



# Community Connections

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

## Important dates:

**March 5-10**  
Early Dismissal—  
Conferences

**March 9-13**  
Classified  
Employee Week

**March 11**  
School Board  
Meeting—Betz  
SIP Discussion  
5:15 p.m.  
Regular Meeting  
6:00 p.m.

**March 25**  
School Board  
Meeting—Snowdon  
SIP Discussion  
5:15 p.m.  
Regular Meeting  
6:00 p.m.



March  
Character Trait  
**DILIGENCE:**  
Persistence,  
dedication and  
hard work

Friends of Cheney Public Schools,

The excitement of a child's first day of school is something to cherish. The preparation for this exciting day, which is September 1, 2015, has already started in our schools as we began our Kindergarten registration last month. Throughout our school system our dedicated staff are thoughtfully planning for the smooth transition for our students as they matriculate from one grade to the next – and from one school to another. The transitions from elementary to middle school and from middle school to high school are well planned and supported. These fun and helpful transition activities are conducted with the help of our current students, teachers, counselors, and administrators. Thank you for partnering with us to ensure a smooth transition for your child – at each grade level.

Our youngest learners are also set up for success when we provide the opportunity for a smooth transition. This month we begin our formal registration process for our preschool programs. Just as we did for our Kindergarten registration last month, we have forms that are available on our website so that parents can complete most of the registration process prior to arriving at the school site. We provide preschool programming in each of our elementary schools; in addition, we are pleased to offer an Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program at Windsor Elementary School. Check out the reverse side of this newsletter for more information about our Early Learning Programs and Parent Education Programs.

Transitions can be scary – for children and parents. One simple way for parents to support a child through a school transition is to talk about it with your child. Another important step is to visit the school site with the child. Most children (and parents) are less afraid about the upcoming change in school setting when they have had a chance to visit the campus and meet the caring adults who will be teaching their children.

Within each of our schools, registration for next year is underway. After completing the registration process, parents will receive information about summer learning opportunities and the plan for the student's transition to school. Thank you for partnering with us as we help all of our students, ages 4-18, with transitions for success in school and life.

*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](http://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>.



*Preschool registration  
begins Friday, March 27*



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. 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

12414 S. Andrus Rd.  
Cheney, Washington 99004

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## PARENT EDUCATION:



### READY! for Kindergarten

Our birth to age five parent education program is offered three times per school year. The spring classes will be held on **Saturday, March 14** at Snowdon Elementary; on **Saturday, March 21** at Sunset Elementary, and on **Saturday, March 28** at Salnave Elementary. The program is coordinated by CJ Johnson, [cjohnson@cheneysd.org](mailto:cjohnson@cheneysd.org); (509) 559-4322. Parents must register in advance to attend, and registration information can be found on the [district website](#). Our certified preschool and kindergarten teachers facilitate the training. Parents receive play-based instructional materials that are supportive of play which is intentionally focused on helping children to develop their early academic skills in both literacy and mathematics.



### LOVE AND LOGIC

Parents are provided the opportunity to attend Love and Logic program trainings which are coordinated by Carol Kriegh and delivered by our counselors. The Love and Logic program provides simple solutions, tips, and practical techniques to help adults develop and maintain positive relationships with children while supporting children in making appropriate choices in life. "Becoming a Love and Logic Parent" will be held on Thursdays, April 16 through May 7, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at Salnave Elementary School. Childcare is available and free. The only cost is a \$10 workbook for each family. To register to attend this Love and Logic class, please contact Cathleen Schlotter, [cschlotter@cheneysd.org](mailto:cschlotter@cheneysd.org). Another Love and Logic class will be held at Sunset Elementary School on Tuesdays, April 14 through May 19, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Childcare and workbooks will be provided free of charge. To register contact Kim Lefler, [klefler@cheneysd.org](mailto:klefler@cheneysd.org), or Samantha Winchell, [swinchell@cheneysd.org](mailto:swinchell@cheneysd.org).

## EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMS:

### PRESCHOOL

**Registration.** District preschool enrollment begins **Friday, March 27**, at your local elementary school. Most of the necessary forms for registration are available on the [district website](#).

**Blended Preschool.** Each of our elementary schools provides a minimum of two blended preschool programs which serve developmentally delayed children and typically developing children. The preschool program provides direct service to children two days per week (M, W or T, TH). Students enrolled in the program have the benefit of a certified teacher and paraeducator trained to assist in the preschool environment. Special Services staff members such as our occupational therapist, speech language pathologist, and physical therapist provide direct services on-site to children who qualify based upon need.

**ECEAP.** Windsor Elementary School is the location for an Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) in addition to the blended preschool program described above. ECEAP is a comprehensive preschool program that provides free services and support to eligible children and their families. The goal of the program is to help ensure children enter kindergarten ready to succeed. The program includes early learning preschool, family support and parent involvement, child health coordination and nutrition. For information, contact Shannon Griffiths at (509) 954-1465 or [shannong@ywcaspokane.org](mailto:shannong@ywcaspokane.org).

**Beginnings.** Snowdon Elementary School offers the Beginnings program which is designed to serve children with autism. Placement is determined by the child's IEP team. The program is supported through a partnership with the [Northwest Autism Center](#). Therefore, the certified teachers and para-educators receive ongoing training and support to provide a safe, caring, learning environment for the children enrolled.