



Community Connections

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

Important dates:

April 7-11

Spring Break—
No School

April 16

School Board Mtg.
Windsor Elem.
SIP Discussion
5:15 p.m.
Regular Meeting
6:00 p.m.

April 30

School Board Mtg.
Betz Elementary
Regular Meeting
6:00 p.m.



April

Character Trait
TRUSTWORTHINESS:

Inspiring complete reliability and confidence in his/ her truthfulness, integrity and discretion

Friends of Cheney Public Schools,

We know that parents are the first and most important teachers that children have. Each and every day, from the moment a child is born, the child is learning. The early years are the most extraordinary period of growth and development in a child's lifetime. We welcome a partnership with parents, grandparents, early learning providers, and community members to ensure that our youngest learners have every opportunity to establish a solid foundation for success in school and life.

You may know that our District provides three "READY! for Kindergarten" trainings per year: fall, winter, and spring. It is our goal to partner with parents long before children are enrolled in Kindergarten. In fact, our READY! for Kindergarten program begins with a class for parents of children from birth and continuing up to age 5. Parents who attend these classes learn how to play with children in order to maximize the child's learning potential.

We also regularly provide information on our website and in our schools about early learning opportunities for parents. For example, as a PK-12 system we value the information provided by the Department of Early Learning and we share it with parents. The goal of the Department is to offer information and resources to parents and others who teach young children. In fact, in 2012 the [Early Learning and Development Guidelines](#) were published and are a great resource for parents. The Guidelines are organized by age for easy navigation and cover birth to grade three. Our staff contributed to the content of the guidelines and also references the guidelines as we are committed to providing developmentally appropriate learning opportunities for our youngest learners.

You may also know that our District provides Preschool programming in each of our elementary schools. Our preschool program model provides a rich learning experience for developmentally delayed and typically developing children. Although most children served in the program are age 4, we do have some 3-year-olds participating in the program. Please visit with your neighborhood elementary school principal to learn more about the preschool program. Registration for the 2014-15 school year started in March. Thank you for partnering with us as we help our youngest learners establish a solid foundation for success in school and life.

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

Debra J. Clemens, Ph.D.
Superintendent

*Parents—a child's
first teacher*

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, 520 Fourth Street
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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READY! for Kindergarten

As parents, you want your children to have a happy and successful school experience. Starting school is an exciting time for children. For several years now, the District has offered free registration for READY! for Kindergarten classes for parents of children birth through age 5 to ensure your child is best prepared.

This program provides important information on how children grow and learn. It supplies parents with simple activities to make learning fun and all participants receive free books, learning aids and school readiness training.

The spring classes were held in March, and next fall will provide another opportunity for parents to participate in this free program. The fall classes will be held:

Sat., Oct. 4 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. at Snowdon Elem.

Sat., Oct. 11 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. at Sunset Elem.

Sat., Oct. 18 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. at Salnave Elem.

Information and the registration form will be available on the district website in September of 2014. In the meantime, if you have questions about the program please feel free to contact C.J. Johnson at 559-4322 or by email at cjohnson@cheneysd.org. She can even send an email reminder when registration time gets closer.



Love. Talk. Play.

Parents are a child's first and most important teacher. It is a big responsibility, but there are little things parents can do every day that will give a child a great start in life...and school. A new resource for parents is a website titled "[Love. Talk. Play.](#)" Please visit the website to read the weekly tips...such as: "See how slow you can go, inching along like a caterpillar! Bend over to walk your hands out in front of you, then walk your feet up to your hands."

A child's early experiences shape his or her brain structure and cognition. The information provided on the website is based, in part, upon research from the University of Washington's Institute on Learning and Brain Sciences.

Our Kids: Our Business

Cheney Public Schools is a proud partner for a community-wide outreach entitled "Our Kids: Our Business." We partner with more than 35 organizations to support children and prevent childhood abuse and neglect. The 8th annual [Our Kids: Our Business Luncheon](#) is scheduled for April 9, 2014.



You can make a difference for your friends and neighbors by volunteering for a youth-serving organization, assisting at your local library during story-time, or simply helping parents and children in your neighborhood.

[Within Reach](#) is another great resource, a nonprofit organization, to help support parents with meeting the basic needs of families. At each of our schools, you may notice the pinwheel. It symbolizes our commitment to preventing childhood abuse and neglect.