



COMMUNITYConnections

For our children, our world, our future

Important Dates

June 4

Community Transitions
Graduation Celebration
Cheney High School Commons
3 p.m.

June 6

Cheney High School Graduation
GU, McCarthy Athletic Center
7:30 p.m.

June 7

WIN Academy Graduation
EWU, Hargreaves Hall
5 p.m.

June 7

Three Springs High School
Graduation
EWU, Hargreaves Hall
6:30 p.m.

June 12

School Board Meeting &
Budget Work Session
Cheney High School, Library
6 p.m.

June 14

Last Day of School

June 26

School Board Meeting &
Public Hearing Concerning
2024-25 Budget
Cheney High School, Library
5:30 p.m.

Important Links

[Student Registration](#)

[Employment](#)

Parents, Guardians, Staff, and Community Members,

Each year as we approach graduation and summer break, it feels as if the school year has sped by. As I reflect on the growth made throughout the year from our students, staff, and community, I am constantly reminded how special our district is, and how committed we are to bettering ourselves and our community. Read on for some of the incredible successes of our students in the past month!

This spring has brought so many great events and milestones. From athletics to the arts, our students continue to thrive. I was fortunate enough to attend SpongeBob, The Musical, which showcased the talent of Cheney High School's drama students, as well as several baseball, softball, tennis, and track and field events that saw our student athletes excel. Our middle school students have also been finding their rhythm, both on the stage and on the field. It has been wonderful to see all of our talented students in action.

Our FBLA, FFA, and DECA students have earned great successes this spring! In FBLA, at both the middle and high school levels, multiple students placed in the top 10 at their respective events. At the middle school level, Westwood students placed 25 times at the 2024 State Business Leadership Conference, while at the high school level, students placed in the top 10 an outstanding 36 times at the state competition. Congratulations! Our FFA students took home the state title in multiple categories, including the Potato Evaluation Career Development Event Team Competition and the Scrapbook event! And our DECA students Sedona Ericson and Zachary Cox place in the top 10 nationally in School Based Enterprise, concluding the best showing for CHS DECA since the chapter was established. Congratulations to our students and their advisors!

I have also enjoyed visiting each of our five elementary schools. Our students have been preparing for their spring music concerts and participating in events like the Betz Elementary STEAM Night and multiple multicultural nights across the district. There are so many opportunities for our students to find their niche, and it is great to see them take advantage of so many great events. Our students have also been putting in great work in the classroom, which I have been able to witness on multiple occasions during site visits across the district. It is so apparent the effort our staff has put in to helping our students be successful in the classroom, and I am very thankful for their commitment along with the hard work of our students.

I would also like to acknowledge the great work the 2023-24 Superintendent Student Advisory Team (SAT) has completed this school year. Ten students from across the district made up two SAT teams: K-5 and 6-12. They met via Zoom once a month to brainstorm ideas and set district priorities. Student voice is imperative for the success of the district, and I am so thankful for their input. [Click here](#) or scan the QR code below to watch a short video explaining all they accomplished this year. Applications are being accepted through June 4 to expand the SAT for next year! [Click here](#) for more information and to apply.

Our attention now turns to the excitement of June; graduations and promotions, the final days of the school year, and the start of summer break. I am looking forward to all the celebrations, joy, and final milestones of the 2023-24 school year.

We are Cheney Public Schools!

Take care,
Ben Ferney, Ed.D.
Superintendent, Cheney Public Schools



Our Essential Foundations

- High Expectations and Continuous Progress
- Involvement & Engagement with Community
- Stewardship & Planning

Follow Cheney Public Schools on:



Character Trait for the Month

COURAGE

Displaying integrity
in spite of obstacles
and challenges.

Tim Harse Selected as Westwood Assistant Principal and Athletic Director



Mr. Tim Harse

After an extensive interview process, Cheney Public Schools is pleased to announce that Tim Harse has been selected as the next assistant principal and athletic director of Westwood Middle School.

"We look forward to having Tim join our Wolverine pack as Assistant Principal and Athletic Director," incoming Westwood Principal Alison Tobler said. "Mr. Tim Harse aligns with the Westwood philosophy of being student

centered and serving all families."

[Click here](#) for the full story on cheneysd.org.

Betz Elementary STEAM Night Full of Learning & Exploration



Local kids participate in a science experiment at Betz Elementary's STEAM Night.

Betz Elementary hosted STEAM Night on May 16. The event was free and open to the public. A few highlights included a free dinner, prizes, and various STEAM-related activities in Art, Math, Engineering, Science, and Technology. Attendees were able to learn how to propagate plants, paint with watercolors, create hand-crafted spoon catapults to launch projectiles, and

explore a variety of STEAM-based careers.

Community representatives from the Spokane County Library, Cheney Parks and Recreation, Communities in Schools, CHAS Health, Scouts, and several more were in attendance to provide information about great opportunities for area children. A big thank you to all the staff, volunteers, families, and community members who made this event possible!

Cheney Middle School Art Night Showcases Student Art to the Community

Cheney Middle School hosted Art Night on May 8, displaying the artwork of its students around the school commons. Over 250 CMS art students and their families came to view students' artwork and enjoy some food and musical performances.

A big thank you to art teacher Sherry Syrie for leading the organization for this event.

It was great to have our staff, students, families, and community members engaging during the event!



CMS student pose alongside student artwork.

ECEAP and Tuition Preschool Registration Now Open!

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

NOW OPEN!

- ✓ Creative Curriculum
- ✓ Conscious Discipline
- ✓ Early Childhood Intervention

ENROLL NOW

ECEAP and Tuition Preschool is now open for registration!

For more information about Cheney Public Schools' Inclusionary Preschool, please [click here](#). To register for preschool, please [click here](#) or call your neighborhood school to get started.

Activities from Around the District



Cheney High School students perform SpongeBob, The Musical in early May.



Westwood Middle School FBLA student pose with their trophies.



Westwood Middle School students learn about area birds during the Extended Outdoor Learning Experience at Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge.



A Cheney FFA student participated in Market Swine Judging on the second day of the 2024 Junior Livestock Show at the Spokane County Fairgrounds.

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 dog guide 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.

Title IX/Chapter 28A.640 Officer/
Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator/ADA
Coordinator/Gender Inclusive Schools Coordinator
Tom Art, Assistant Superintendent
Cheney School District, 12414 S. Andrus Rd.
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4550

Section 504 Coordinator
Franklin Day, Director, Student Support Services
Cheney School District, 12414 S. Andrus Rd.
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4550

Requests for Disclosure of Public Records
Helen Page, Public Records Officer
Cheney School District, 12414 S. Andrus Rd.
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4550