



COMMUNITYConnections

For our children, our world, our future

Parents, Guardians, Staff, and Community Members,

School is back in session, and we are excited to see what this year has in store for our students, staff, and community members. Already, we have seen some great district events--like the Three Springs High School, WIN Academy, and Homeworks! Market Night—and the return of Friday Night Lights with Cheney High School's season-opening football game against Lewis and Clark. Kindergarteners are settling into their new classes and school routines across the district, while area seniors embark on their final year of high school.

This summer, the district facilitated several technological transitions: a new district website, Google suite, and email services, ParentSquare--a new district-wide messaging tool, and School Board of Directors information Diligent Community. We appreciate your continued patience as we proceed with these transitions and troubleshoot the issues that can be expected with technological changes.

Thank you once again for your input on our district's strategic plan during the 2023-24 school year. The School Board of Directors officially approved the plan and moved to adopt it last May. It is a living document, and we will continue to gather input from our district constituents and propose adjustments. It has been inspiring to see so many innovative ideas come together to shape our guiding plan.

I am also incredibly thankful to our district negotiation team and the Cheney Educator's Association for their tireless work in reaching a new contract agreement. Beginning in May and concluding in late August, these negotiations highlighted our district's ability to collaborate and find common ground. This competitive contract will continue to attract the region's top educators, benefitting our students and community.

The November election is quickly approaching, and Cheney Public Schools will have a bond measure on the ballot. Our District is seeking a 60 percent super-majority approval of a 72-million-dollar bond that will fund growth projects—including a new elementary school in Airway Heights—safety and security improvements around the district, as well as district-wide student health and facility improvements. You will be receiving more information over the next few weeks about the bond measure, and I also encourage you to take a look at our district website by [clicking here](#).

I look forward to all of the fall activities our District and surrounding communities have to offer. We are Cheney Public Schools!

Take care,

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

Important Dates

September 25
School Board Meeting
Cheney High School
6 p.m.

October 9
School Board Meeting
Betz Elementary
6 p.m.

October 11
Professional Learning Day
No Students

October 23
School Board Meeting
Windsor Elementary
4:30 p.m.

Community Events

Community Day at CHS
Sponsored by the CHS
Blackhawk Band Parent
Boosters
Sept. 21 | 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Trick or Treat Trail
Cheney Parks & Recreation
Oct. 5 | 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
[Click for more info](#)

Important Links

[November Bond](#)

[Student Registration](#)

[Employment](#)

Our Essential Foundations

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

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Character Trait for the Month

Respect

Recognizing, considering and properly honoring the worth of one's self and others.

Learning Options Open House & Market Night

On Wednesday, Sept. 4, Cheney Public Schools' Learning Option programs (Three Springs High School, WIN Academy, Homeworks!) hosted the 2nd Annual Fall Market Night at the TSHS/Homeworks! campus. The event was free and open to the public and served as an open house for both TSHS and Homeworks!



TSHS students spent the first six days of school engaged in the Thunderhawk Challenge. As part of TSHS's Project-Based Learning model, students were tasked with building a carnival game using specific rubric criteria that required collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity. The result of their efforts was various carnival games for guests to enjoy.

In addition, TSHS DECA and ASB clubs offered goodies for sale, including swag, specialty drinks like Italian Sodas, cultivated honey from the TSHS beehive, vegetables from the TSHS garden, and a few other items. The Market Night also featured booths from local community vendors and Homeworks! families.

"Our Learning Options Market is evolving and growing," said TSHS principal Cathleen Scott. "Our community seems to truly appreciate it, and our goal of bringing our school communities closer is coming to fruition."

The District Learning Options programs plan to host another Market Night next spring.



Register to Vote for the November Election!

National Voter Registration Day was Sept. 17, so now is a great time to register to vote! The next election is Nov. 5, 2024. You can register online or by mail until 8 days before an election. You may also register in person through Election Day. Get out and vote!



Welcome Aboard: 2024-25 School Board Student Advisors

Student advisors are an integral part of the District's Board of Directors, providing great insight from the student perspective. High school students from across the district are encouraged to apply each spring, and if selected, will serve a one-year term beginning in September and concluding in June.

There are five 2024-25 school board advisors: returning student advisors Rylan Rajewski and Nichelle DeGuzman, and newly-selected student advisors Aubrey Kristof, Caitlin Shaffer, and Hudson Redder.

"I decided to return as a student advisor because my first year as an advisor was very enlightening," Rajewski said. "It was pretty cool to learn all the intricate parts of the board that I wouldn't have known otherwise. I enjoy that I get the opportunity to be the middle man; I communicate to the board but also to my peers! I am definitely looking forward to learning and growing more as a voice in my community this year."

Superintendent Ben Ferney along with Board Director President Henry Browne led the annual orientation session for new and returning student advisors Sept. 4 at Cheney High School. The orientation included information about student advisor roles, what to expect, meeting expectations, the ins and outs of the school board, as well as a Q&A session.



We're Hiring Substitute Teachers

Cheney Public Schools is currently hiring substitute teachers. [Click here](#) for more information or to apply. To view all of our district's open positions, please [click here](#).



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) 559-4507

Requests for Disclosure of Public Records
Helen Page, Public Records Officer
Cheney School District, 12414 S. Andrus Rd.
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4502