



# Community Connections

*For our children, our community, our world, our future*

## ***Tuesday, September 2, School Begins - Welcome!***

### **Thank you for the opportunity to serve and lead!**

As I write this letter to you in my third week on the job, the reality of this great opportunity to serve and lead Cheney Public Schools is beginning to sink in. It is truly a privilege and an honor to lead this fine district. Motivated students, a highly talented and caring staff, committed parents, and community members who value education contribute to our success. I assure you, we will continue to work together to provide a solid foundation for helping all of our children make their dreams a reality.

In my first months as superintendent, my primary goal is to meet as many citizens who make up the Cheney Public Schools family as I can. Let me begin by sharing a little about my family and myself. First, my wife Karen and I have been residents of the school district for over 10 years. Although my professional journey took us to North Central Washington the past five years, we maintained our house on Granite Lake and managed to return often to spend time with our son Jeff, who works for a credit union in Cheney, and our granddaughter, Cady. We also have a daughter Kari, who resides and works in the Seattle area. While in North Central Washington I served as superintendent of both the Mansfield and Pateros School Districts, and Karen taught Consumer and Family Sciences for the Waterville School District.

What brought us to the West Plains originally in 1997 was my assignment to be the Vice Wing Commander at Fairchild Air Force Base. After serving as the Vice Commander for 18 months, I retired from the Air Force, culminating 27 years of a very mobile lifestyle serving my country. Being Washingtonians by birth and having discovered Eastern Washington during our college days, we knew this was where we wanted to reside.

After retiring from the Air Force and reflecting on what was important to me, I knew that I wanted to serve children as a public school teacher. My degree in Health, PE and Special Education that I had earned many years before was my avenue for making a difference in the lives of kids. Over the past eight years I have continued that quest, moving from teaching in St. John/Endicott to administration in Mansfield and Pateros. I am blessed to return home to Cheney.

I know I have big shoes to fill, as Mike Dunn served this community extremely well as the superintendent. Your high expectations for me are appreciated and welcomed. I will always give you the best that I have; and, if you have an idea or thought on how we can make this district better, I am only a phone call away.

Again, I am humbled that I have been given the opportunity to serve and lead Cheney Public Schools. Go Blackhawks!

*For our children, our community, our world, our future ~*

Lawrence R. Keller  
Superintendent

**Friday Reminder:** One hour late start for all schools in our district to provide for teacher collaborative time. Your child's school day begins one hour later; the buses run one hour later.

### **Our essential foundations**

- ★ High Expectations and Continuous Progress
- ★ Involvement and Engagement with School District Community
- ★ Stewardship and Planning

Cheney Middle School activities line: (509) 559-4488  
Cheney High School activities line: (509) 559-4120

Go to [www.cheneyds.org](http://www.cheneyds.org) for more news and information about Cheney Public Schools.

### **Important Dates:**

Aug. 5	Cheney High School and Cheney Middle School may be contacted to schedule registration appointments
Aug. 18	2008-2009 Registration Begins
Sept. 1	Labor Day Holiday
Sept. 2	First Day of School
Sept. 5	First Collaborative Late Start Friday
Oct. 10	Learning Improvement Day— No School



## 2008-09 Cheney High School Athletic/Activity Information

The fall sports and activity start dates are noted below:

Gr. 9-12 Marching Band	Aug. 11	8:00 a.m. (Band Rm.)
Gr. 10-12 Football	Aug. 20	10:00 a.m. (Theater)
Gr. 9 Football	Aug. 20	1:30 p.m. (Theater)
Gr. 9-12 Volleyball	Aug. 25	9:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-3:00 p.m. (Gym)
Gr. 9-12 Cross Country	Aug. 25	3:15 p.m. (Rm. 218)
Gr. 9-12 Girls Swimming	Aug. 25	7:00-8:45 a.m. and 3:30-5:00 p.m. (Pool)
Gr. 9-12 Girls Soccer	Aug. 25	10:00 a.m. (Field)

In order to participate in athletics at Cheney High School the following are required:

- ✓ A physical examination form must be completed by a physician and signed by the parent/guardian (if any irregularity is noted on the physical form). This physical is valid for two years. All incoming 9th graders and students who are new to Cheney High School must have a current physical.
- ✓ ASB Card (cost—\$40)
- ✓ Signed Safety Guidelines for the specific sport
- ✓ School Insurance or Insurance Waiver
- ✓ Signed 2008-09 Activity Code
- ✓ Current Emergency Card

In order to participate in activities at Cheney High School the following are required:

- ✓ ASB Card (cost—\$40)
- ✓ Signed 2008-09 Activity Code
- ✓ School Insurance or Insurance Waiver
- ✓ Current Emergency Card

**Physicals** will be offered through the Cheney Medical Center on **Wednesday, August 13 at 5:30 p.m. for juniors, and 6:15 p.m. for freshmen and new students** at a cost of \$20 in cash, to be paid at the Medical Center.

The **9th Grade Orientation** will be held on Wednesday night, August 27, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

The **Fall Sports Parent Night** will be held on Wednesday night, August 27, at 7:00 p.m. in the CHS Theater.

Questions about Cheney High School athletic or activity information can be answered by contacting Jim Missel, Assistant Principal for Activities and Athletics, at 559-4103 (by phone) or [jmissel@cheneyisd.org](mailto:jmissel@cheneyisd.org) (by email). Information is also available by calling the CHS Activity Line, 559-4120.



## School Breakfast and Lunch Information

Once again, the Washington State Legislature has appropriated funds so *those students qualifying for reduced breakfast and lunch will not have to pay the \$.30 co-pay for breakfast. In addition, students in grades K-3 qualifying for reduced breakfast and lunch will not have to pay the \$.40 co-pay for lunch.*

Therefore, no charge will be made to reduced-price students for breakfast, and no charge will be made for reduced-price lunch for grades K-3 students who qualify. School lunch reduced price for grades 4-12 will remain \$.40.

Due to the higher cost of food items, it is necessary to increase lunch and breakfast prices slightly for the 2008-09 school year. The following are this year's lunch and breakfast prices:

Elementary Lunch	\$2.00	Reduced	\$\$.40
		Reduced K-3	No Fee
Elementary Breakfast	1.30	Reduced	No Fee
Milk or Juice	.50		
Secondary Lunch	\$2.40	Reduced	\$\$.40
Secondary Breakfast	1.30	Reduced	No Fee
Milk or Juice	.50		
Adult Lunch	\$3.00	Breakfast	\$1.75



## Free and Reduced Price Applications

Free and Reduced Price Breakfast and Lunch Applications will be distributed to each household through the mail with instructions on completing and returning the application. Additional application forms will also be available at each school. Should you have any questions or concerns, please call Denice Whittall, Nutrition Services Director, at 559-4506.

## Cheney High School Senior Picture Deadline

The senior picture deadline is Friday, September 19th. All pictures must be in full color, and can be submitted as a picture or on a CD. No black and whites and no photographs including props (hats, animals, sunglasses, instruments, stuffed animals, etc.) will be accepted. Size must be 1-1/2" by 2".

## *Cheney Public Schools Welcomes New Staff and Announces Staff Relocations*

Cheney Public Schools is an outstanding school district and has attracted a large number of highly qualified applicants to fill a significant number of vacant and new certified positions. Throughout the summer, district and building-level hiring teams worked carefully to select outstanding new staff members. In response to an increase in enrollment, program changes and program expansions, grant funded positions, and replacement of staff who retired or resigned, our district has hired a number of new teachers. We are very pleased to welcome new teachers to our district and to announce the voluntary transfer of teachers to new positions.

### *Cheney High School New Hires and Transfers*

**Bill Christianson** joined the CHS staff as media specialist/business education teacher. **Erik Helleson** was hired as science teacher. **Julie Martin** joined the CHS staff as math teacher, coming from Cheney Middle School. **Mary Margaret Pratt** accepted an assignment as instructional science coach.

### *Cheney Middle School New Hires and Transfers*

**Jennifer Sewell** was hired as 6th grade teacher and **Dan Ayers** was hired as 7th grade teacher. **Lori Hays** accepted an assignment as instructional math coach. **Tracy White** joined the Cheney Middle School staff as 8th grade math teacher, coming from Cheney High School. **Cindy Melhus** was assigned to CMS as special education teacher, coming from Salnave Elementary

### *Betz Elementary New Hires and Transfers*

**Bonnie Overlie** was hired as mathematics instructional coach (shared with Sunset). **Heather Whitman** joined the Betz Elementary staff as special education teacher. **Connie Gisselberg** was reassigned from Windsor Elementary. **Debra Nielson** transferred to Betz Elementary from Cheney High School.

### *Reid Elementary New Hires*

**Shannon Lawson** joined the Reid staff as administrative coordinator.

### *Salnave Elementary New Hires and Transfers*

**Melissa Scott** joined the Salnave staff as elementary counselor (shared with Reid). **Suzanne Eoff** was hired as 3rd grade teacher and **Mandolyn Hume** was hired as preschool teacher. **Stephanie Mertell** joined the staff as special education teacher and **Candice Nell** was hired as Title I teacher. **Heidi Hoblin** transferred to Salnave Elementary as 4th grade teacher, coming from Sunset Elementary School.

### *Sunset Elementary New Hires and Transfers*

**Jane Smedley** was hired as the new one-two combination classroom teacher. **Crystal Clapin** and **Troy Audet** were hired as kindergarten and first grade teachers respectively. **Sara Niccolls** was hired for the 5th grade classroom. **Bonnie Overlie** was hired as mathematics instructional coach (shared with Betz). In-building transfers included **Scott Frederick**, who moved from 3rd to 4th grade, and **Judy Jamison**, who moved from 5th to 3rd grade. **Donna Ledbetter** was hired full-time teaching kindergarten.

## ***Windsor Elementary New Hires and Transfers***

At Windsor, **Vince Songaylo** was hired as the mathematics instructional coach.

## ***Student Support Services New Hires***

**Kristi Thurston** joined Student Support Services as director. **Gretchen Stephens** was hired as a new speech language pathologist.



### **Highly Qualified Staff...**

*For our children, our community, our world, our future*

## **Tammie Schrader honored with Teaching Ambassador Fellowship**

Tammie Schrader has been selected by the U.S. Department of Education for a Teaching Ambassador Fellowship position. She is one of 20 teachers who will be a Classroom Fellow for 2008-09. Over 1000 teachers nationwide applied for the fellowships, which offer highly motivated, innovative public school teachers the opportunity to contribute their knowledge and experience to the national dialogue on public education. The program began in Washington, D.C. on July 14 with a one-week orientation and policy conference. Ms. Schrader is Nationally Board Certified in Science, teaches seventh grade math and science at CMS, and is the Science Olympiad Coach.

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## **Meridth Lemelin awarded grant to attend Colonial Williamsburg**

More than 600 teachers from all over the nation attended the Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute this summer in Williamsburg, Virginia. Thanks to a grant from Spokane Teachers Credit Union, Meridth Lemelin, a fifth grade teacher at Betz Elementary, was among them.

The Teacher Institute offers participants an extensive background in colonial history from the first English settlement at Jamestown to the American Revolution. Teachers participate in re-enactments of 18th century events and meet historians and interpreters portraying historical figures. Teachers who attend the Institute agree to conduct in-service training sessions to share their knowledge with other teachers.

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## **Bruce Abbott accepted into Legislative Scholar Program**

CHS teacher Bruce Abbott was recently accepted into the Legislative Scholar Program in Olympia, held July 14-17. This program provides civic educators with tools to teach students about representative democracy and is an opportunity for the Legislature to recognize and honor teachers' service to Washington. For more information about the program, please visit [www.leg.wa.gov/Legislature/ScholarProgram/](http://www.leg.wa.gov/Legislature/ScholarProgram/).

## NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA) for Elementary and Secondary Schools

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

(1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the District receives a request for access.\*

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

(2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading.

Parents or eligible students may ask the Cheney School District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading.

If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

(3) The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202-5901

\* State Law Qualification: Although FERPA allows 45 days to honor a request, the state policy records law requires an

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE

Any application and any required policies, procedures, evaluations, plans and reports related to special education will be made available to parents and other members of the general public through the District's Student Support Services Department. For information, call 559-4507.

### HOMELESS ASSISTANCE

Students who become homeless may receive assistance to remain at their school and receive other assistance. Please contact the school counselor or Kristi Thurston, Homeless Liaison, at 559-4507.

## STUDENT RECORDS AND DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, it is the policy of the Cheney School District to annually notify parents, guardians or adult-age students (18 years of age or older) that they have the right of access to student records, to request corrections of or amendments to such records, and to appeal any refusal of a request to change or amend such records.

Student records will not be released without the consent of the student's parent/guardian or that of the adult-age student, except as provided by law or District policy. Specifically, directory information, as defined in District Policy No. 3231, and requests for records from schools where students have transferred will be released by the District without written consent. An example of a non-profit entity that requests such information is the United States military. Photographs may occasionally be taken of students for use in the news media or school district publications, as well. **If you do not want any information released to any and all such non-profit organizations, or if you do not wish to have your child appear in a photograph, videotape, film or slide, please notify your child's school in writing.** Inquiries regarding compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act may be directed to Dr. Debra Clemens, Assistant Superintendent, 520 Fourth St., Cheney, WA 99004. Phone: 559-4550.

## ASBESTOS HAZARD EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACT (AHERA)

In compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), Cheney School District contracted with Educational Service District 101 of Spokane, Washington to conduct a three-year asbestos re-inspection of all school buildings. The inspection was completed during the summer of 2007. An EPA-accredited Asbestos Inspector and Management Planner has performed the required inspection and reassessment of each category of asbestos containing building materials (ACBM) and noted any significant changes from the 1989, 1992, 1995, 1998, 2002 and 2004 inspections. Re-inspections will assist the school district in the process of safely managing each ACBM within our district.

The AHERA Re-inspection Report and Management Plan (2007) is available to the general public and can be reviewed anytime during normal school hours. A designated person is available during regular District Office hours to answer any questions regarding ACBM in our buildings. The designated person can be contacted through the District Office.

Non-friable ACBM are present in most of the District's buildings. All known ACBM are listed in the District's management plan, and were found to be in good condition and are being continually maintained in accordance with all Washington State and Federal laws.

The District has no asbestos removal projects planned for the 2008-09 school year.

### NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Cheney School District complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, creed, gender, sexual orientation, disability, familial status, marital status, or age. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities and district employment opportunities. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's Title IX/RCW 28A.640 officer and/or Section 504/ADA coordinator; or inquiries may be directed to the Director of the Office of Civil Rights, Department of HEW, Washington, D.C.

Title IX/Chapter 28A.640 RCW Officer  
Dr. Debra Clemens, Assistant Superintendent  
Cheney School District, 520 Fourth St., Cheney, WA 99004  
Phone: 559-4550

Section 504/ADA Coordinator  
Kristi Thurston, Director, Student Support Services Dept.  
Cheney School District, 520 Fourth St., Cheney, WA 99004  
Phone: 559-4507

### CHILDFIND NOTIFICATION

The Cheney Public School District provides many programs for the children of our schools at no cost to you. The schools offer special programs such as speech therapy, physical and occupational therapy, Title/LAP and special education academic programs, and preschool classes to children 3 years and older.

Developmental screenings and/or comprehensive assessments for children who are suspected of having a disability which could adversely affect their educational development are available at no cost to you. These services are available for persons between the ages of birth through 21 years of age. Appointments or further information can be obtained by contacting your neighborhood school or District Office at (509) 559-4507.

## GUIDELINES FOR CHILDREN WITH LIFE-THREATENING CONDITIONS

Washington law defines a life-threatening condition as "a health condition that will put the child in danger of death during the school day if a medication or treatment order and a nursing plan are not in place." Children with life-threatening conditions such as severe bee sting or food allergies, severe asthma, unstable diabetes, severe seizures, etc., are required to have a medication or treatment order and nursing plan in place before they start school. The medication or treatment order must be from the child's licensed health care provider.

If a medication or treatment order is not provided, the chief administrator of the school is required to exclude the child until such order has been provided. District exclusion procedures are in accordance with the rules (WACs) of the State Board of Education.

It is vital to your child's safety during the school day that **if your child has a life-threatening health condition that may require medical services to be performed at school, you immediately notify your school's principal or school nurse.** The necessary forms will be provided and a time will be arranged for you to meet with your child's school nurse.

Please call Sue McDowell, District Nurse, at 559-4507 if you have any questions or would like further clarification.

## ADA NOTICE

*To be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the District wishes to announce the following: Individuals with disabilities who may need a modification to participate in programs and/or meetings held in the District should contact the Administration Office (559-4502) no later than three (3) days prior to the program/meeting so the modification can be made.*

## FIREARMS OR DANGEROUS WEAPONS PROHIBITED

It is a violation of district policy and state law for any person to carry a firearm or dangerous weapon on school premises, school-provided transportation, or areas of other facilities being used exclusively for school activities.

## STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Cheney Public School District's policies and procedures concerning student rights and responsibilities (behavior, attendance, discipline, etc.) are published as part of each school's student handbook provided to students, and are available from each school principal.

## INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

The Cheney School District on occasion has a need to use chemical sprays in order to manage vegetation and insect pests. Chemical sprays are only one method in the District's Integrated Pest Management program (IPM) to help control vegetation and insect pests. There is no fixed schedule for IPM treatments, which can range from monitoring to baiting and trapping to spraying. Chemical controls are used only when needed and in the least toxic formulation required.

The goal of IPM is to protect human health and reduce loss from pest damage, environmental pollution, human exposure to pesticides and the cost of pest control. Spraying is done when and where monitoring has indicated that vegetation or a pest will cause unacceptable economic, aesthetic or medical injury.

If the District deems it is necessary to use chemical sprays to manage vegetation and insect pests, the following guidelines are followed:

- Whenever practical, treatments will be at times when school is not in session.
- When it is necessary to apply herbicides when school is in session, the areas will be clearly marked and isolated from the school population. Pesticides used in the District must be pre-approved by the Maintenance Director.
- The following pesticides will be used when necessary: Triple Shot, Amine-4, Buccaneer, Barricade, Gallery 75, Arsenal, Pro Duce, Snapshot, Wasp and Hornet Spray and Ant Traps.
- Herbicides will be used on all lawns, parking lot cracks, curbs, fence lines and shrub beds. Insecticides will be used in buildings and outside when pests become a problem.
- Records of applications will be on file at the Maintenance Department.
- Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) information for approved materials can be obtained using the MSDS toll-free telephone number (800-451-8346).
- All persons who apply approved pesticides/herbicides will be licensed or under the direct supervision of licensed individual.
- Notification and posting of pesticide/herbicide treatments will be made in accordance with the applicable state law (RCW 17.21.415).

Though spray applications are primarily conducted when school is not in session and the area is posted, some might want prior notification of applications at their school. If you would like to be placed on a list to receive prior notification at your school, please contact Jeff McClure, Maintenance Director, by phone at 559-4548, or via e-mail to [jholmberg@cheneysd.org](mailto:jholmberg@cheneysd.org). The list will be kept from September through August. To remain on the list, you will need to renew your request on an annual basis.

### HOME SCHOOLING DECLARATION REQUIRED

In compliance with state law, parents providing home-based instruction to their children must file a statement with their local school district to that effect by September 15, or within two weeks of the beginning of any public school quarter or semester. Parents living in our district may request this form from the Administration Office, 520 Fourth St., Cheney, 559-4586.

### FEDERAL STUDENT SURVEY CARDS

Federal student survey cards will be sent home on Oct. 1, 2008. Returned cards provide the number of students living on federal property or whose parents are employed on federal property. The District then receives "Impact Aid" funds from the federal government to help pay for the education of these students because federal properties are tax exempt.

## SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Parents of students receiving Title I or Learning Assistance Program services in reading, writing and/or math are asked to complete a School-Parent Compact. The compact explains roles and responsibilities for supporting a student in learning.

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT TEAMS

Parents are invited to call their school principal in order to participate on the school improvement team. School improvement teams, sometimes called site councils, guide the work of improving learning at the school.

## TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

The District is working to ensure that all teachers meet "Highly Qualified" requirements. Parents may request to know the qualifications of their child's teachers by calling Cindy Miller, Personnel Officer, at 559-4509.

### SCHOOL-LEVEL REPORT CARDS

The 2008-09 District report card will be available on the District website this fall and will include the most current student achievement data. (Last year's data is currently available.) Parents may visit the District website ([www.cheneysd.org](http://www.cheneysd.org)), click on "Washington State Report Card" under "About Us" and enter the name of a school for pertinent achievement data.

## DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE AND ABUSE PROGRAM

**Policy:** Any student possession, use, transmission or distribution of substances classified as illegal drugs or alcohol will not be permitted nor condoned.

**Rationale:** Student use of alcohol and other mind-altering drugs is illegal and interferes with the learning process. These drugs are capable of producing the organic disease of substance abuse and chemical dependency.

The School Board recognizes that the presence of alcohol and other drugs in our society poses a difficult problem to pupils, their parents/guardians and the schools. The Board strongly urges abstinence from alcohol and other drugs on the part of students in order that their development can reach full intellectual, emotional, social and physical potential.

To assist students in dealing with decisions relating to drugs and/or alcohol, the Board is committed to development of a program which emphasizes:

**Prevention** – Focus on classroom instruction, guidance services and school climate.

**Intervention** – Identify students involved with drug/alcohol use and abuse and initiate activities toward elimination of such use/abuse. Involve school resources, parents and community inpatient or outpatient services.

**Aftercare Support** – Facilitate the re-entry of students to school or other appropriate educational program following inpatient or outpatient treatment.

**Necessary Corrective Action** – Enforce prohibitions against student possession, transmission or use of illegal drugs or alcohol. Apply suitable school-related disciplinary measures, supplemental to law enforcement action.

### **Student and Parent/Guardian –**

The primary obligation to seek assistance rests with the student and his/her parent or guardian.

The Board shall seek the support, cooperation and coordination of public and private agencies through the Community Substance Abuse Committee. Such committee shall include membership from the district instructional staff, students, parents, state and local government law enforcement personnel, and the county coordinator of alcohol and drug treatment or a representative of other treatment service providers.

School staff shall work with students, the home and community to develop and implement a comprehensive program of prevention and intervention.

**Procedure:** Necessary corrective action –

- Any student, while on school property or while attending a school-sponsored activity, who sells or distributes drugs or any substance under the guise of being a drug or controlled substance to any other person shall be reported to a law enforcement agency and shall be recommended for long-term suspension or expulsion.
- Any student, while on school property or while attending a school-sponsored activity, who possesses, uses, consumes or exhibits the effect of having consumed or used alcohol, drugs, narcotics or other mood-altering substances not consumed or taken at the direction of a physician, shall be recommended for a long-term suspension of a minimum of ten consecutive school days. The student and/or parent/guardian may, in lieu of suspension, request that the student participate in and agree to an alternative program developed by the Student Assistance Committee of each respective school.
- Any costs of participation in any of said programs shall be borne by the student and/or his or her parent or guardian.
- Failure to comply with and adhere to all the requirements of programs and/or services shall result in a recommended suspension of a minimum of ten consecutive school days.

**Legal Reference:** RCW 28A.170 Substance Abuse Awareness Program

**Policy Reference:** 3200 Student Rights and Responsibilities

## USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS PROHIBITED

Current school laws of the state of Washington and Cheney School District policy prohibit the use of tobacco in any form on school district property. The Board of Directors and your school staff realize that this will be an inconvenience for some patrons. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

## Bus Riders—Please Take Note!

The Transportation Department requests parents' help to ensure that your child(ren) will have a safe and positive ride to and from school.

- **If your child is a new student, or**
- **If you have moved during the summer, or**
- **If your child is entering the 6th grade -----**

Please call the Transportation Department at **559-4523** on or after August 18th to determine the appropriate bus route and arrange to have your child(ren) picked up.



*If you have a kindergarten student needing transportation, make certain you call the above number.* It is imperative that parents call with transportation needs. It is helpful if you make note of your child's bus number when it is given to you at the time you call.

The Transportation Department of Cheney Public Schools is committed to efficiently and safely transporting students to and from school. In order for us to continue to ensure student safety, we will accommodate one pick up and one drop off address per student. Beginning with the 2008-09 school year, all alternate destinations will require a bus pass from your child's school. No student will be let off at a stop other than their designated stop without a pass. Thank you for working closely with our drivers to better communicate changes in your child's pick up and drop off routine.

All possessions taken to school on the bus should be clearly labeled, including eyeglasses, coats and hats, boots, backpacks, lunch bags, band instruments, etc.

Our drivers are here to transport our children safely to and from school. We ask parents to help us by stressing the importance of bus safety, and obeying the driver and bus rules at all times, thus ensuring a safe drive for all.

As always, the Transportation Department welcomes your calls and concerns in helping us to do our very important job - ensuring the safe transportation of our children to and from school.

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## Enrollment Open August 18 for Preschool Program

The Blended Preschool Program is an integrated program for children with special needs and children who are typically developing. The program offers pre-academic skills, language development skills, thematic experiential learning, learning centers, group interactive play activities, music, art, physical education, library and kindergarten readiness skills. Developmentally appropriate activities which differentiate instruction to meet individual learning and social needs are also included in this exciting program. Parent/teacher cooperative field trips and a parent education program will be offered. Parents will also hear about the Ready for Kindergarten trainings they will be invited to attend this school year.

You may register your preschooler at Salnave, Sunset or Windsor for this fall beginning on August 18, 2008. The program includes two full days of preschool per week at a cost of \$25.00 per day.\* Preschool age children may participate in full breakfast and lunch programs.

\*Reduced fees for those who qualify.

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### Life-Threatening Health Conditions

Students who have a diagnosed health condition that is considered "life-threatening" (where the condition would put the student in danger of death during the school day), must have medication and treatment orders from their medical provider and an Individual Health Plan in place BEFORE coming to school. Examples of life-threatening conditions are: diabetes, allergies, heart conditions, severe asthma. More information and assistance is available from the building health assistant, or secretary at your child's school, or by calling the district nurse at 559-4530.

### Medication

#### ***Prescription Medication and Doctor-Prescribed Over-the-Counter Medication***

If a student is to receive medication of any kind, the parent/guardian and the medical provider must sign an "Authorization for Administration of Medication at School" form. This form is available at your child's school. The signed form must accompany the medication, and the medication is to be kept in the school office. Parents are responsible for providing the medication in the original container labeled with the student's name, medication, time and dosage to be given. Please obtain a second bottle for this purpose that can be sent to school. **Medicine sent to school in a baggie or lunch box is unacceptable.**

# New Student Registration

Registration for students new to the district begins *Monday, August 18th*.

**Students in kindergarten through fifth grade** who are new to the district can register at their respective schools every weekday beginning August 18th from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

**Cheney Middle School** students new to the district can call 559-4400 at any time after August 5th to make an appointment to register.

**Cheney High School** appointments for new student registration should be made in advance at any time after August 5th by calling 559-4000.

**Three Springs High School** students should call 559-4587 on August 21st or later to make an appointment to register.

**Kindergartners and students new to the district must bring a birth certificate (or proof of birth) and immunization records when registering.**

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## Don't Forget Those Immunizations!

Each student must have a completed Certificate of Immunization Status form on file at school, or present one prior to admission. The month, day and year of each dose of Diphtheria-Pertussis-Tetanus (DPT-DT-Td), either oral or injected trivalent Polio Vaccine (OPV or IPV), Hepatitis B, MMR (measles, rubella [German measles], mumps) and Varicella (chickenpox) is required. The Spokane County Health Department offers immunizations and examinations to children for a minimal charge. **Kindergarten students enrolling in Cheney Public Schools will be given a 30-day grace period to comply with state immunization requirements.**

### Minimum State immunization requirements for school entry/attendance are:

Diphtheria-Pertussis-Tetanus (DPT-DT-Td) - 3 doses, including at least one dose after the age of four, except kindergarten students, who must have had 4 doses, including at least one dose after the age of four. (A booster is recommended every ten years.) Children who are attending 6th grade, and are at least 11 years old, are required to show proof of Tdap vaccination if it has been 5 years since receiving a tetanus-containing vaccine (DPT, DTaP, DT, Td).

Oral or Injected Polio Vaccine (OPV or IPV) - 3 doses with at least one dose after the age of four.

Hepatitis B (Preschool and kindergarten through 11th grade) - 3 doses administered at any age prior to entry.

MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) - All kindergarten through 12th grade students are required to show proof of vaccination with 2 doses of measles, mumps and rubella vaccine, or have a properly documented exemption.

New Varicella (Chickenpox) Vaccination Requirement - **Students entering kindergarten must have 2 Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine doses received on or after their first birthday and at least 28 days apart OR signed verification of the disease from a health care provider. Students in preschool, first grade, and sixth grade in the fall of 2008** must have 1 Varicella vaccine dose or provide proof of immunity to Varicella disease (chickenpox). The date (month, day and year) of Varicella vaccination **OR** the *approximate* age or date the child had the actual chickenpox disease will be required.

Exemptions from the requirements are medical, religious or personal. For information about immunizations, please call the Spokane Regional Health District at 324-1500.

Cheney Public Schools complies with all state and federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, familial status, marital status, or age. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Officer and/or ADA Coordinator or Section 504 Coordinator. Or inquiries may be directed to the Director of the Office of Civil Rights, Department of HEW, Washington, D.C.

Title IX/Chapter 28A.640 Officer/ADA Coordinator  
Dr. Debra Clemens, Assistant Superintendent  
Cheney School District, 520 Fourth Street  
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4550

Section 504 Coordinator  
Kristi Thurston, Director, Student Support Services  
Cheney School District, 520 Fourth Street  
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4507



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Requests for Disclosure of Public Records  
Sharon Throop, Public Records Officer  
Cheney School District, 520 Fourth Street  
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4502

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