

Northwood Newsletter

February 2026

Hello Northwood Families,

February is here, and it feels good to say this out loud. First semester was a success. A real one. Classrooms were focused. Routines were strong. Learning happened every day. On the fields, our athletes competed hard and represented Northwood the right way. In our concert spaces, our musicians delivered performances that made us proud and reminded us how much talent lives in this building. Not bad for a group of middle schoolers and a few tired adults.

None of that happened by accident. It happened because of great teaching and strong relationships. Our teachers are way more than people who teach a class for 57 minutes. They are adults our students trust. They are listeners. They are encouragers. They are problem solvers. They are steady when kids feel anything but steady. Many of our students know there is at least one adult here who has their back. That matters more than any test score. Research backs this up. Students who report having a trusted adult at school show higher engagement and stronger academic growth. We see that every day at Northwood.

We also see the impact of partnership. When families and teachers work together, students do better. Grades improve. Attendance improves. Confidence improves. It is not flashy work. It is consistent work. Emails. Check ins. Conversations. Support at home and support at school pulling in the same direction.

As we head into second semester, keep that partnership going. Reach out. Ask questions. Share concerns early. Celebrate growth, even when it is small. Middle school growth is rarely quiet, but it is always worth it.

Thank you for trusting us with your kids. Thank you for cheering in the stands, clapping at concerts, and supporting learning at home. February is shorter, but we plan to make it count.



Rick Pelkie
Principal
Northwood Middle School

Check out our Student Led Newsletter Here
THE MONTHLY PAWS

Feb 5
Student of the Month Assembly

Feb 11
No late Start
School begins @ 7:55am

Feb 11
Incoming Freshman Night
Mead HS @ 6pm

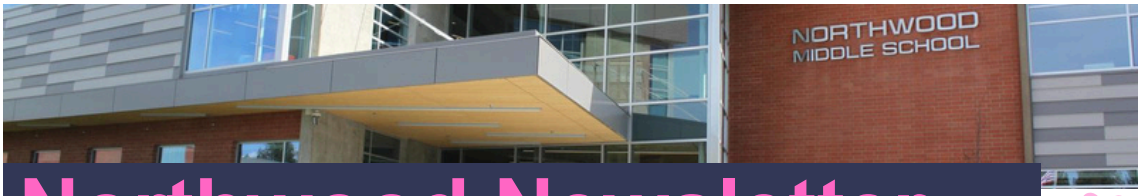
Feb 16
No School
Presidents' Day

Feb 17
8th gr Basketball Begins
2026-27 Registration Opens

Feb 23
Incoming Freshmans Night
Mt. Spokane HS @ 6pm

Feb 24
Incoming 6th gr PARENT NIGHT
@ Northwood MS-see flyer below

509-465-7580 | Northwood Website | nwattend@mead354.org



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No Late Start
Wed, Feb 11th
School begins
@ 7:55am

Incoming Freshman Night
Mead HS
Feb 11th @ 6pm
Mt. Spokane HS
Feb 23rd @ 6pm

No School
Monday
Feb 16th
Presidents' Day

National School Counselor Week

Feb 2 - Feb 6

Alana Cummings



Thank you Brock and Alana for showing up everyday for our Huskies! You provide support, advice, scheduling and so much more.
We Appreciate YOU!



Brock Salzman

Yearbook Staff Wins National Award

2025 NMS Yearbook Class

1ST

Our 2025 Yearbook Staff earned 1st Place in Yearbook Design from the National Scholastic Press Association, a national honor recognizing outstanding middle school journalism. The award was announced at the NSPA Fall Convention in Nashville, and the winning work is featured nationally. Congratulations to the team—and to Molly, who also earned 4th place nationally in photography!

Spirit Week

Mon Feb 9:	Monochromatic Day
Tues Feb 10:	Crazy Hair Day or Hat Day
Wed Feb 11:	Jersey Day
Thurs Feb 12:	Twin Day
Fri Feb 13:	Pink & Red Day

Report Cards

Beginning Monday, Feb 2nd, 2026 a copy of your student's Semester 1 report card can be requested through our counseling center using the request link below:



Report card options:
~ Paper copy sent home with your student
~ Digital copy through email

Link to request a copy of Semester 1 report card

509-465-7500 | Northwood Website | nwattend@mead354.org



Northwood Athletics

February 2026

Parents of 8th grade student athletes:

With 8th grade basketball season rapidly approaching, please be sure to get your athletes signed up soon. Keep in mind that students must be registered through Final Forms, a current physical on file at NW, and Fees paid to participate. We are looking forward to a fun season!

Upcoming Athletic Seasons

- ***February 17 - 8th Basketball Begins***
- ***April 13- 6/7/8 Track Begins***
- ***April 13-7/8 Baseball Begins***
- ***May 11 - 6th Basketball Begins***

School Attendance & Sports

Attendance is a critical component for students to be successful in school. It is also a requirement to be able to participate in sports. Please make sure your student-athlete is getting to school every day, on time, and is not skipping out on practices. Encourage them to stay healthy and communicate with the school nurse and/or coaches as needed:

- Athletes that are chronically late to 1st period will lose the ability to participate after school.
- Athletes that miss school during the day without a note from a doctor, dentist, etc. cannot participate that afternoon.
- If an athlete cannot participate in PE, then they cannot participate in afterschool activities. If an athlete misses practice their playing time will be reduced. Missing class due to discipline issues could result in loss of playing time.
- In our partnership as parents, teachers, and coaches, it is important to teach our athletes how to build positive habits and be good students.

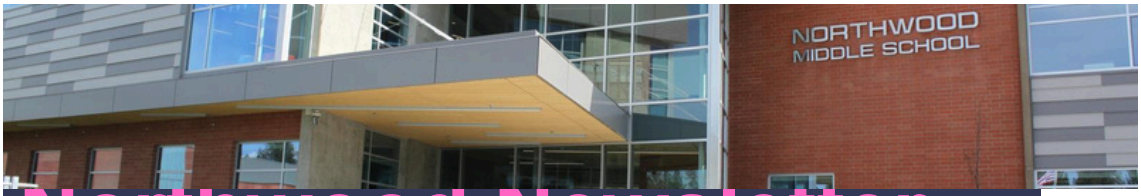


We appreciate our Husky Fans!

Thank you parents & grandparents for all the support for our athletes this year, we appreciate the encouragement and support for our athletes and teams. Please continue to encourage good sportsmanship, a positive attitude, and respect for the game and individuals involved. Go Huskies!

AS WE GET READY TO BEGIN SPRING SPORTS SOON, A QUICK REMINDER, PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE BACK BUS LOOP/FIRE LANE AT ANY TIME FOR ANY REASON OTHER THAN AN EMERGENCY.

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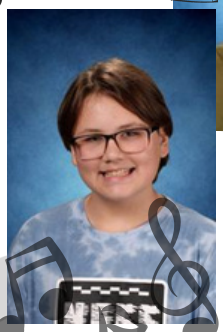
February 2026

Outstanding seventh, and eighth grade music students from across Washington received top honors by being selected to participate in the annual WMEA Junior All-State bands, choirs, and orchestra.

On February 14th, 2026 the students listed below will join more than 700 other outstanding middle school performers from across Washington State for this gala event held in Yakima, WA.











Gionna Figueroa-Moore - 8th Grade - Alto, Jr. All-State Treble Choir
Olivia Sutton - 7th Grade - Alto, Jr. All-State Treble Choir
Braelyn Warnecke - 8th Grade - Alto, Jr. All-State Treble Choir
Sulis Watts - 8th Grade - Alto, Jr. All-State Treble Choir
Jax Hicks - 7th Grade - Baritone, Jr. All-State Mixed Choir
Evan Rogers - 8th Grade - Baritone, Jr. All-State Mixed Choir
Holden Westika - 8th Grade - Baritone, Jr. All-State Mixed Choir

Hope Week Feb 9 - Feb 13

Our student-led Hope Squad is excited to host Hope Week, February 9–13, a week dedicated to promoting kindness, connection, and awareness around mental health. Hope Squad works to ensure students know they are not alone and that support and healthy alternatives are always available.

On Tuesday, February 10, students can also enjoy lunchtime activities, including a photo booth, positive message stickers, a prize wheel, and candy grams that will be delivered on Friday the 13th.

Hope Week is all about spreading hope, building belonging, and reminding every student that they matter.

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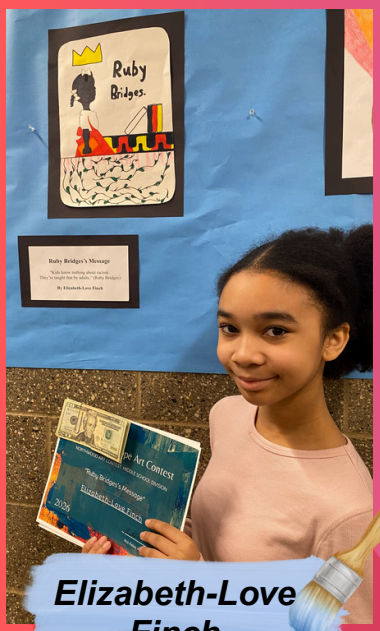


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Hallways Of Hope

Northwood Middle School
Annual Art Contest



Elizabeth-Love Finch
"Ruby Bridge's Message"



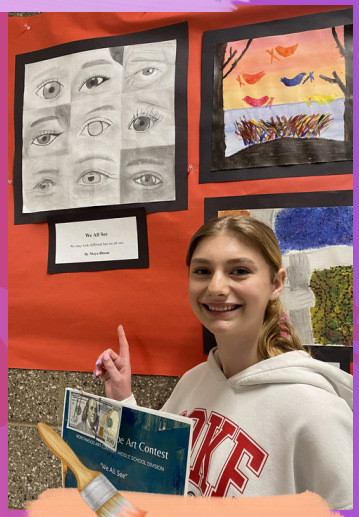
Mr. Pelkie joins the winning Northwood artist for the 2026 Hallways of Hope contest
Congrats Huskies!



RaiLynn Park
"Society"



Lillian Brown
"Seeing in Black and White"



Maya Bloom
"We all See"



Mt. Spokane High School

Jane Bendsten
"One Man's Treasure, Another Man's Gift"

Lydia Khala
"Beauty in the Creeks"



Mead High School

Alexis Mattox
"The Green Ribbon"

Niah Moro
"Finding Hope"

NORTHWOOD
MIDDLE SCHOOL

Future 6th Grade Parent Night

TUESDAY
FEBRUARY
24TH

5:15PM - 7:00PM
DOORS OPEN AT 5PM

THERE WILL BE

PERFORMANCES BY OUR AWARD-WINNING NORTHWOOD BAND

SCHEDULE

5:15PM
Student's with IEP's
Parent Meeting

5:30pm
Athletics Meeting-South Gym
parents of future student athletes

6:00pm
All Parent Assembly
South Gym

CURRENT 5TH GR PARENTS ARE INVITED TO AN AFTERNOON FILLLED WITH INFORMATION TO INCLUDE REGISTRATION, ACADEMIC OFFERINGS INCLUDING HONORS, SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS, EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, ATHLETICS, STUDENT EXPECTATIONS AND MORE.

northwoodms.mead354.org P: 509-465-7500

PARENTS AND FUTURE WILDCATS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND



FUTURE WILDCAT NIGHT

FEBRUARY 23
MSHS GYM AND COMMONS
6-7:30PM

SAVE THE DATE!

- INCOMING FRESHMAN PARENT NIGHT
- FEBRUARY 11TH, 2026 FROM 6-8PM
- MEAD HIGH SCHOOL
- ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAM FAIR
- STUDENTS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN WITH THEIR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

YOU BELONG AND WE BELIEVE IN YOU!