying, adjusting course curriculum, and assessing student progress according to established priority/essential standards. Common assignments and assessments will be given across like courses.





Specific Student Guidance To Maintain Credit In High School Courses

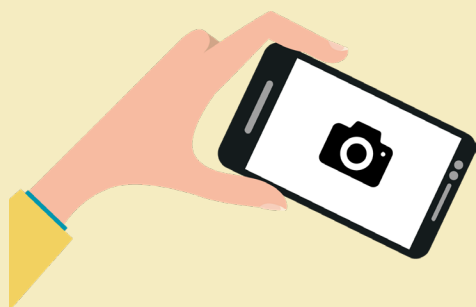
- * Students must check in with ALL of their teachers weekly and turn in assigned work on time.
- * Students must complete all assessments given by each of their teachers.
- * Student expectations and progress will be clearly communicated to parents and students via Skyward.
- * Need help? E-mail your teacher specifically or call the Cheney High School main office (559-4000) M-Thurs, 9am -1pm/Three Springs High School main office (559-4586) M-Thurs. 9am - 1pm.

9-12 Continuous Learning Grading Expectations

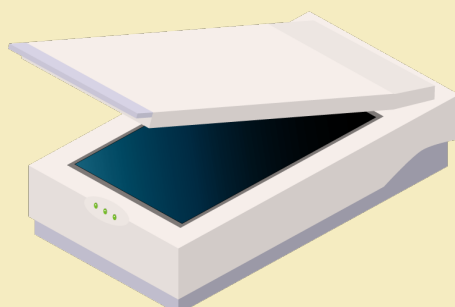
- * All students will be required to make a “good faith effort” toward progress in completion of their course requirements.
- * New learning and assessment will begin for all grade levels on Monday, April 27.
- * Students will receive a letter grade (A-D) based on their proficiency of Priority Standards.
- * If the student’s grade/progress is not enough to earn a D, that student will earn an incomplete and will need to finish the course at another time.
- * Students can continue to turn in work assigned prior to April 27 to improve their grade.
- * Teachers will communicate initial due dates for new learning being completed. This allows teachers time to provide relevant/timely feed back to students.
- * Teachers will provide meaningful feedback to students on work received.
- * Students will have the opportunity to submit work multiple times (if needed) to show mastery of learning.
- * Final re-submissions for seniors will not be accepted after June 8.
- * Final re-submissions for all other students will not be accepted after June 15.

Print Material Turn-In Options:

Take a photo of materials and email the photo to the teacher.



Scan the materials and email the scan to the teacher.



Drop off print materials to meal/print delivery sites on Mondays and Wednesdays.





Non-Profit Org
US Postage
PAID
Spokane WA
Permit #4

509-559-4502
www.cheneysd.org
12414 S Andrus Rd,
Cheney, WA 99004



Second Harvest has partnered with Cheney Public Schools and Communities in Schools to serve the Cheney, Airway Heights, and West Plains community! For information on distribution times and locations, visit 2-harvest.org/, call Second Harvest at (509) 534-6678, or contact the Cheney Parent Information line at (509) 559-4580.

STAY CONNECTED



Cheney Public Schools
CHS Blackhawks



@cheneyschools
@chsblackhawks



@CheneySchools

***The work of Cheney Public Schools
could not continue without the ded-
icated efforts of our amazing staff.
Thank you for all you do!***

Community Resources

Closures associated with COVID-19 may lead to stress, anxiety, and mental health concerns for many families. Below are some resources to help our community during this time. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's school counselor for additional assistance and resources.

- **Regional Mental Health Crisis Line 24/7:**
1-877-266-1818
- **Spokane County Resource Directory:**
<https://bit.ly/spokaneresourcedirectory>
- **Washington Mental Health Referral Service for Children and Teens:** <https://bit.ly/mentalhealthreferral>
- **Supporting Social and Emotional Needs During COVID-19:** <https://casel.org/resources-covid/>
- **Mental Health and Coping During COVID-19:** <https://bit.ly/CopingDuringCovid>
- **Small Business Help:**
<https://bit.ly/spokanesmallbusiness>

Domestic violence is a serious issue in communities nationwide. Below are local domestic violence resources for adults, children, and families.

- **The National Domestic Violence Hotline:**
1-800-799-7233
1-866-363-4276 (24-hour toll-free abuse helpline)
- **YWCA's 24-hour Crisis Helpline:**
(509) 326-2255 / ywcaspokane.org
- **Women's Healing and Empowerment Network:**
(509) 323-2120 / <https://whenetwork.com>
- **Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery:**
(509) 535-3155 / <http://vanessabehan.org>
- **Mujeres in Action (MIA):**
509-869-0876 / miaspokane.org
Se Habla Espanol
- **Odyssey Youth Movement - LGBTQ:**
509-325-3637 / odysseyyouth.org