



# Community Connections

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

## Important dates:

**February 14**  
**Kindergarten**  
**Registration**

**February 17**  
Presidents' Day  
Holiday—  
No School

**February 26**  
School Board  
Meeting—Betz  
SIP Discussion  
5:30 p.m.  
Regular Meeting  
6:00 p.m.

**March 6, 7,  
10, and 11**  
Early Dismissal  
Parent-Teacher  
Conferences



February  
Character Trait

**HONESTY:**  
Sincerity and  
reverence or love  
for the truth

Friends of Cheney Public Schools,

We are very fortunate in the Cheney Public Schools to have an outstanding working relationship with local law enforcement which helps us to ensure safety and security at each of our school sites. You may know that, as a result of a contract for services with the City of Cheney, our School Resource Officer is actually a commissioned officer with the Cheney Police Department. Sergeant Kelly Hembach provides direct service to the schools on all matters of safety and security.

For example, one of the responsibilities of Sergeant Hembach is to provide guidance to our administration when we conduct safety drills such as fire drills and lock down drills. During a planned lock down drill, Sergeant Hembach is on site to review the process that the staff and students follow to execute the lock down drill plan. Feedback is provided to administration to ensure that our practices continue to improve and are always in line with the latest guidance.

Another one of Sergeant Hembach's responsibilities is to follow up on any concerns that are reported on our 24-hour Safe Schools Alert website. The Safe Schools Alert may be accessed from our home page or by visiting the website: <https://cheney-wa.safeschoolsalert.com/>. Safety concerns may be reported via a text message, email message, website contact, or telephone call. We know that tips help make our school community an even safer place to work and learn. Of course, if a staff member or student is in immediate danger or a tip is in regard to a life-threatening emergency, they know to call 911.

Our goal is to provide a safe learning environment for children. We know that as a result of our partnerships with local law enforcement we are in good hands.

*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.cheneywsd.org](http://www.cheneywsd.org) for current news and information about Cheney Public Schools. Like us on Facebook! Check us out at <https://www.facebook.com/CheneySD>.



- *KIDS KNOW* -

If you

**SEE**

something

**SAY**

something

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

12414 S. Andrus Rd.  
Cheney, Washington 99004

### CAR-RT-SORT

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Cheney, WA

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## Emergency preparedness

In the event of a real emergency, school officials communicate through Sergeant Hembach as our liaison with local police such as the Airway Heights Police Department, Spokane County Sheriff's Office, Eastern Washington University Police, and Washington State Patrol.



We have established procedures for communication that help to ensure immediate response. Last summer and during the winter break we practiced "community-wide" emergency events that involved the local police and fire departments. These events are a regular part of their training, and our schools provided the location for conducting their drills. On February 11, EWU Police Chief Tim Walters, who is a nationally known expert, provided professional development to district staff members concerning school safety and school violence.

Rest assured that our local law and fire departments work closely with our school officials to make certain that we are prepared in the event of a real emergency.

## Prevention

One of the ways that we can ensure a safe learning environment for our students is for students to know exactly what to do if they have a question or concern about safety.

Our counselors and our teachers help students understand the importance of talking with an adult if they ever feel unsafe. Adults respond quickly to student concerns and take swift action.

