



# Community Connections

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

## Important dates:

### January 9

Bond Information Mtg. at Sunset School, 6:00 p.m.

### January 10

Bond Information Mtg. at Windsor School, 6:00 p.m.

### January 11

School Board Appreciation, 5:15 Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m. at CHS

### January 17

Bond Information Mtg. at CHS, 6:00 p.m.

### January 25

School Board Mtg. at Salnave School, 6:00 p.m.



### January

### Character Trait

### FAIRNESS:

Treating people and ideas with justice and impartiality

Parents, Guardians and Community Members,

In the past year and a half, a considerable amount of time and effort has gone into analyzing the growth and facility needs of our district and how best to address these needs. Included in this process was a Thoughtexchange conversation in the Fall of 2015, the completion of a facilities Study and Survey in the Spring of 2016, three Community Conversations in May of 2016, a second Thoughtexchange in the Fall of 2016, and three additional Community Conversations in November of 2016. The intent of this process was to assess the priorities of the community and gather as much information and feedback as possible as the district addresses the growing enrollment and facility needs.

Following this process, the School Board approved submitting a twenty-one year, \$52,000,000 bond to the district's voters on February 14. Projects funded by this bond would provide space to accommodate growth at the elementary, middle, and high school levels through 2028 at current enrollment projections. More specifically, the bond would expand and renovate Cheney High School, Sunset Elementary, Windsor Elementary and Betz Elementary, make security improvements to the above-mentioned schools and Salnave Elementary, allow the district to acquire land, and relocate the Three Springs High School portables.

As mentioned, the current bond proposal would address the district's projected growth and facility needs through 2028. At that time, the bonds that built Westwood and Cheney Middle Schools will be paid off, and the district will be eligible for state construction assistance funding at the elementary level beginning in 2024 and at the high school level beginning in 2025. The combination of state construction assistance funding and the maturing of the middle school bonds will provide financial flexibility that allows the district to continue planning for and addressing future growth and facility needs beyond 2028.

As a district, we have been, and will continue to be, committed to listening to our constituents and thoroughly analyzing the needs and priorities of our entire district and the community. If you have any questions about the upcoming bond proposal, or any other aspect of our district work, please feel free to visit our website at [www.cheneysd.org](http://www.cheneysd.org), attend an upcoming community forum, or contact me at 509-559-4502 or at [rroettger@cheneysd.org](mailto:rroettger@cheneysd.org).



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

*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 us on Twitter  and Facebook  or go to [www.cheneysd.org](http://www.cheneysd.org) for current news and information about Cheney Public Schools.

*Happy New Year!*



January 2017

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  
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 PUBLIC SCHOOLS

12414 S. Andrus Rd.  
Cheney, Washington 99004

### CAR-RT-SORT

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## *You are invited to hear information related to the upcoming bond proposal*

**Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m. Sunset Elementary**  
**Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m. Windsor Elementary**  
**Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m. Cheney High School**

***Please join us as we share information  
concerning the Feb. 14 bond proposal.***

If you are unable to attend one of these evening events, and have any questions about the upcoming election, please feel free to contact the District Office at 509-559-4502.

## Choir, strings and band concert

Cheney High School students in the choir, strings and band programs shared their talents in a marvelous joint concert on December 16th.



Strings players provided some amazing musical pieces, and the band provided their own blend of very special music.



These groups shared the stage with Music 'n Motion—who, as always, enthralled the audience. Hopefully, you were able to participate in this incredible evening.



## Snowdon 3rd grade concert

Snowdon third grade students thoroughly entertained their family and friends at a recent concert. What a wonderful performance these youngsters gave!

## Planning for future high school growth

One discussion point during facilities conversations centered on when to build a second high school. Although there may be a time when a second high school is necessary, the district does not believe that time is now. For comparison, a district in our region added a second comprehensive high school when enrollment reached approximately 2,580 students in grades 10-12. At this time, Cheney Public Schools only has approximately 1,200 students in grades 9-12.

Depending on the size of a facility, the total cost to build a second high school is estimated at between 60 and 80 million dollars. If a second high school were added at our current high school enrollment, there would be a significant reduction in academic and extra-curricular programming, as the cost of operating two high schools is substantially higher than the operation costs of one high school. In addition to financial implications, the district does not currently own property for a second high school site.

The current bond proposal would expand the high school to accommodate 1,600 students—our enrollment projection through 2028. In addition, the proposal would add \$250,000 in funding for land purchases for future school sites. If you have any questions about a future second high school, please contact the District Office at 509-559-4502.