NORTHWOOD NEWSLETTER

509-465-7580 NORTHWOOD WEBSITE NWATTEND@MEAD354.ORG

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 2	1st day of Q2
Nov 5-18	Time for Turkey Donations Boxes
Nov 10	Veterans Celebration @ Northwood
Nov 11	No School Veterans Day
Nov 18	Education Support Professionals Day
Nov 18	Last day Time for Turkey donations
Nov 19	Student of the month Assembly
Nov 25-27	No School Thanksgiving Break

ENJOY OUR STUDENT-LED NEWSLETTER HERE!

From the Principal's Desk

A SEASON OF GRATITUDE AT NORTHWOOD!

November is one of my favorite times of the year because it gives us an opportunity to slow down, reflect, and appreciate the people who make a difference in our lives. With Veterans Day and Thanksgiving both falling in November, this month reminds us of the importance of service, sacrifice, family, and gratitude. I want to begin by expressing my sincere appreciation to the veterans in our Northwood community and beyond. Thank you for your service, your sacrifices, and your commitment to our country. We are grateful for the freedoms we enjoy because of you, and I hope our students take time this month to understand and appreciate what that service means.

As we finish our first quarter, I also want to say a heartfelt THANK YOU to our Northwood families! Thank you for trusting us with your children, supporting their education, and partnering with us through the excitement and occasional challenges of middle school. Let's face it, raising a middle schooler requires patience, a sense of humor, and sometimes the ability to understand a language that consists entirely of grunts, shrugs, and the words "I'm fine." We appreciate the work you do at home, the encouragement you provide, and the support you give our school. To our students, thank you for the energy, laughter, kindness, and personality you bring into our building every day. You make Northwood a special place, and we are proud of the growth we have seen during these first nine weeks.

I am equally thankful for our incredible teachers and support staff. Every day, they show up ready to teach, encourage, challenge, and care for our students. Much of what they do happens quietly, without recognition, but it makes an enormous difference. As we enter the second quarter, I encourage our families to continue communicating with your student's teachers. If you have questions about grades, assignments, expectations, or your child's progress, please reach out. We want to hear from you! The end of the first quarter is a natural time to celebrate successes, address concerns, and make adjustments. A new quarter provides a fresh opportunity for every student, and the best results happen when families and schools work together.

As Thanksgiving approaches, I hope each of you finds time to enjoy family, friends, and the many blessings in your lives. I know I have plenty to be thankful for, and being part of this Northwood community is certainly one of them. We have wonderful students, supportive families, and dedicated staff who genuinely care about one another. That is something worth celebrating! And if your Thanksgiving looks anything like mine, I hope you enjoy a little extra turkey, a good nap, and at least one family gathering where nobody asks about missing assignments!

From all of us at Northwood, thank you for being part of our Husky family. We are grateful for you, and we look forward to a great second quarter together.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING, AND REMEMBER,
YOU BELONG AT NORTHWOOD!

Rick Pelkie
Northwood Principal



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FUNDRUN 2026








CHECK OUT OUR NORTHWOOD FACEBOOK PAGE HERE FOR ALL OUR FUN EVENTS

HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL 2026





NORTHWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL

VETERANS DAY

ASSEMBLY & RECEPTION



Submit Your Veteran to be in our Assembly Slideshow **HERE**

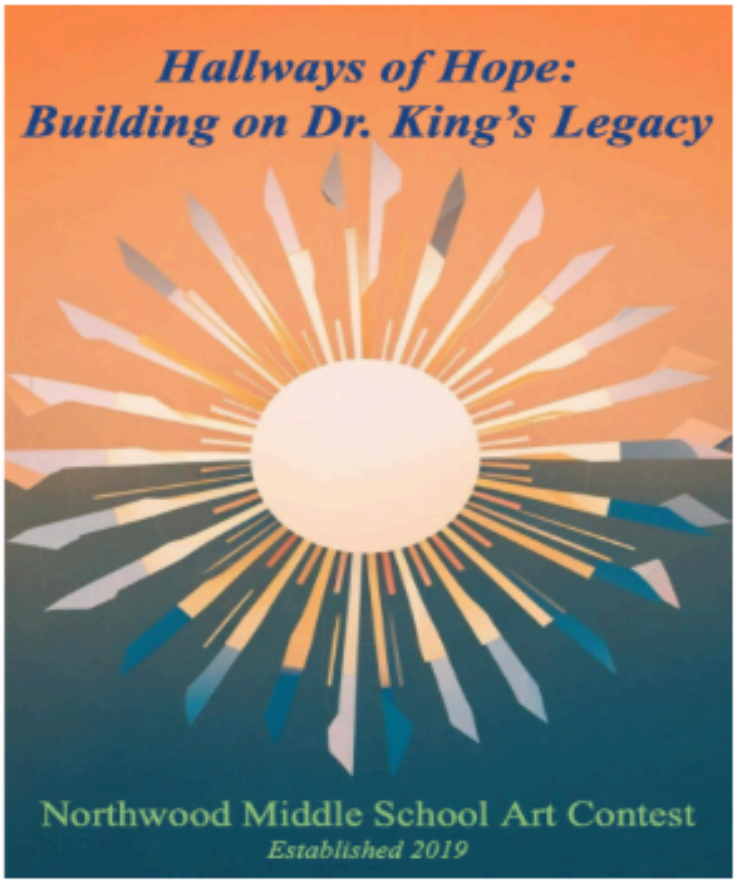
Please RSVP **HERE** if you and your Veteran will attend the reception following the assembly

TUESDAY, NOV 10TH, 2026

ASSEMBLY @ 8:00 AM

VETERAN BREAKFAST RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



Purpose:

Northwood wants to build a stronger learning community where every student feels valued, accepted, and believed in. Our school serves 800 students of all backgrounds, talents and abilities. Our hope is that Northwood's walls would encourage inclusivity and acceptance of all students and set the example for students walking our hallways.

Task:

Create an art piece that can be hung on Northwood's walls that **celebrates the inclusion of students of all backgrounds**: race, ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status, age, religious beliefs, talents, interests and/or abilities. Please make sure that the message and images are appropriate and positive for the middle school age group.

How to Enter Contest and Submit Work:

Please complete the information section of this form and attach it to the back of your artwork. **Submit your work to Northwood's office by Wednesday, January 6th at noon.** The top art pieces will be hung in Northwood's hallways with credit given to the artist. **A $100 cash prize will be awarded to the winning artist, $60 to 2nd place, and $40 to the 3rd place artist.** Winners will be selected by a group of diverse community leaders.

Slideshow of previous artwork HERE

MEAD
SCHOOL DISTRICT
2323 E. Farwell Road
Mead WA 99021

October 12th, 2026

RE: Notification for Human Growth and Development/HIV/AIDS instruction.

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Please be aware that the 6th, 7th and 8th Grade Human Growth and Development/HIV/AIDS units will be taught during the 2nd quarter within the health and fitness classes. We believe that parents are the primary source for human growth and development education, and we will have the curriculum available for parents to view from October 15th to November 25th in the main office from 7:30 am – 2:30 pm. Please call the office after these dates to discuss alternative options to view the curriculum.

If you wish to exclude your child from this unit, please sign and return the form at the bottom of the page to Janel Starkey in the main office by November 16th, or as soon as possible if past the original due date. Your child will then receive an alternative assignment and will spend those class periods in another location with another supervising adult. Washington law states that parents or guardians who wish to exclude a child from the Sexual Education/HIV/AIDS unit should preview the unit prior to exclusion.

If your child is in elective PE this semester or is not enrolled in PE, they will receive the instruction in the second semester.

If you have any questions regarding the exclusion or the units, please contact your child's teacher at 509-465-7500.

Sincerely,

Physical Education Department
Janna O'Leary
Steve Hare
Zac Franklin
Tony Umbach
Natalie Gallagher

Rick Pelkie- Principal
Renee Bailey- Asst. Principal
Ryan Bodecker- Asst. Principal

My child _____ is to be excused from the Human Growth and Development/HIV/AIDS unit.

_____ Grade:_____
Student's PE Teacher

_____ Date:_____
Signature of parent/guardian

Download the ParentSquare app today!

Stay involved with your student's learning and activities at school. From anywhere.

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GET IT ON Google Play

ParentSquare

