



Community Connections

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

Important dates:

December 6
School Board
Meeting,
Cheney High
School
6:00 p.m.

December 13
School Board
Meeting,
Snowdon Elem.
School
6:00 p.m.

**December 20-
January 2**
Winter Vacation—
No School



December
Character Trait
CARING:

Showing a genuine
concern for the
welfare of others
and being a kind,
supportive helper

Parents, Guardians and Community Members,

Recently, I had the opportunity to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Recreation Center in Airway Heights. Groundbreaking ceremonies are excellent opportunities to thank everyone who has made a project possible, and to celebrate the beginning of actual construction. I was encouraged as we will soon have the opportunity to celebrate the beginning of many capital projects across the district as we prepare for construction at Betz Elementary in March, Sunset and Windsor Elementary Schools in April, Salnave Elementary in April/May, and Cheney High School in late summer. Our projects have been made possible by the outstanding support we have received from our communities and patrons!

In addition to our capital projects, there is a lot of excitement within the district related to our implementation of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). PLCs are a collaborative model that focuses on four essential questions. 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? **(Enrichment)** This fall we have spent a considerable amount of time and effort working through question one. District-wide teams have met on several occasions as we have begun to prioritize the essential standards in mathematics and English/language arts (ELA). The work of district-wide teams has then been shared within our individual buildings for review and feedback prior to the final determination of essential standards. Ultimately, we will work through this same process in each content area, as our goal is to create a guaranteed and viable curriculum in every grade level and content area across the district.

In closing, the holiday season is a time to reflect on all of the things for which we are thankful. I am definitely thankful to work in a district with dedicated staff members who care deeply about children and work hard to ensure each and every child meets his or her potential. I am also thankful for the outstanding community support we receive in our schools, as we could not provide the opportunities we provide to students without the partnership and support of our communities. Thank you!

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



Robert W. Roettger

Robert W. Roettger
Superintendent

*Enjoy the upcoming
winter break!*

Our essential foundations

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

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



December 2017

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Title IX/Chapter 28A.640 Officer/
Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator/ADA Coordinator
Sean Dotson, Associate Superintendent
Cheney School District, 12414 S. Andrus Rd.
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4550

Section 504 Coordinator
Kristi Thurston, Director, Student Support Services
Cheney School District, 12414 S. Andrus Rd.
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4507

Requests for Disclosure of Public Records
Sharon Throop, Public Records Officer
Cheney School District, 12414 S. Andrus Rd.,
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4502



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Cheney, Washington 99004

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Veterans honored throughout district

Students across the district recently expressed thanks to our veterans. Each school held an assembly to honor those who currently serve or who have served our country in the military. These photographs are from the Sunset Elementary School program. The Cheney High School jazz band entertained veterans, and they were honored individually by Boy Scouts and serenaded by first and second graders.



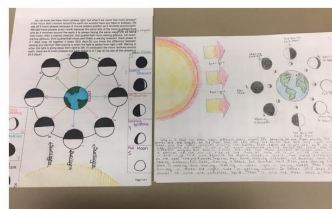
Cheney Middle School students share with preschoolers

Mr. Omlin's 8th grade College 101 students at Cheney Middle School recently interacted with preschoolers in a great activity—helping them to make turkeys and leaves for Thanksgiving.

Earlier this year, Cheney Middle School students hosted a dance party for the preschoolers. What fun! Just click [here](#) to take a look.

Westwood students have been working on engineering skills

Students in Mr. Wagner's 6th grade science class at Westwood Middle School have been building amazing bridges made out of Popsicle sticks, and tested them to see which team made the strongest bridge.



In 8th grade science, students learned about the moon and its phases. They made incredible diagrams illustrating the 8 different phases and explaining why we see different shapes of the moon.

District PLC work continues

What specifically do we expect all students to learn? Over the last few months we have been working on answering this question in English language arts and mathematics as a K-12 system. We began with committees working on identifying priority standards with representation from all schools, a variety of teaching positions and administrators. Committee members take the work back to individual buildings to gather feedback and foster ownership as teachers become students of the standards themselves, and they identify those that are the most essential for students at each grade level. Teachers are working in grade band teams and providing feedback to the district-wide committee which will agree on the final set of Priority Standards. Our next steps will include working on a scope and sequence for each grade level and developing common formative and summative assessments.

