



Community Connections

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

Important dates:

September 1
First Day of School

September 7
Labor Day Holiday—
No School

September 9
School Board Meeting, Betz Viking Room
6:00 p.m.

September 23
School Board Meeting, Betz Viking Room
6:00 p.m.



September Character Trait

RESPECT:

Recognizing, considering and properly honoring the worth of one's self and others

Friends of Cheney Public Schools,

The Cheney Public Schools Board of Directors and staff are eager to welcome over 4,300 students to the 2015-16 school year on September 1, 2015! We are looking forward to partnering with parents and community members to ensure our students achieve success in school and life. As such, our theme for this school year is 'We CLIMB.' We produced a fun, short video to capture our theme which highlights our Essential Foundations and our Shared Values. You can view the video by visiting our YouTube channel which you can quickly access from our [website](#). We are proud of the quality learning experiences we provide children and know that by working together, with our community, we can achieve our goals.

New this fall is an opportunity for us to engage with our community in an innovative way. Soon we will be asking parents, staff, and community members to share their thoughts about our schools and District to help us better understand what is most important, and to make sure that we are meeting your expectations as a quality public school system. We have partnered with Thoughtexchange to make the sharing of thoughts about the District easier. Thoughtexchange is an online engagement tool that allows us to learn from all those who are affected by the decisions made in our District.

The process is different than a typical survey because there are three steps participants will have the chance to participate in and learn from:

1. Share - answer open-ended questions about education in our schools
2. Star - review ideas from others and star the ideas you like best
3. Discover - learn what is important to the community as a whole

To learn more about the Thoughtexchange process, visit: <http://participants.thoughtexchange.com/> to view a one-minute video explaining this innovative process. Patrons will also have the opportunity to participate using a traditional paper/pencil method. Please feel free to contact my office for assistance on how to participate in the traditional method.

The 'Share' step will begin on September 8, 2015. Parents and staff members will receive an email explaining how to participate. Emails will also be sent to all of our Key Communicators. If you would like to be added to our Key Communicators list, feel free to email us at keycommunicators@cheneysd.org. You may also visit our website at <http://www.cheneysd.org> or follow us on Facebook at <http://Facebook.com/cheneysd>.

The above process is in addition to all of the ways that we receive feedback from our patrons and does not replace our open door style of communication with parents, staff, students, and community members. We are excited for the new school year and look forward to providing a safe, caring, and quality learning environment in order to achieve consistent and measurable academic progress for each child.

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

Debra J. Clemens, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Our essential foundations

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

Cheney Middle School activities line: (509) 559-4488

Westwood Middle School activities line: (509) 559-4161

Cheney High School activities line: (509) 559-4120

Go to www.cheneysd.org for current news and information about Cheney Public Schools. Like us on Facebook! Check us out at <https://www.facebook.com/CheneySD>.



Cheney Public Schools complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, economic status, gender, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, pregnancy, familial status, marital status, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Officer/ADA Coordinator or Section 504 Coordinator. Or inquiries may be directed to the Director of the Office of Civil Rights, Department of HEW, Washington, D.C.

Title IX/Chapter 28A.640 Officer/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

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Cheney, Washington 99004

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Your Board welcomes your input and Participation

Your Board of Directors cordially invites you to attend Board meetings and to take an active role in the educational affairs of your community.

Regular meetings of the School Board are open to the public and are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, with a usual start time of 6:00 p.m., in the Viking Room of Betz Elementary School at 317 N. 7th in Cheney. Board meetings are held at individual school sites a few times per year and the start time may vary. The schedule for the entire year is adopted by the Board in August, and is posted on the District [website](#). Notices of all meetings and Board agendas are provided to local newspapers and also posted on our website.

At the beginning of each Board meeting, the Board President ascertains if a member of the public has requested to address the Board. Members of the public are always provided up to five minutes, each, at the beginning of the School Board meeting to share their views with the Board. If you are not able to attend a Board meeting, the Board President serves as the official recipient of correspondence directed to the Board. President Henry Browne may be reached via email at hbrowne@cheneysd.org or through written correspondence addressed to the Superintendent's Office at 12414 S. Andrus Rd., Cheney, WA 99004.

Thank you for your interest in Cheney Public Schools and for partnering with us to provide a quality learning experience for all of the children we serve.



Henry C. Browne, Jr.
School Board President

Student Advisors join Board of Directors

We are pleased to welcome two Cheney High School students as Student Advisors to the Board of Directors. The Board recognizes the value of communicating with students and receiving their input and perspectives. To foster this relationship with students, the Board annually seats two student representatives as advisory non-voting members of the Board. Our student representatives attend all meetings and provide regular updates on what is happening in our District, from a student's perspective. They also annually travel with the Board to the Legislative Conference to share our Board Adopted Legislative Priorities with our elected representatives.

Meet our Student Advisors

Bridget Calvert is a junior at CHS. She is the ASB Junior Representative, a PBIS student executive, involved in athletics, and participating in student leadership. In her application, Bridget said she was interested in being a student advisor because she wanted to make a difference, and improve CHS and the district by contributing her ideas.



Téa Hickman is a senior who is active in drama, Writers Club, FBLA, has served on the Student Council, and was recently selected for Girls State. Téa described herself as being passionate about her school work, her activities and clubs, and passionate about her peers. This is the quality which will enable her to gain insight on student perspective and share it with the Board.