



# Community Connections

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

## **Welcome Hawks and Wolverines!**

On September 5, 2012, Westwood Middle School and Cheney Middle School will welcome the first group of students to learn in a beautiful and functional environment. Earlier this week I had the opportunity to visit each of the schools and I can honestly say that, although I have seen each step of the construction process, the final product is absolutely amazing. We are so very grateful to our community for providing new state-of-the-art facilities for our students and staff – and our community.

As you have watched the schools grow from an idea to a reality, you may have wondered what went into the design of the new facilities. I can assure you that student learning was at the heart of the design process. Each wing of the facility will primarily serve a specific grade level – and each wing has a common space that can be used for the teachers to pull larger groups of students together for a variety of learning activities. Each wing has several rooms with walls that can be opened or closed, based upon the instructional needs of the students, and each classroom has natural light shining into the room to create an optimal learning environment. Finally, each classroom has integrated instructional technologies for presenting information – both audio and visual capabilities.

These “twin” schools provide our community with more gymnasium space and field space than we have had available in the past. The schools were designed with community access in mind; therefore, we can maintain security in each building while providing access to specific sections of the building for after-hours use.

We are so pleased that both schools are opening on time and under budget. We received our occupancy certificates and have already started moving instructional materials and furniture into the buildings. I would be remiss if I didn't mention a few people who deserve specific recognition for leading this important work – Superintendent Mr. Larry Keller, Maintenance and Operations Director Mr. Jeff McClure, Westwood Principal Dr. Erika Burden, CMS Principal Mr. Mike Stark, and all the members of the Middle School Design Task Force.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

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

Debra J. Clemens, Ph.D.  
Superintendent

## **Student Advisors to the School Board for 2012-13 school year**

Two outstanding high school students have been selected by the School Board to serve as Student Advisors to the Board this year. **Liz Gill** and **Sarah Oakes** from Cheney High School will attend Board meetings throughout the year and will provide the Board with the important student perspective as it makes policy decisions on behalf of all the students of our growing school district. We are fortunate to have such superb young people joining our dedicated Board of Directors. The Cheney School Board includes **President Suzanne Dolle**, **Vice-President Larry Haskell**, and members **Marcie Estrellado**, **Richard Mount** and **James Whiteley**.

**Friday reminder:** One hour late start for all schools in our district to provide for teacher collaborative time.  
Your child's school day begins one hour later; the buses run one hour later.

## **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.cheneyisd.org](http://www.cheneyisd.org) for more news and information about Cheney Public Schools.

## **Important dates:**

- Aug. 8 Sports physicals at Cheney Medical Center, 5:30 p.m., \$20 cash only accepted
- Aug. 13 Cheney High School (559-4000), Cheney MS (559-4400), and Westwood MS (559-4150) may be contacted to schedule registration appointments
- Aug. 20 2012-2013 Elementary registration begins
- Aug. 21 Three Springs may be contacted for registration
- Sept. 5 First day of school



## 2012-13 Cheney High School Athletic/Activity Information

The fall sports and activity start dates are noted below:

Gr. 9-12 Football	Aug. 15	10:00 a.m. (Theater) and 2:00 p.m. (Classrooms & Field)
Gr. 9-12 Band Camp	Aug. 16	9:00 a.m. (Band Class.)
Gr. 9-12 Volleyball	Aug. 20	9:00-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-3:30 p.m. (Gym)
Gr. 9-12 Cross Country	Aug. 20	3:15 p.m. (Rm. 218)
Gr. 9-12 Girls Swimming	Aug. 20	7:00-9:00 a.m. 3:30-5:30 p.m. (Pool)
Gr. 9-12 Girls Soccer	Aug. 20	8:00-10:30 a.m. 3:30-5:00 p.m. (Field)

In order to participate in athletics at Cheney High School, the following are required:

- ✓ A physical examination form must be completed by a physician and signed by the parent/guardian (if any irregularity is noted on the physical form). This physical is valid for two years. All incoming 9th graders and students who are new to Cheney High School must have a current physical.
- ✓ ASB Card (cost—\$40)
- ✓ Signed 2012-13 Activity Code
- ✓ Signed Assumption of Risk and Release Form
- ✓ Concussion Information Form
- ✓ School Insurance or Insurance Waiver
- ✓ Current Emergency Card

In order to participate in activities at Cheney High School, the following are required:

- ✓ ASB Card (cost—\$40)
- ✓ Signed 2012-13 Activity Code
- ✓ Signed Assumption of Risk and Release Form
- ✓ Concussion Information Form
- ✓ School Insurance or Insurance Waiver
- ✓ Current Emergency Card

The **9th Grade Orientation** will be held on Tuesday night, August 28, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Questions about Cheney High School athletic or activity information can be answered by contacting Jim Missel, Assistant Principal for Activities and Athletics, at 559-4103 (by phone) or [jtmassel@cheneyisd.org](mailto:jtmassel@cheneyisd.org) (by email). Information is also available by calling the CHS Activity Line, 559-4120.

## 2012-13 Middle School Athletic/Activity Information

Cheney Middle School and Westwood Middle School fall athletics practice start dates:

Football, Cross Country and Softball all begin on Wednesday, September 5, at 3:15 p.m.

In order to participate in athletics or activities at CMS or WMS, the requirements are similar to those of CHS above.

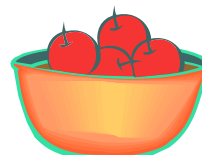
**Westwood Sports Information Night** is Monday, Aug. 27, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. **Cheney Middle School Sports Information Night** is Tuesday, Aug. 28, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Please plan on attending if your student will be participating in athletics or activities at Cheney Middle School or Westwood Middle School.

For athletics and activities information, please contact the CMS main office at 559-4400, or the WMS main office at 559-4150.

## School breakfast and lunch

In order to comply with new federal price regulations, it is necessary to increase breakfast and lunch prices slightly for the 2012-13 school year. The following are this year's lunch and breakfast prices:

Elementary Lunch	\$2.25	Reduced	\$ .40
		Reduced K-3	No Fee
Elementary Breakfast	1.45	Reduced	No Fee
Milk or Juice	.60		
Middle School Lunch	2.80	Reduced	\$ .40
High School Lunch	2.80		
Secondary Breakfast	1.55	Reduced	No Fee
Milk or Juice	.60		
Ala Carte Items	1.50		
Adult Lunch	\$3.50	Breakfast	\$2.00



## Free and Reduced Price Applications

Free and Reduced Price Breakfast and Lunch Applications will be distributed to each household through the mail with instructions on completing and returning the application. Additional application forms will also be available at each school. Should you have any questions or concerns, please call Brian Levy, Nutrition Services Director, at 559-4506.

## Student Support Services

Student Support Services assists families and teachers with coordinating educational and health services for children attending our schools. If you have questions about special education, Title I/LAP, Section 504 ADA, English language learners, services for homeless students, or health services, please visit the district website at [www.cheneyisd.org](http://www.cheneyisd.org) and see "Student Support Services" under the "Parent Resources" tab.

## Medication

### ***Prescription medication and doctor-prescribed over-the-counter medication***

If a student is to receive medication of any kind, the parent/guardian and the medical provider must sign an "Authorization for Administration of Medication at School" form. This form is available at your child's school. The signed form must accompany the medication, and the medication is to be kept in the school office. Parents are responsible for providing the medication in the original container labeled with the student's name, medication, time and dosage to be given. Please obtain a second bottle for this purpose that can be sent to school.

**Medicine sent to school in a baggie or lunch box is unacceptable.**

## Bus riders—please take note!

The Transportation Department requests parents' help to ensure that your child(ren) will have a safe and positive ride to and from school. There have been some changes in a few of the routes with the opening of the new middle schools. Letters have been sent out to all those students who are affected, with information pertaining to bus numbers and times.

- If your child is a new student, or
- If you have moved during the summer or have a new mailing address, or
- If your child rides a shuttle bus in the City of Cheney

Please call the Transportation Department at **559-4523** after August 1st to determine the appropriate bus route and arrange to have your child(ren) picked up.

***If you have a kindergarten student needing transportation, make certain you call the above number.*** It is imperative that parents call with transportation needs. It is helpful if you make note of your child's bus number when it is given to you at the time you call.

The Transportation Department of Cheney Public Schools is committed to efficiently and safely transporting students to and from school. In order for us to continue to ensure student safety, we will accommodate one pick-up and one drop-off address per student. All alternate destinations will require a bus pass from your child's school. No student will be let off at a stop other than his/her designated stop without a pass. Thank you for working closely with our drivers to better communicate changes in your child's pick-up and drop-off routine.

All possessions taken to school on the bus should be clearly labeled, including eyeglasses, coats and hats, boots, backpacks, lunch bags, band instruments, etc.

Our drivers are here to transport our children safely to and from school. We ask parents to help us by stressing the importance of bus safety, and obeying the driver and bus rules at all times, thus ensuring a safe drive for all.

As always, the Transportation Department welcomes your calls and concerns in helping us to do our very important job—ensuring the safe transportation of our children to and from school.



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## Save the dates for READY! for Kindergarten

Fall READY! Classes for Parents

Windsor Elementary READY! for Kindergarten, Saturday, October 6, 9:00 a.m.  
Sunset Elementary READY! for Kindergarten, Saturday, October 13, 9:00 a.m.  
Salnavé Elementary READY! for Kindergarten, Saturday, October 20, 9:00 a.m.

READY! for Kindergarten is a free parent education program focusing on the development of skills children need to be ready to succeed in school when they enter kindergarten. Classes for parents are designed for parents (or primary caregivers) of children (or when parent is expecting), birth to age 5. Parents who wish to take part in the READY! for Kindergarten program are invited to attend three classes during the school year. In the fall, the class focuses on letters and sounds. In the winter (Jan. 26, Feb. 2 & 9), the class focuses on math and reasoning. In the spring (April 20, 27 and May 4), the class focuses on social and emotional skills.

“We know that when students have sufficient skills in these areas, they are ready to succeed in school. Because parents are their children’s first and most influential teacher, we want to help parents work with their children on these skills. The information, tools and activities we provide to parents enable them to work with their children and make learning easy and fun,” says C.J. Johnson, the district’s READY! for Kindergarten coordinator. The classes are specifically designed to prepare parents of children at each age level:

- Expecting Parents and Parents with Children Birth to Age 1
- Age 1-2
- Age 2-3
- Age 3-4
- Age 4-5

During the 90-minute READY! for Kindergarten classes, teachers use DVDs, written curriculum and hands-on instruction to share concepts with parents. Activities and developmentally appropriate instructional materials are demonstrated by teachers while benefits of using the materials are explained. These classes also give parents the opportunity to meet and get to know district kindergarten teachers. The classes are offered three times for each session in fall, winter and spring so parents with more than one child under the age of five may enroll in a class for each of their children. While children do not take part in the READY! for Kindergarten classes, free childcare is available during the classes. Registration will be posted on the front page of the district web site, or contact C.J. Johnson, [cjohnson@cheneysd.org](mailto:cjohnson@cheneysd.org) for a registration form.

### CHS Annual senior picture deadline

Annuals go on sale Sept. 5 through Dec. 7 (last day to order). The senior picture deadline is Friday, October 12. All pictures must be in full color, 300 d.p.i., JPEG format and can be submitted as a CD, thumb drive, hard copy or emailed to [rhunt@cheneysd.org](mailto:rhunt@cheneysd.org). No black and whites and no photographs including props (hats, sunglasses, stuffed or live animals, musical instruments, etc.) or inappropriate subject matter will be accepted. If you are not able to get a picture taken, then pictures taken by Dorian’s on picture day will be used. Mr. Hunt will gladly take anyone’s picture if needed.

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, 520 Fourth Street  
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4550

Section 504 Coordinator  
Kristi Thurston, Director, Student Support Services  
Cheney School District, 520 Fourth Street  
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4507

Requests for Disclosure of Public Records  
Sharon Throop, Public Records Officer



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## Editorial correction—congratulations to CHS softball team

The recent issue of the *Community Connections* unfortunately omitted mention of the CHS softball team's very successful season, wherein they made spring playoffs, finishing 2nd in Districts, and as the #2 seed for State.

Remember to visit our district website at [www.cheneysd.org](http://www.cheneysd.org) for news and more frequent celebrations of student success.



## New student registration

Students in kindergarten through fifth grade who are new to the district can register at their respective schools every weekday beginning **Monday, August 20th**, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

**Kindergartners and students new to the district must bring a birth certificate (or proof of birth) and immunization records when registering.**

**Cheney Middle School** students new to the district can call 559-4400 at any time after August 13th to make an appointment to register.

**Westwood Middle School** students new to the district can call 559-4150 at any time after August 13th to make an appointment to register.

**Cheney High School** appointments for new student registration should be made in advance at any time after August 13th by calling 559-4000.

**Three Springs High School** students should call 559-4587 on August 21st or later to make an appointment to register.

## Don't forget those immunizations!

Each student must have a completed Certificate of Immunization Status form on file at school, or present one prior to admission. The Spokane County Health Department offers immunizations and examinations to children for a minimal charge. **Kindergarten students enrolling in Cheney Public Schools will be given a 30-day grace period to comply with state immunization requirements.**

## VACCINES REQUIRED FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE, GRADES K-12

July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013

Month, Day & Year are required documentation of all vaccines.

	Hepatitis B	DTaP/Td/Tdap* (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis)	Polio*	MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)	Varicella (Chickenpox)
Kindergarten – 4 <sup>th</sup> Grades	3 Doses	5 Doses	4 Doses	2 Doses	2 Doses OR Doctor verifies disease
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	3 Doses	5 Doses	4 Doses	2 Doses	1 Dose OR Parent verifies disease
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	3 Doses	5 Doses DTaP AND 1 Dose Tdap	4 Doses	2 Doses	1 Dose OR Parent verifies disease
7 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> Grades	3 Doses	5 Doses DTaP AND 1 Dose Tdap	4 Doses	2 Doses	Recommended, but not required.
12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	3 Doses	5 Doses	4 Doses	2 Doses	Recommended, but not required.

Exemptions from the requirements are medical, religious or personal. For information about immunizations, please call the Spokane Regional Health District at 324-1500.