FREEMAN FOCUS

PRIDE | COMMITMENT | CARING

NOVEMBER 2026

One Freeman. One Community. Every Student.

As I reflect on my first few months as Superintendent of the Freeman School District, I feel grateful and proud. After nearly 30 years of serving this district as a teacher, principal, and assistant superintendent, stepping into this new role has been both humbling and rewarding.

These first few months have reinforced what I have always known: Freeman is a special place because of the people who make up our schools and community. I have enjoyed connecting with students, staff, families, and community members, listening to their perspectives, and celebrating the many wonderful things happening throughout our district that you will learn about here in the Freeman Focus.

As we move forward, we will continue strengthening a cohesive TK–12 system, building a culture of belonging, and ensuring every student has the support and opportunities needed to thrive. These priorities reflect our commitment to working together as One Freeman.

I am incredibly proud of our dedicated staff, hardworking students, supportive families, and the community that continues to stand behind our schools. Thank you for your trust, partnership, and continued support. Please do not hesitate to reach out. It has been a joy reconnecting with alumni and meeting community members who have a story to share.

Freeman Pride, Commitment, and Caring!

Lisa Phelan

Superintendent, Freeman School District





Scottie Dash Brings the Community Together

Freeman's annual Scottie Dash brought TK-8 students, families and community supporters together Friday, Oct. 2, for a day of school spirit and healthy activity. Students collected donations, ran for 30 minutes, received Scottie Dash T-shirts and celebrated with popsicles after the run.

Organized by the TK-8 Associated Student Body (ASB) and Parent, Teacher, Student Group (PTSG), the annual fundraiser supports opportunities for Freeman students, including field trips, sports, clubs, robotics, assemblies, playground improvements, community events and scholarships for graduating seniors pursuing college or a trade.

A heartfelt thank-you to the ASB, PTSG, volunteers, families and local sponsors who made the event possible: Amplify Real Estate Services; Broadway Heights Dental; CHS Primeland; Dave's Hot Chicken; Design IT Solutions; Fulcrum Financial Group; Gray Service Plumbing; the Hawley Family; Inland Empire Golf; iSmile Orthodontics; L&M Truck Sales; Palouse Doodles, LLC; Scott Family Orthodontics; Swell Coffee; and Zimmy's Flooring.





Thank you to the entire Freeman community for making the 2026 Scottie Dash a success!

PACE Character Traits November - CITIZENSHIP December - CARING January - FAIRNESS

Our Schools. Our Workforce. Our Future.

In September, Freeman School District students and leaders joined business and community representatives from across the Spokane Valley for the Our Schools Business Connections Breakfast, a conversation about preparing today's students for tomorrow's workforce and community.

Freeman students Briley Snyder, Logan Nelson, Lily Lagreid and Trapper Collins attended alongside Superintendent Phelan and CTE/FCE Director Heidi Youseph. Hosted by the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce, the event brought together educators, employers, community leaders and residents to consider what skills graduates need to succeed and how schools and communities can help them develop those skills.

Briley, Logan, Lily and Trapper shared their experiences and perspectives, giving attendees a firsthand look at learning and preparation for life after high school. Their voices underscored the importance of including students in conversations about the workforce they will soon enter.

Grounded in Washington's Profile of a Graduate, the discussion went beyond academics to highlight communication, collaboration, problem-solving, confidence, career awareness and adaptability in a changing world.



Freeman students, Lily Lagreid, Briley Snyder, Trapper Collins, and Logan Nelson shine at the Spokane Valley In School Chamber Event





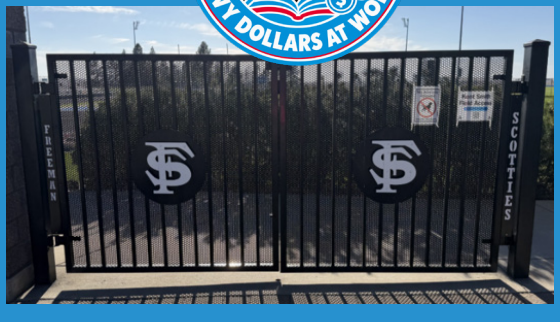
Exploring Futures in Medicine

Freeman is proud to highlight its ongoing partnership with Washington State University's Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine. Built on the principle "You can't be what you can't see," the program began in Stevens County to introduce students to medical professionals and health care career pathways. Now in its seventh year and serving 13 schools, the program marks its fifth year working with Freeman seventh and eighth graders.

This school year, 50 Freeman eighth graders are participating in hands-on activities and interactive case studies led by WSU medical students. They explore real-world health topics and careers in medicine, anatomy, nursing, pharmacy and clinical research while building scientific knowledge and leadership skills. We are grateful to WSU and its dedicated mentors for helping students envision new possibilities for their futures.

Keeping Our Campus Safe and Welcoming

The community levy support helps Freeman School District maintain its campus and address unexpected repairs, including a recently damaged gate at Kent Smith Field. Thanks to Freeman alum Steven Sainsbury, owner of FLYFAB, the gate has been repaired and improved beyond its original condition. This project highlights how levy dollars, combined with community partnerships, help protect our community's investment and keep Freeman's campus safe and welcoming for students, staff and visitors.



Introducing the Superintendent Student Advisory Committee

Freeman is excited to launch the Superintendent Student Advisory Committee, giving students an opportunity to share their ideas, experiences and perspectives directly with the Superintendent Lisa Phelan. Meeting over lunch once a month, students will have open, informal conversations about what is working well, where improvements can be made and how to strengthen our school community. The committee will help ensure student voices are heard as we work together to create a school where every student feels connected, supported and valued.





Freeman Third Graders Explore Rockford!

On Friday, Sept. 25, Freeman's three third-grade classes explored local Rockford businesses during a field trip. Students visited the District 11 Fire Department, First Interstate Bank, Rockford Auto, the Rockford Historical Society and The Body Shop. They also previewed the Southeast Spokane County Fair, where their school projects were proudly displayed.

Thank you to the local businesses and organizations that welcomed our students and supported hands-on learning. We appreciate your commitment to educating and inspiring our kids!









Fifth Graders Earn Best of Show

Congratulations to Freeman's fifth graders for earning the Best of Show award at the Southeast Spokane County Fair! Students carefully crafted three-dimensional seed pictures, showcasing their creativity while learning about crops grown and harvested by local farmers. Mr. Gady is proud of you!



Freeman School District #358
15001 S Jackson Road
Rockford, WA 99030

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Freeman School District 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, 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 employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Civil Rights, Title IX, and Section 504 Compliance Coordinator: Lisa Phelan, lphelan@freemansd.org, 509-291-3695, 15001 S Jackson Rd. Rockford, WA 99030

UPCOMING FREEMAN EVENTS

11/4 ..... 2-Hour Late Start (School starts at 10:15 a.m.)
11/6 ..... Harvest Hoedown (hosted by PTSG) 4:30-6:30 p.m.
11/10 ..... Veterans Day Community Program 9:30 a.m. | HS Blue Gym
11/11 ..... Veterans Day - NO SCHOOL
11/23-11/27 ..... Thanksgiving Break - NO SCHOOL
11/30 ..... School Board Meeting | 6 p.m. | PRTC Building
12/2 ..... 2-Hour Late Start (School starts at 10:15 a.m.)
12/11 ..... Holiday Craft Night (hosted by PTSG) | 4:30-6:30 p.m.
12/13 ..... Robotics Regionals Competition | MS Gym
12/14 ..... School Board Meeting | 4 p.m. | PRTC Building
12/14 ..... Winter Concert | HS Blue Gym Grades K-2, 5:30 p.m. | Grades 6-12, 7 p.m.
12/18-12/19 ..... Greg Larson Memorial Basketball Tournament
12/19-12/20 ..... Freeman HS 46th Annual Alumni Basketball Tournament
12/21-1/1 ..... Winter Break - NO SCHOOL
1/4 ..... Professional Development - NO SCHOOL
1/18 ..... Martin Luther King Jr. Day - NO SCHOOL
1/25 ..... School Board Meeting | 6 p.m. | PRTC Building



FREEMAN SCOTTIES

FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT
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